Grand Bargain annual self-reporting exercise:

ILO

Contents

Work stream 1 – Transparency

1. Baseline (only in year 1)jpr

The International Labour Office (ILO) is committed to openness and transparency in its operations, activities and decision-making processes (see http://www.ilo.org/public/english/edmas/transparency/). As part of this commitment, at the time of the signature of the Grand Bargain, it had already taken a series of steps to ensure traceability of data on donor funds:

1. All ODA eligible assessed and core voluntary contributions for 2012-13 had been reported to the OECD-DAC;
2. Information on received assessed contributions are made available on the Financial Management Department's website;
3. All expenditures related to voluntary contributions (both core and non-core) of the past 10 years were displayed in an online publicly available data visualization platform;
4. An initial submission of its expenditures related to voluntary contributions (both core and non-core) for the years 2012-2013 had been submitted in IATI-compliant format
5. Financial data on requirements related to the Syrian 3RP and part of the funds received had been shared with OCHA's FTS.

2. Progress to date

Since the signature of the Grand Bargain, the ILO has:

1. Reported a new set of data for the years 2014-15 to the OECD-DAC;
2. Redesigned its online data visualization platform on voluntary contributions by enhancing its functionalities with a new interface based on maps and interactive graphics directly linked to source data, which allows users to refine their view of the data by funding partner, location, and ILO programme area. Data availability has been increased, including information on budgets in addition to expenditures which allows near-real time monitoring of expenditures. Data can be freely exported for further consumption and elaboration;
3. Revised its process of submission of data to the FTS on the Syria 3RP and has filled all the existing gaps in the reported information on flows;
4. ILO staff members have attended a presentation on the new FTS and a webinar on IATI reporting process
5. All UN pooled funding of which the ILO was recipient in 2015 have been published in March 2017 in IATI standard by the MPTF Office.

3. Planned next steps

The ILO is planning to continue and deepen engagement with the open-data community through a dedicated workstream on transparency which will entail:

1. The continuous engagement with OECD-DAC and the active collaboration with the DAC committee to improve the accuracy of reporting
2. Allocation of additional work to refine data quality and improve the frequency and coverage of reports of IATI-compliant data
3. The attendance of a seminar on IATI reporting for the Grand Bargain
4. Continued inputs into OCHA's FTS on humanitarian-related flows.

4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)

Establishing procedures and software solutions to publish IATI compliant data represents a significant investment of time and resources. However, the Grand Bargain commitments actually reinforced existing commitments on transparency and accountability, thus providing additional internal drive in the organization to take this workstream forward.

5. Good practices and lessons learned (optional for year 1)

The fact that the Grand Bargain promotes existing platforms and standards and does not require new dedicated reporting is an important advantage, as it does not impose additional reporting duties for this workstream.

Work stream 2 – Localization

1. Baseline (only in year 1)

The ILO's intervention model is typically based on support to and implementation through its national constituents. These are the Ministry of Labour and its associated agencies for employment services, vocational training and skills development, occupational safety and health, social protection, labour administration & inspection, as well as organisations of workers (i.e. trade unions) and employers (including chambers of commerce). At the same time, the ILO also works with different ministries, where employment creation programmes are being established (i.e. social development, infrastructure and transport, environment, etc.) Where feasible this model is also followed for disaster response or recovery from humanitarian crisis (see http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_emp/documents/instructionalmaterial/wcms_141270.pdf).

The ILO's post-conflict interventions fostering, for instance, livelihood resilience and the reintegration of ex-combatants, serve as an entry point to develop coherent and integrated ILO programmes later on. This supports country transitions from short-term projects and programming to longer-term policy-making. The ILO engages a wide spectrum of societal groups through its tripartite constituency. Vulnerable groups such as youth and women receive much needed attention to stabilize post-conflict settings, improve the security of communities and consolidate peace- and state-building activities. One among the many examples is the partnership between the ILO and the Philippines Department of Social Welfare and Development post Haiyan typhoon.

2. Progress to date

One element here is the ILO's work in support of fragile states within the framework of a MoU signed with the g7+ group. The agreement subscribes to the group's self-defined targets and engagement methods of enshrined in the "New Deal for engagement in Fragile States".

In the framework of the response to the Syrian refugee crisis, the Grand Bargain commitments informed the ILO's programming in privileging the contracting of national partners wherever possible. An example is Turkey, where the ILO's programme on skills training and skills certification is fully implemented by local partners (see http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/multimedia/video/video-news-releases/WCMS_483794/lang--en/index.htm).

An example of ILO's work with local responders is provided in the ILO development Cooperation 2015-17 progress report (March 2017), which highlights the example of post-conflict engagement in Colombia and how ILO's own resources are leveraged with national government funding.

3. Planned next steps

One challenge for the ILO to work on is to pro-actively engage its national constituents (Ministries of Labour, Trade Unions, Employers' Organisation and Chambers) to be prepared to better and more directly take up their role as national responders. This will require training and capacity building, it will in the first instance focus on the countries around Syria as well as those countries defined as target countries in the ILO's Flagship Programme on Jobs for Peace and Resilience.

4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)

It is early days but the fact that consciously the focus has been put on strengthening our national partners as responders instead of direct implementation has clear gains in terms of sustainability. It may however require more time and making capacity development 'stick' is a challenge.

5. Good practices and lessons learned (optional for year 1)

No specifics on this as part of GB commitments has yet emerged

Work stream 3 – Cash

1. Baseline (only in year 1)

The ILO promotes, introduces and supports countries with the design of labour-based schemes to rehabilitate and improve infrastructure and services (see http://www.ilo.org/eiip). The ILO has been working in this area for 40 years in over 50 countries to provide better livelihoods (e.g. access to basic services and to markets) and build resilience. The ILO works to build the capacity of national stakeholders, mostly with and through Government agencies and national contractors (including community contractors, NGOs and cooperatives). It adopts a local resources-based approach, providing jobs to local workers and creating multipliers in the local economy. Appropriate wages are paid through community contracts, or through implementing agencies and small scale contractors depending on the national context.

In all its recovery efforts the ILO promotes adherence to core labour standards, equal access and participation of women and men, culturally sensitive approaches, protection coverage through social security, socialized healthcare and group accident insurance coverage, in addition to strengthening local capacities in integrating Occupational Safety and Health in emergency responses.

2. Progress to date

Over the past year, the ILO has continued to work closely with many partners to align and encourage the use of employment intensive-investment approaches in the temporary cash-for-work schemes, with a view to predictable employment creation and enhancing the national capacity, in addition to promoting decent work standards. Moving from donor-funded emergency employment schemes to a more nationally enhanced (and, in some cases, financed) multi-sectoral public employment programmes, the ILO has contributed to policies and strategies which are influencing labour-intensive schemes and better linking the humanitarian-development nexus.

One example of this in the effort to help countries improve their national Social Protection Systems. The ILO (along with 20 other partners) has been involved in the development of various Inter-Agency Social Protection Assessment tools in response to the G20 and the Social Protection Inter-Agency Board (SPIAC-B). The ILO is currently leading the working group on the development of the Public Works Tool, to be able to assess the strengths and weaknesses of public works programmes. The tool generates stylized information on the potential impact of public works programs in a Social Protection context in a given country, helping to interpret the assessment from a systems perspective. While the emphasis is on programs pursuing social protection objectives, the tool could be expanded to assess other types of public works programs. The most recent inter-agency assessment was carried out in Tanzania of the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) with the aim to influence the scaling up of the public works components and providing recommendations to the World Bank Joint Review of the TASAF.

Policy and operational measures to enhance the effectiveness of these measures are offered annually to decision makers and national practitioners via South-South events at the International Training Centre in Turin, Italy.

3. Planned next steps

The ILO is interested in working with Grand Bargain signatories and national stakeholders to support the design of national public employment programmes (PEP) and to further promote good labour practices, skills and employability, productivity and quality of assets and services, as well as enhancing the "job potential" of the broader international assistance programmes.

4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)

Not available yet

5. Good practices and lessons learned (optional for year 1)

Not available yet

Work stream 4 – Management costs

1. Baseline (only in year 1)

Significant savings have been generated through the "delivering as ONE" approach working mainly with UN partners. Although some progress still has to be made at the UN system level, taking into account specifics of specialized agencies versus Funds and programmes, the ILO fully endorses harmonisation as the way forward.

Regarding joint purchasing, some gains have been generated by the alignment of ILO procurement procedures with the outcomes of the UN Procurement Network. Procurement costs have also been reduced when implementing joint programmes by relying on procurement by large Funds (instead of conducting its own tendering processes) or by handing procurement actions to sister agency when appropriate.

The adoption of the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer (HACT) to joint programmes, following the practice of UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA and WFP, has also facilitated the joint assessment of and the sharing of information on implementing partners (example of JPs in Ethiopia and Tanzania).

Overall partnerships, such as 2014 MoU with UNOPS, have been developed to ensure the delivery and implementation of large programmes, for example the UN Joint Programme on Local Governance and Decentralized Service Delivery in Somalia.

2. Progress to date

The ILO has initiated an internal Business Process Review exercise as part of a wider reform effort. This has looked at ways to streamline back-office functions and costs, directly benefitting operational work. The ILO has further sought to increasingly work within a joint UN context, developing and implementing programmes with other UN partners especially in ways that have economies of scale.

In parallel, the ILO has worked with its donors (European Commission, World Bank, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, France, Spain, Czech Republic, etc.) to standardize agreement formats and reporting requirements to the extent possible.

The ILO has undergone a MOPAN assessment in 2016, which allows a variety of donors to use the MOPAN findings instead of having to conduct their own donor-specific assessments.

3. Planned next steps

The ILO plans to review its reporting templates for a greater result-focus and alignment with general UN practice. Where possible existing initiatives for cost-sharing and joint arrangements (procurement, logistics) will be actively pursued.

4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)

Too early to quantify, use of MOPAN assessment by donor partners will show to what extent savings are realised.

5. Good practices and lessons learned (optional for year 1)

Too early to document. Some of the common UN processes at country level are not strictly GB related but will gather further momentum in 2017.

Work stream 5 – Needs Assessment

1. Baseline (only in year 1)

The ILO has been participating for many years in joint assessments both in disaster and conflict settings. The ILO is part of the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) group and has developed for the group a module to assess impact of disasters on employment, livelihoods and social protection. The PDNA is a multi-sectorial assessment led by the government with technical support provided by different UN agencies.

Since 2005 over 50 PDNAs have been conducted in more than 40 countries. The ILO has provided direct support in at least half of them. The latest PDNA reports where ILO has been participating are available on ILO's website. An example of ILO involvement jointly with UN, beneficiary government and the World Bank is the 2015 "Ukraine Recovery and Peacebuilding Assessment" (RPA) which was aimed at identifying needs and impact of the crisis in the Eastern Regions of Ukraine.

2. Progress to date

The ILO has produced in 2016 a guide on "Employment and Decent work in situations of Fragility, Conflict and Disaster". The guide, most notably under chapter 4, highlights the importance and strongly encourages UN joint assessment in crisis situations.

The ILO, through the UN Working Group on Transitions, contributes to improve the Post Conflict Need Assessment (PCNA) revision process that started in 2016.

3. Planned next steps

A plan is already developed for further engagement of the office in PDNA through the rollout a global project aiming at enhancing the capacity to deal with multi-sectorial assessments. As far as post-conflict assessments are concerned, the process is ongoing and the ILO is fully committed to actively participate, in line with the spirit of the Grand Bargain.

4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)

Joint sectorial assessments are definitely the way to go to assess holistically and with a solid understanding the impact of a situation of crisis. ILO supports further efforts by the UN and the World Bank to avoid duplication while conducting assessments in the aftermath of crises. Moreover, involvement of local institutions should be further ensured throughout the assessment process.

5. Good practices and lessons learned (optional for year 1)

None have been specifically documented yet

Work stream 6 – Participation Revolution

1. Baseline (only in year 1)

The ILO policy document on development cooperation in fragile states observed that insufficient inclusion of local knowledge and personnel diminishes local ownership and therefore recommends, among others, to enhance the capacity of the ILO's tripartite constituents to develop swift national responses and support social dialogue as a means of consolidating peace; develop guidance for context-specific responses that tackle poverty, inequality and exclusion through the promotion of decent work by giving special consideration to women, youth and children, as well as to displaced and disabled persons; and to carry out proper needs assessments.

One example of the latter is the ILO-FAFO survey (2015) of approximately 4,000 Jordanian and Syrian households in areas that host the about three quarters of the refugees registered in Jordan and which has served as a basis for further programme design and collaboration with national and local stakeholders.

The Office has stepped up its engagement in international forums and country work in conflict-affected and fragile contexts, emphasizing the importance of decent work as a vital bridge between humanitarian and development solutions. In December 2015, the 13th African Regional Meeting debated the Framework Strategy for the ILO's Engagement in Promoting Decent Work in Fragile States in the Africa Region.

2. Progress to date

The ILO adopted, through a tripartite Technical Meeting on "Access of refugees and other forcibly displaced persons to the labour market", held in July 2016, the first set of Guiding Principles (attached for information) to support member States, workers' and employers' organisations and other stakeholders in developing and implementing policy and programme actions to support access of refugees to labour markets. They identify six programmatic areas for action, protecting their fundamental principles and rights at work and addressing unacceptable forms of work.

The ILO has instituted formal 'tripartite Decent Work Committees' to improve constituents' involvement in ILO's work. In at least five of the 16 pilot countries (Cambodia, Jordan, Kenya, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste), the committee members have a good oversight of ongoing and planned development cooperation activities. In Cambodia and Tajikistan, efforts are underway to link or replace separate project steering committees with the decent work committee for greater coherence and coordination.

3. Planned next steps

ILO has initiated work to put in place Environmental and Social Safeguards that will offer enhanced opportunities for beneficiary voice. Coupled with increased resources for impact assessments the ILO hoped this will improve participatory and evidence-based design of interventions.

4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)

Not yet available

5. Good practices and lessons learned (optional for year 1)

Not yet available

Work stream 7 - Multi-year planning and funding

1. Baseline (only in year 1)

The ILO applies an integrated resource framework where country programmes typically have a 4-5 year planning horizon with ILO's global Strategic Plan has a 4-year duration. This allows to bring together resources from assessed contributions with donor partnership frameworks that tend to also have 4-year cycles. Where ILO is actively engage in humanitarian response/development work (Syrian refugee crisis for instance), the ILO fully contributes to multi-annual planning frameworks such as the 3RP and its national equivalents.

2. Progress to date

Work in fragile states has been prioritized in the allocation of ILO core voluntary funding with one of five ILO Flagships is on Jobs, Peace and Resilience. The [Jobs for Peace and Resilience](#) flagship programme has a 4-year planning horizon, drawing on ILO's integrated resource framework and laying out a specific partnership strategy.

3. Planned next steps

The International Labour Conference will discuss in June 2017 a standard-setting item on decent work for peace, security and disaster resilience with a view to the revision of the Employment (Transition from War to Peace) Recommendation, 1944 (No. 71). This reflects the increased attention being paid to the matter, which is at the crossroads of developmental, humanitarian and peacebuilding initiatives at the national and international levels.

This initiative builds on the ILO's critical role of employment and decent work in situations of crisis over the last three decades, the [2009 United Nations Policy for Post-Conflict Employment Creation, Income Generation and Reintegration (UN Policy)](#) , the outcome of the [March 2014 Governing Body discussion on ILO technical cooperation in fragile States](#), and the subsequent [High-Level Panel on Decent Work in Fragile States](#) , among others.

See http://www.ilo.org/global/topics/employment-promotion/recovery-and-reconstruction/WCMS_396254/lang--en/index.htm

4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)

None available as yet

5. Good practices and lessons learned (optional for year 1)

None available as yet

Work stream 8 - Earmarking/flexibility

1. Baseline (only in year 1)

The ILO administers a fund of fully-unearmarked voluntary contributions received from selected multi-bilateral donors (Regular Budget Supplementary Account). Regular consultations with donors on the use of these contribution on are held, on average, twice a year and information about the criteria on how these are allocated are fully shared with the donors at regular, usually annual, meetings. Internal evaluations and allocation rules are fully disclosed with the donors as well as publicly on a dedicated section on ILO's website. Field trips are organized for donors to see first-hand how funds are used and which results are achieved.

Allocations and expenditures of unearmarked voluntary contributions are fully displayed via the an online data visualization tool and reported to the OECD-DAC. Visibility of unearmarked contributions is ensured by a dedicated section on the website and a regularly updated factsheet.

Currently, two further ILO donors provide lightly earmarked funding, targeted to specific programmatic outcomes of the Organization. The remainder of the ILO's voluntary contributions is typically earmarked to specific projects.

2. Progress to date

To encourage more donors to provide unearmarked funds, a meeting with donors on ILO's core voluntary fund was organized in November 2016 and a field trip to Jordan was organized in January 2017. ILO also issued a publication on results achieved within the context of the Syrian 3RP thanks to unearmarked contributions.

The fully re-designed data visualization tool displays all relevant information on unearmarked allocations, while expenditures are regularly reported to OECD-DAC. In mid-2016 a first pilot batch of data for 2012-13 on earmarked, lightly earmarked and unearmarked expenditures was published in IATI standard. All individual donor factsheets include, whenever relevant, information on the respective unearmarked contributions.

3. Planned next steps

The ILO aims at increasing the share of unearmarked voluntary contributions in order to achieve greater flexibility and more rapid allocation of funds in the situations where this is most needed. Additional focus on LDCs, fragile situation and on a strategic use of unearmarked resources is envisaged. The office actively seeks to expand the donor base for this funding modality, although so far most partners prefer to maintain high levels of earmarking. Steps are foreseen to increase trust by donors on how allocations of unearmarked funds are made (by increasing transparency, streamlining procedures and agreeing on priorities) as well as visibility of donors.

4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)

None available yet

5. Good practices and lessons learned (optional for year 1)

Full disclosure of information on flows and constant engagement with donors providing unearmarked funding has proved to be very effective in increasing trust and in identifying, as well as addressing, donors' concerns.

Work stream 9 – Reporting requirements

1. Baseline (only in year 1)

ILO uses standard templates to report back to most donors and has clearly defined procedures for the preparation and submission of narrative, financial and evaluation reports. Exceptions have sometimes to be made for donors that request specific reporting modalities or templates. The quality of reporting varies across implementing units.

Delivering part of its assistance through UN joint programmes has also contributed to reduce the number of individual donor assessments, evaluations and verifications, by relying on a previously agreed oversight process, risk management guidance and common M&E systems.

2. Progress to date

At the beginning of 2017, the ILO launched the publicly accessible i-eval Discovery, an interactive application that visually displays all of the ILO's evaluations, recommendations, lessons learned and good practices via a series of graphics and filters. Data can be easily shared and exported.

In March 2017, the ILO launched a fully updated data visualization tool. This publicly accessible dashboard shows budget, expenditure and other project-related information of voluntary contributions.

3. Planned next steps

Reporting templates will be reviewed and adjusted to better reflect SDG links and with focus on value for money, results achieved and communication. The ILO would welcome the possibility to establish a structured dialogue with other signatories on the harmonization and simplification of reporting requirements.

The ILO will further develop its donor reporting system by fully rolling out its software solution for donor reporting, with the stated aim of increasing timeliness and compliance with the set requirements. The simplification of reporting procedures by establishing a data and reports repository, together with the introduction of electronic signatures will be explored, in collaboration with donors.

Building on requests expressed by some donor countries, the ILO will explore the feasibility to pilot project narrative reporting via the IATI activity standard. As this will imply considerable investments, implementation will depend on the number of donors that will agree to migrate to this reporting modality.

4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)

None yet available

5. Good practices and lessons learned (optional for year 1)

None yet available

Work stream 10 – Humanitarian – Development engagement

1. Baseline (only in year 1)

The ILO is in the process of revising the Recommendation 71 on Employment (Transition from War to Peace). The revised recommendation, expected in June 2017, will be an innovative global normative instrument on "Employment and Decent Work for Peace and Resilience" and will provide overall guidance to member states, organizations and practitioners dealing with livelihoods, employment, income generation and decent work in fragile settings.

The office has established new partnerships with relevant actors and signed significant Memoranda of Understanding with, g7+ in 2014, IFRC and UNOPS in 2015 and UNHCR in 2016 in order to directly participate in the efforts to bridge humanitarian with development initiatives.

2. Progress to date

The ILO has been participating to several joint programming in various fragile situations with different partners to complement interventions based on the added value of its specific mandate and in the spirit of the humanitarian and development nexus. For instance, the ongoing PBF funded programme in the Central African Republic (in partnership with UNDP) or the concluded HSF programme in Pakistan (together with FAO and UNICEF) and it is developing a joint initiative in the East of Ukraine with UNHCR and FAO (many other examples can be provided).

3. Planned next steps

The ILO has also designed a new flagship programme, the Jobs for Peace and Resilience (JPR), aimed at supporting livelihood creation in fragile, conflict affected and disaster prone countries through decent employment generation. The main approach will be based on employment intensive investment strategies. It focuses on youth and promotes social inclusion of young women and men to reduce risks of social and political instability by providing them with strengthen employability and peace and resilience dividends in terms for income and jobs. In selected countries, the JPR will help bridge the humanitarian and development support for an enhanced and participatory local economic recovery. The JPR is focusing on strengthening local institutions capacities.

ILO and UNHCR revised a Memorandum of Understanding in mid-2016 and we are now finalizing a joint action plan to target priority areas of work in supporting job growth and employment for refugees and nationals, enterprise creation, and good labour market governance. This partnership will also assist our efforts to address forced migration. ILO will be contributing through this partnership the identification of lessons and good practices to support the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF). ILO and UNCHR are identifying pilot countries for joint action within the CRRF, including Ethiopia.

4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)

Not yet available

5. Good practices and lessons learned (optional for year 1)

Not yet available