

Piloting Harmonized Donor Reporting: A Guide to Participation

Participation in the harmonized reporting pilot project is a way to demonstrate that organizations are taking practical steps to fulfill the commitments made as part the Grand Bargain on Humanitarian Aid.

What are we piloting?

- The group of donors, partners, and UN agencies that met in Berlin on 24 March affirmed the primary pilot objectives:
 - Examine the effectiveness of a common donor reporting framework to:
 - 1) Meet the common narrative reporting needs of humanitarian donors
 - 2) Reduce the burden of donor reporting for partners in the field
- The pilot will test the “[10+3 template](#)” proposed by GPPi as the framework for harmonized reporting. *Final feedback on the specific template elements to include in the pilot is still being accepted.*

Where and when will we pilot?

- We have agreed on initial pilot locations: *Myanmar, Somalia, Iraq*, plus one additional to be selected.
- Presence or ability to pilot in all locations is not required to join the pilot.
- The pilot period is two years, to begin in May-June 2017, with interim feedback presented during implementation, and a final report completed in mid-2019.

Critical FAQs in the choice to join the pilot:

- **The harmonized template is the *maximum* expected from a report, not minimum.** This is a core element of the primary objective to reduce burden on the field. If the common harmonized template used in the pilot has 8 core report items, and only 5 are required in a donor-partner relationship, *donors would not ask partners to report more than what is required.*
- **The pilot will replace existing reporting, not require double reporting against multiple frameworks.** Donors participating in the pilot will only ask implementing partners to complete one set of reports using the common harmonized template in the agreed pilot locations.
- **UN agencies are encouraged to participate in their capacities as both donors and partners, or the one they find most relevant to their role.** For the pilot, it is up to UN agencies if they wish to participate as a donor, as a recipient of funds or both.

The way forward:

- It is important to move quickly if we are to demonstrate collective action before June 2017. *Please share your intent or interest in participation ASAP* so we can include you in the planning and answer your specific questions. Initial pilot participation has to be confirmed before April 30th.
- Review and provide feedback on the GPPi “10+3 template” if you have not done so.
- Indicate if your organization has existing or planned work in any of the pilot countries as well as partners.

As a starting point, it is critical to remember that *what is proposed is a pilot project*; it is not necessary to have complete consensus or all the answers in place to make the initial move forward. There will be mechanisms in place to ensure that lessons are documented, feedback received, and recommendations generated as part of the pilot process.

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