

# Grand Bargain annual self-reporting exercise:

## Sweden

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## **Transversal issues – across work streams**

Throughout the implementation of the Grand Bargain, Sweden will safeguard that there is a gender equality focus in order to ensure that women, women's groups and appropriate local government agencies are included and supported. Different power structures and diversity (age, disability, etc.) should also be taken into consideration since these factors can contribute to discrimination and vulnerability. Sweden through Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) will only finance projects that integrate a gender equality analysis. Sweden strongly suggests that gender is integrated into future GB reporting templates.

## **Work stream 1 - Transparency**

### **1. Baseline (only in year 1)**

Where did your organisation stand on the work stream and its commitments when the Grand Bargain was signed?

#### ***GENERAL***

Transparency and information sharing are long-standing, key principles in the Swedish civil service in line with the Swedish Constitution. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MFA) and Sida are obliged to disclose documents unless exceptions defined by the law apply.

#### ***TRANSPARENCY IN SIDA DECISIONS AND HUMANITARIAN ALLOCATION***

All Sida funded humanitarian programmes are available online on <http://openaid.se/aid/2016/>. As of 2015, Sida publishes all Humanitarian Crises Analyses (HCAs) for large humanitarian crises on Sida's external web-site. The HCAs provide an overview of the humanitarian situation, needs indicating key sectors, the funding allocated and Sida's portfolio of partners for the given crisis.

#### ***IATI***

Sweden actively works to comply with IATI standards and Sida has supported the development of the IATI standard.

#### ***DI AND HPG***

Sida financially supports initiatives such as the Development Initiatives (DI) and the Humanitarian Policy Group (HPG) to increase knowledge on humanitarian funding system wide.

### **2. Progress to date**

Which concrete actions have you taken (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream?

Sweden's recently approved strategy for humanitarian assistance through Sida 2017-2020 aims at implementing the WHS commitments and the Grand Bargain, including financial transparency. Sweden, as a member of the DAC working group The Working Party for Development Finance Statistics (WP-STAT), is participating in the work towards new and improved DAC humanitarian sector codes. The working group will at the annual June meeting also address the new proposed marker on Cash Based Programming.

Sweden (through Sida) is working on its web portal [openaid.se](http://openaid.se) with the purpose of making all information on Sida funding more accessible and the interface more user-friendly, including humanitarian allocation for 2017. Sida is implementing new routines for reporting humanitarian financing better, using the updated IATI standard in order to improve timeliness and harmonization. Sweden keep close track of the Financing Tracking System (FTS) reporting to ensure correct reporting of funding flows.

### **3. Planned next steps**

What are the specific next steps which you plan to undertake to implement the commitments (with a focus on the next 2 years)?

1. Sida will publish its 16 Humanitarian Crises Analyses for 2017 on the external web.
2. Sida will also, for the first time, publish the English version of the document explaining Sida's humanitarian allocation model "Sida's Humanitarian Allocation – Process, Methodology and Criteria 2017", also on [www.sida.se](http://www.sida.se).
3. Sweden will ensure that information of Sweden's humanitarian assistance support is shared in a timely fashion and according to IATI standards.
4. Sweden will work actively with OCHA and other partners to ensure that the FTS or other platforms are developed to provide open, transparent and comparable data about financial flows from donors as well as requiring partners to share data in the same way.
5. Sweden will continue working in WP-STAT to improve the data DAC-members are obliged to share, as well as participate in finding a common approach to using the possibilities of detailed reporting available through IATI (linked to all other GB work streams)
6. Gender-disaggregated data is particularly important and demanded from our humanitarian partners. Gender-disaggregated data is an assessment criteria for Sida.
7. Strengthen the dialogue with OCHA on how FTS could be improved, and promote increased openness among partners.

### **4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)**

Please indicate, qualitatively, efficiency gains associated with implementation of GB commitments and how they have benefitted your organisation and beneficiaries.

No specific gains related to GB has yet been spotted, but it is the general Swedish experience that transparency benefits efficiency and effectiveness, public confidence in tax-funded interventions as well as gender equality.

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

Which concrete action(s) have had the most success (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream? And why?

The publishing of the data from the humanitarian needs-based allocation process and Humanitarian Crises Analyses have increased the understanding and knowledge of Sida's partners and the general public on the importance of needs-based allocation. More good practice is necessary on how UN agencies can be more transparent on the use of core funding. Sweden is through [openaid.se](http://openaid.se) publishing data on all humanitarian assistance through Sida, and reporting to FTS via EDRIS has been more timely and accurate by dedicating time and staff to focus on reporting.

## **Work stream 2 - Localization**

### **1. Baseline (only in year 1)**

Where did your organisation stand on the work stream and its commitments when the Grand Bargain was signed?

#### ***PERCENTAGE OF SIDA FUNDS TO NATIONAL NGOS***

At least 12 percent of Sweden's humanitarian aid, through Sida, is estimated to be allocated to local actors in 2015. This includes financing through joint funds and traceable financial flows from Sida's cooperation partners to local organisations (N.B. that not all partner organisations were at the time able to indicate the amount allocated to local organisations, which means that the amount is likely to be much higher than 12 percent).

#### ***MAJOR DONOR TO CBPFs***

Sweden (through Sida) is the second largest humanitarian donor to the Country-based Pooled funds (CBPF) which channels a relatively large part (18 % on average in 2016) of its support to local organisations in 17 major humanitarian crises. Some CBPFs such as Pakistan, Lebanon and Turkey allocated a majority of funds through local organisations.

Sweden is also among the largest donors to the Red Cross/Red Crescent movement. A large part of the support to the Swedish Red Cross is channelled to national Red Cross/Red Crescent national societies, including capacity-strengthening components of the national societies on crisis preparedness.

#### ***LOCAL AUTHORITIES***

A majority of Sweden's partners channel funds through local authorities and organisations and works closely with affected populations, such as UNHCR, the Church of Sweden and the Swedish Civil Contingencies Service (MSB). Sweden does not support local authorities and organisations directly. However, Sweden supports local organisations and authorities through a number of other channels.

#### ***CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT***

Sweden has provided specific support to organisations aiming to increase capacity of local organisations, learning and transparency, for example International Council or Voluntary Agencies (ICVA). Providing strategic support the national NGOs in the humanitarian sector and Overseas Development Institute/Humanitarian Policy Group (HPG) focusing on research on how the humanitarian system can find more synergies and invest in the capacity of local organisations.

Sweden's substantial core support to humanitarian organisations like UNHCR, OCHA, WFP and UNRWA is not included in the above (since these organisations do not report the amount going to local organisations).

Women and girls are important actors in the localization agenda. Sweden is committed to our Feminist Foreign Policy, which has an action plan covering six objectives for 2015-2018. These include contributing to all women's and girls' full enjoyment of human rights, including in humanitarian situations and through freedom from all violence. Sweden's national action plan for the

implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and subsequent resolutions on women, peace and security is also relevant within this frame.

Sweden's objective is that all actors in humanitarian emergencies will take measures to integrate a gender perspective in their work and to prevent and eliminate SGBV. Sweden's humanitarian aid will be based on and informed by an integrated gender perspective, including an analysis of the situation of women and girls, and men and boys. Sweden has a specific focus on combating the discrimination against women and girls that often lies behind marginalisation of and violence against women and girls. Women as actors and the inclusion of men and boys in the prevention of SGBV are other important issues.

## **2. Progress to date**

Which concrete actions have you taken (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream?

"Localization" is a priority in the new strategy for the Humanitarian Assistance provided through Sida; the strategy has four focus areas, one of them being "Enhance the influence of crisis affected people and improve the interaction with local organisations".

## **3. Planned next steps**

What are the specific next steps which you plan to undertake to implement the commitments (with a focus on the next 2 years)?

1. Sweden will explore possibilities to better include and increase the humanitarian financing to local actors (whenever best suited for the humanitarian response). The new strategy highlights the need for a well-coordinated humanitarian response that builds upon the added value of different actors. Sida will within the framework of the strategy:
  - Given the efficiency (speed, access and quality) of the CBPFs aim at maintaining large support (around 500 MSK) to UN Country-based Pooled Funds and promote that national and local actors receive support and participates within the framework of these funds.
  - Contribute to improving the capacity of local and national organisations as well as government agencies (mainly through MSB) to implement effective humanitarian response.
  - Identify one agreement modality, through which Sida could possibly directly finance and cooperate with local actors.
2. Sweden (through Sida) will promote that humanitarian partner organisations present the total amount and proportion transferred to local partners.
3. Sweden (through Sida) will promote that its humanitarian partner organisations take as a point of departure the principles of partnership (Equality, Transparency, Results-Oriented Approach, Responsibility and Complementarity).

4. Sweden will support the development of a localization marker to be able to track how much of humanitarian assistance reaches local organisations, which is key particularly to track the localisation agenda with regard to Sweden's core funding of UN agencies.
5. Sweden will support the roll-out of the Call to Action on Protection from Gender-based Violence in Emergencies in the field in order to strengthen the response and prevention of GBV at national and local level. The initiative's Road map provides useful guidelines that outline concrete steps for both local and global actors.

#### **4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)**

Please indicate, qualitatively, efficiency gains associated with implementation of GB commitments and how they have benefitted your organisation and beneficiaries.

Through a quick assessment / mapping of which organisations that currently work through local organisations, Sida has increased its understanding of its humanitarian partners in terms of supporting local organisations.

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

Which concrete action(s) have had the most success (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream? And why?

The inclusion of localization, in the new humanitarian strategy for Sida is central for implementing commitments of the work stream.

The Call to Action Against Gender-based Violence in Emergencies Road map 2016-2020 has been helpful when discussing GBV at Sweden's Embassies. In for example Khartoum, Amman and Kinshasa, Sweden has organized seminars on the specific subject, linking the response to the Road map.

The Road Map can also provide useful input to national agencies developing new national strategies to prevent and respond to SGBV.



## Work stream 3 - Cash

### 1. Baseline (only in year 1)

Where did your organisation stand on the work stream and its commitments when the Grand Bargain was signed?

#### **Commitment**

At the WHS, Sweden committed to Core Commitment 1, including increasing cash-based programming in situations where relevant. Sweden also committed to encouraging humanitarian partners by 2017 to equally consider cash along with other modalities throughout humanitarian response, particularly multi-purpose cash wherever relevant and appropriate.

As per Overseas Development Institute (ODI) (2016) there is currently no systematic tracking of the volume of humanitarian assistance delivered in the form of cash and vouchers. As such, the international system is not ready to report on its cash-related commitments from the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit and the Grand Bargain. The overarching barrier to better data on expenditure by modality is the lack of a single, comprehensive, systematic means of reporting on programming by cash, voucher and in-kind assistance.<sup>1</sup> Due to this systemic weakness, Sweden does not currently have reliable statistics on its support to cash based programming or a strong baseline for its cash commitments. However, a manual counting exercise on 2015 data showed that Sida's humanitarian assistance reached approximately 2.5 million of people with cash through several partner organizations. It is probable that this is a sub-estimation as Sweden supports cash-based assistance through a number of humanitarian partners in different humanitarian contexts (through Sida support to both NGOs, Red Cross Movement and the UN and through the MFA and its multilateral partnerships including WFP).

### 2. Progress to date

Which concrete actions have you taken (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream?

Sweden has dedicated staff both in Sida and in the MoFA for GB cash commitment follow up. To increase the use of cash-based programming, where appropriate, Sweden follows the six Grand Bargain commitments:

1. Increase the routine use of cash alongside other tools, including in-kind assistance, service delivery (such as health and nutrition) and vouchers. Employ markers to measure increase and outcomes. In all Sida's Humanitarian Crises Analysis 2017 for large on-going humanitarian crises, the issue of cash has been included as a mandatory section.
2. Invest in new delivery models that can be increased in scale while identifying best practice and mitigating risks in each context. Employ markers to track their evolution.

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<sup>1</sup> ODI (2016). Counting cash: tracking humanitarian expenditure on cash-based programming. Working and discussion papers. December 2016. Alexandra Spencer, Chloe Parrish and Charlotte Lattimer

Sweden's new strategy for our humanitarian assistance stipulates that Sida should encourage partners to consider cash-based support when relevant and possible based interventions in contexts where such interventions are appropriate and effective.

3. Build an evidence base to assess the costs, benefits, impacts, and risks of cash (including on protection) relative to in-kind assistance, service delivery interventions and vouchers, and combinations thereof. Sweden will support humanitarian partners and the humanitarian system at large to build an evidence base to assess the costs, benefits, impacts, and risks of cash (including on protection) relative to in-kind assistance, service delivery interventions and vouchers, and combinations thereof.

4. Collaborate, share information and develop standards and guidelines for cash programming in order to better understand its risks and benefits. Sweden will support humanitarian partners and the humanitarian system to collaborate, share information and develop standards and guidelines for cash programming in order to better understand its risks and benefits.

5. Ensure that coordination, delivery, and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are put in place for cash transfers. Sweden will support humanitarian partners and the humanitarian system to ensure that coordination, delivery, and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are put in place for cash transfers.

6. Aim to increase use of cash programming beyond current low levels, where appropriate. Some organisations and donors may wish to set targets. In Sweden's new strategy for humanitarian assistance aid provided through Sida 2017-2020 it is stipulated that Sida should consider untied cash-based support combined with other modalities when relevant and possible, as this can help strengthen people and local markets affected by crisis. Overall, Sida should increase flexibility among partner organisations and increase self-determination among people affected by crises, for example by providing support to suitable financing mechanisms. Sweden has not set a target for cash since humanitarian assistance is channelled based on an assessment of global needs and cash should be used when appropriate. Sweden links its commitments to cash based programming to its GB commitments for a participation revolution, improved transparency and needs analysis.

### **3. Planned next steps**

What are the specific next steps which you plan to undertake to implement the commitments (with a focus on the next 2 years)?

1. Sweden will consider untied cash-based support combined with other modalities when relevant and possible, in line with the Strategy for Sweden's humanitarian aid provided through Sida 2017-2020.

2. Sweden intends to promote system-wide solution for systematic tracking of CTP (funding phase and reporting phase) through fora such as the Grand Bargain work streams on transparency, donor-harmonized reporting and cash programming.
3. Institutionalisation within Sida:
  - a. Carry out a baseline exercise on use of cash within total humanitarian funding (manually requesting statistics from Sida strategic partners)
  - b. Support the capacity among partners to assess optimal aid modality based on market analysis, end-user preferences, quality outcomes, cost efficiency. This includes assessing the extent to which partners have policies and skills for modality selection and market analysis.
4. Knowledge - Investment in evidence through Sida's ongoing support to Development Initiatives and ODI with identification of relevant study themes to better understand both benefits as well as challenges (particularly in relation to humanitarian response in acute humanitarian settings).
5. Practice - Sida is looking into opportunities to partner with specialist organisations which have the capacity to improve and develop practical methods and operational support that can benefit the wider humanitarian system in the area of cash.
6. Sweden will promote coordination of multisector cash-assistance within the humanitarian system structure.
7. Sweden will include dialogue on cash based programming, including multi-purpose cash, in the dialogue with relevant UN agencies (such as relative cost-efficiency with vouchers and end-user preferences).

#### **4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)**

Please indicate, qualitatively, efficiency gains associated with implementation of GB commitments and how they have benefitted your organisation and beneficiaries.

\*Too early to report

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

Which concrete action(s) have had the most success (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream? And why?

Sweden has ensured in 2017 that cash is routinely considered as a modality alongside other tools, by including issue of cash in the template for Sida's Humanitarian Crises Analysis for large on-going humanitarian crises. Cash-based programming is considered valuable when it ensures enhanced efficiency, empower affected populations and strengthen local markets.

Sweden will not set a target for cash since Swedish funded humanitarian assistance is channeled based on an assessment of global needs. Cash-based programming and multi-sector transfers should be used when appropriate, with due consideration of risks and limitations.

Sweden ensures that sufficient funding is available for cash transfer programming by giving preference to unearmarked and light earmarking of funds, which enables partners to allocate and programme resources in an efficient way. In addition, Sweden promotes the development and use of common markers and definitions for partners to track and report on CTP.

The ambition to increase the use of cash-based programming must be balanced, taking into consideration the specific risks and limitations in each context. Examples of risks and limitations are:

- Gender analysis and gender mainstreaming should routinely be used for CBP.
- Particular attention should be paid to the protection risks of providing cash (including how cash affects gender roles and personal security).
- Cash as a modality is not appropriate to meet all needs (such as protection, education and health) and some sectors will need to be complemented by specific response.
- Cash as a modality needs to be complemented by other forms of support, such as in-kind, vouchers and technical support.

## **Work stream 4 – Management costs**

### **1. Baseline (only in year 1)**

Where did your organisation stand on the work stream and its commitments when the Grand Bargain was signed?

#### ***APPEALS AND REPORTING – UN AND ICRC***

- Sweden's allocation is based on the coordinated UN Appeals and ICRC's annual appeals. As well as agencies' own format for reports in addition to Sweden's substantial annual core support.

#### ***APPEALS AND REPORTING – NGOS***

- Sweden (through Sida) is very flexible with partners' applications and reporting. Sida generally approves partners own format for "applications for proposals" and reporting.
- Sida usually signs global agreements for humanitarian allocation (and also for the CBPFs), to reduce management costs at field level and increase overall efficiency.

#### ***STANDARDISATION OF REPORTING***

- Sweden (through Sida) has contributed to the development of a standard format for reporting for humanitarian country-based funds.
- Sida conducts regular dialogue, at least annually, with NGO partners on cost-effectiveness of all interventions.
- Before initiating own reviews and evaluations Sida always explores whether its NGO partner has conducted their own external or internal reviews or if other donors have conducted similar reviews/evaluations, to avoid duplications. When assessing multilateral partners' organizational capacity Sida uses MOPAN assessments rather than conducting own performance assessment.

### **2. Progress to date**

Which concrete actions have you taken (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream?

Sweden's recently approved strategy for humanitarian assistance through Sida 2017-2020 stipulates that Sida should coordinate with other donors and actors and that such a good coordination can contribute to exchanging experiences, coordinated reporting, reporting requirements and monitoring.

Sweden has contributed to harmonization of partnership agreements and assessment information through its substantial support to CERF and Country Based Pooled funds.

Sida has piloted moving NGOs from project-based financing to programme-based financing. Sida thereby supports the NGO's humanitarian country programme rather than a number of projects. The partner aid organization submits an application including a number of country programmes rather than several project proposals per country. NRC initiated this type of collaboration in 2017 and at least one more NGO is expected to follow in 2018. (See also below under 4. Efficiency Gains)

### **3. Planned next steps**

What are the specific next steps which you plan to undertake to implement the commitments (with a focus on the next 2 years)?

Continue to proactively work for further harmonization of partnership agreements, needs assessment and performance reviews, for both multilateral and NGO partners. This will mainly be done through the GB work stream on harmonised reporting and in close collaboration with other donors.

Provide programme based support (rather than project support) to an increasing number of NGO partners. For 2018, increase the number from 1 to at least 2 organisations.

### **4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)**

Please indicate, qualitatively, efficiency gains associated with implementation of GB commitments and how they have benefitted your organisation and beneficiaries.

Sida and NRC have piloted a programme-based approach where NRC submits a programme document where NRC presents its humanitarian country programme per country/crisis. Sida earmarks per country but let NRC freely allocate within their country programme. NRC proposals and reports cover the full programme. At present this gives more flexibility for implementing partner to allocate and reallocate based on changing needs. If more donors would commit to also supporting the appeal, efficiency gains would be gained by reducing management cost related to proposal and report writing but also by giving flexibility to implementing aid organization to adjust activities and programmes to rapidly be able to adapt to changing humanitarian needs.

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

Which concrete action(s) have had the most success (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream? And why?

See above.

## Work stream 5 – Needs Assessment (NA)

### 1. Baseline (only in year 1)

Where did your organisation stand on the work stream and its commitments when the Grand Bargain was signed?

#### ***SIDAS NEEDS BASED HUMANITARIAN ALLOCATION MODALITY - OPERATIONALISING "IMPARTIALITY"***

Each year Sida allocates more than half of Sweden's humanitarian assistance (3.175 billion SEK in 2017). In adherence to the "Swedish Government's Strategy for humanitarian aid 2011 – 2014", Sida has developed an allocation methodology in close collaboration with the Swedish MFA. This methodology aspires to translate the humanitarian principles into a practical tool that guides Sida's humanitarian allocation. In particular, the humanitarian principle on impartiality has strongly influenced Sida's allocation tool, with its compelling urge to ensure that humanitarian action is carried out on the basis of "needs alone", giving priority to the "most urgent cases of distress".

Sida's allocation methodology is based on a number of objective indicators such as:

- the scale (number of people) of humanitarian needs
- the severity of humanitarian needs (including food insecurity/IPC levels)
- the number of people targeted for the humanitarian response
- the financial coverage of respective humanitarian appeal
- national capacities to respond and underlying risks as well as
- distinct indicators related to forgotten crises.

Firstly a *quantitative* and indicator-based analysis is conducted for comparative purposes (between crises). Taking place in early November, it identifies an initial allocation for respective crises. Secondly, a *qualitative* analysis takes place in mid-November with the production of respective Humanitarian Crises Analysis (HCA), for each of the major crises. While the quantitative analysis determines the *initial allocation for each crises*, the qualitative analysis determines the exact *channels/organisations and agencies* for which humanitarian funding is channeled. The HCA is first and foremost influenced by the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). Yet, it is also informed by other fundamental sources such as the ICRC Appeal, ECHOs HIPs to the INFORM indicators.

Through its OCHA support (core and through Sida), Sweden has provided support to the development of the HNOs, HRPs and programme cycle.

Also, Sida has since its inception provided multi-year core funding to a specialist entity (ACAPS) dedicated to improving needs analysis in the humanitarian sector.

### 2. Progress to date

Which concrete actions have you taken (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream?

Sweden has dedicated staff for this area both in Sida and in the MFA for GB commitment follow up. Needs assessments are included as a key area of focus in Sweden's recently approved strategy for humanitarian assistance through Sida 2017-2020. Accordingly, Sweden should "promote impartial, cross-sectoral, integrated and globally comparable needs assessments". Sweden (through Sida)

participated in a technical workshop about the Grand Bargain (GB) commitments on needs assessment hosted by OCHA and ECHO on 28 February and 1st of March in ECHO Headquarters in Brussels.

A gender equality perspective should guarantee that women's, men's, girls' and boys' specific humanitarian needs and opportunities for taking action are met and taken into account in activities. Sida should also take account of various aspects in terms of power structures and diversity (age, disability, etc.) within the framework of the perspective, as these factors can contribute to discrimination and vulnerability. Sida should therefore promote gender equality mainstreaming in needs analyses and the application of a gender equality analysis, including sex-disaggregated statistics, in humanitarian organisations. Sida should only finance measures that based on an integrated gender equality analysis and support measures that strengthen the humanitarian system's capacity to mainstream gender equality in humanitarian work.

### **3. Planned next steps**

What are the specific next steps which you plan to undertake to implement the commitments (with a focus on the next 2 years)?

Through its new humanitarian strategy 2017-2020, Sweden (through Sida) will:

1. Follow up on the commitment of Sida partners who are GB signatories, especially OCHA given its key role in NA, to ensure that they continue improving in quality and speed of production.
2. Sweden will engage with other donors through GHD and GB processes to support impartial, inter sectoral need assessments.
3. Continue to ask for gender integrated in the needs assessments and gender disaggregated data.

In Sida's own and internal allocation process, Sida will:

1. Continue to use and advocate for Sida's needs based allocation model, which aspires to operationalize the humanitarian principle of impartiality.
2. Base its humanitarian assistance on and promote inter-sectoral needs-analysis and continue to support the humanitarian system capacity to plan and allocate according to "the most urgent needs"
3. Sida will clearly link its humanitarian financing to project in HRPs. And state this more explicitly in its Humanitarian Crises Analysis.
4. Sida will more explicitly make funding decisions conditional to appropriate reference to common assessment, analysis and planning process explaining convergence or divergence with the analysis (if feasible revision in funding criteria is from 2018).
5. Sida will strengthen a section in its HCA which addresses synergies with development programmes (if possible), based on a common analysis by both humanitarian and development staff in Sida.

### **4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)**

Please indicate, qualitatively, efficiency gains associated with implementation of GB commitments and how they have benefitted your organisation and beneficiaries.

\*Too early to report



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

Which concrete action(s) have had the most success (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream? And why?

See above. In terms of joint analysis, based on risk and vulnerability, Sida has piloted the Resilience systems Analysis (see GB 10).

## **Work stream 6 – Participation Revolution**

### **1. Baseline (only in year 1)**

Where did your organisation stand on the work stream and its commitments when the Grand Bargain was signed?

Sweden (through Sida) has during the last three years provided support to organizations that facilitate participation of beneficiaries (including Core Humanitarian Alliance). See also answers on work stream 2.

### **2. Progress to date**

Which concrete actions have you taken (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream?

Participation and increased influence for people affected by crises is one of four key focus areas in the new humanitarian strategy for Sida 2017-2020. It holds inter-alia that affected people should be empowered and able to participate in needs analysis, implementation and evaluations of humanitarian assistance. Sweden has dedicated staff both in Sida and in the MFA for GB commitment follow up.

### **3. Planned next steps**

What are the specific next steps which you plan to undertake to implement the commitments (with a focus on the next 2 years)?

Within the framework of the new humanitarian strategy, Sweden (through Sida) will:

- Follow up on the commitment of Sida partners/GB signatories to ensure that by the end of 2017 all HRPs and strategic monitoring of these will demonstrate consideration of input from the affected population as per existing HRP Guidelines.
- Consider possible context specific partner proposals with broad ownership for collective action aligned with the second commitment in the work stream (common standards, coordinated approach and common platforms).
- Continue to support expert and operational organisations that facilitate participation of affected populations and continue to invest time and resources to fund these activities.
- Update application guidance on people focused programming to strategic partners (possibly linked to work stream 4) and reporting (linked to work stream 9)
- Continue to ensure flexible humanitarian support that facilitates that programs are adapted after consulting with beneficiaries.
- Link Sida's participations commitments with its cash commitments given the ability for affected people to analyse and act upon their needs when given multipurpose cash.
- Link Sida's participation commitments with its needs analysis commitments ensuring that affected people can express their preferences for and level of satisfaction with aid given.
- Sweden will engage with other donors through GHD and GB processes for possible joint up approaches for higher impact.

**4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)**

Please indicate, qualitatively, efficiency gains associated with implementation of GB commitments and how they have benefitted your organisation and beneficiaries.

\*Too early to report

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

Which concrete action(s) have had the most success (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream? And why?

\*Too early to report

## **Work stream 7 - Multi-year planning and funding**

### **1. Baseline (only in year 1)**

Where did your organisation stand on the work stream and its commitments when the Grand Bargain was signed?

#### ***INCREASE OF MULTI YEAR PROGRAMMING***

Sida has during the last three years increased the opportunities for multi-year humanitarian funding through establishing multi-year agreements with humanitarian partner organisations, however mainly directed towards methods support and not operational support in protracted crises although the latter has increased with Sida's allocation for 2017 (see below). Sweden's core funding to UN agencies and ICRC are on an annual basis.

### **2. Progress to date**

Which concrete actions have you taken (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream?

Multi-year funding is included in the Sida's humanitarian strategy as an important part of a flexible and effective humanitarian response. A small proportion of Sida's humanitarian budget was set aside (2017) in the allocation process for 2017 to finance strategic multiyear programmes 2017 – 2019 in protracted crises. This led to identification of 10-multiyear programmes in Afghanistan, DRC, Sudan, Lebanon, Mali, Niger, Cameroon and Chad. Most of these projects have the explicit objective of *"progressively decreasing humanitarian needs and by end of the period ensure a clearly defined hand over or exit strategy"*. At the same time, increased collaboration with Sida's development cooperation is sought in order to jointly reduce risks and strengthen resilience. For collaborative approaches, please see section 10 on experiences from piloting a Resilience System Analysis. A gender perspective is systematically integrated into Sweden's instructions and dialogue with partners on assessments and monitoring of humanitarian response.

### **3. Planned next steps**

What are the specific next steps which you plan to undertake to implement the commitments (with a focus on the next 2 years)?

During the next two years, Sweden (through Sida) will develop its modalities for multi-year funding with partner organisations and closely monitor the current programmes for enhancing learning.

### **4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)**

Please indicate, qualitatively, efficiency gains associated with implementation of GB commitments and how they have benefitted your organisation and beneficiaries.

\*Too early to report

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

Which concrete action(s) have had the most success (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream? And why?

See above.

## Work stream 8 - Earmarking/flexibility

### 1. Baseline (only in year 1)

Where did your organisation stand on the work stream and its commitments when the Grand Bargain was signed?

Non-ear-marking and flexible funding has been a guiding principle for Sweden's humanitarian assistance the last 15 years, in particular since the adoption of the Good Humanitarian Donorship (GHD) Principles in 2013. This commitment is demonstrated in particular by Sweden's substantial core support to key UN humanitarian agencies:

	Core support 2015 (MSEK)	Core support 2016 (MSEK)	Core support 2016 (MSEK)	Core support 2017 (MSEK)
UNCERF	435	520	720	625
UNHCR	640	715	865	750
UNRWA	300	345	415	370
WFP	575	600	650	645
ICRC	50	50	110	55
IFRC	0	0	0	50
UNOCHA	119	125	195	125
UNISDR	11	15	15	15
IOM	3			
<b>Total</b>	<b>2133</b>	<b>2370</b>	<b>2970</b>	<b>2635</b>

In accordance with the GHD-principles, Sida provides partner organisations with flexible funding in order to allow these organisations to respond flexibly to changing humanitarian needs. Sida promotes flexibility through the following two modalities:

- 1) Rapid Response Mechanism in which the partner organization has an already set aside a global budget line for rapid response, which means that when a sudden onset emergency occurs the organization can use funds within 24 hours following a rapid confirmation by Sida.
- 2) Unallocated funds which is a set aside global budget line for a number of agencies which they can use primarily for underfunded crises, but can also in an exceptional case be used for a quickly deteriorating humanitarian situation.

For ICRC and UN partners, Sida uses the organization's appeal as basis for Sida allocation (i.e. no additional project proposals are needed). In addition, Sida uses the organization's global report for reporting. This means that the organization does not need to write a specific application nor a report to Sida. This saves time for the organization and increases the flexibility to include information relevant for many donors of the organisations priorities. It is up to the partner organisation to prioritize how to use the funds received from Sida within its different operations/projects in a particular crisis. Sida monitors primarily how the organisation relates to the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). During the year the organisation may reallocate Sida funding between different sectors, geographical areas, and target groups. This allows the organisation flexibility to reprioritize in accordance with changing needs but also to move Sida funding to a less funded part of the operation within the crisis (often as a result of other donors' earmarking). This allows the organisation flexibility to reprioritize where the needs are the greatest or most underfunded. It also allows the organisation flexibility to adapt program after feed-back from crises affected people.

Flexibility in reporting: To ensure flexibility with applications and reporting, Sida lets partners use their own format for application and reporting. The organisation can then adapt this after its own systems. During the year, the organisation and Sida conducts a dialogue. If the organisation wishes to change priorities, Sida can approve this after a simple request for change from the organisation, which Sida normally responds to within 2 days. Sida is here open for the organization's priorities as long as they ensure that they reach the most affected and that it is in line with the HRP (if available).

Sweden raises the need for gender equality analysis and gender disaggregated data with organisations receiving non-earmarked funding, e.g. at executive board meetings, field visits etc.

## **2. Progress to date**

Which concrete actions have you taken (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream?

Sweden is jointly with ICRC leading the Grand Bargain work stream on non-earmarking / flexibility and will through this engagement contribute to bridging the gap between the insight that flexible financing is key for efficient, flexible and responsive humanitarian aid while donors have interests in control, accountability and visibility. The ambition is to contribute to systematic behavioural changes linked to ear-marking / flexible funding.

A small proportion of Sida's humanitarian budget was set aside (2017) in the allocation process for 2017 to finance strategic multiyear programmes 2017 – 2019 in protracted crises. This led to identification of 10-multiyear programmes in Afghanistan, DRC, Sudan, Lebanon, Mali, Niger, Cameroon and Chad. Most of these projects have the explicit objective of "progressively decreasing humanitarian needs and by end of the period ensure a clearly defined hand over or exit strategy".

Please see also above on Multi Year financing.

### **3. Planned next steps**

What are the specific next steps which you plan to undertake to implement the commitments (with a focus on the next 2 years)?

- Co-lead the Grand Bargain work stream on non-earmarking with ICRC.
- Evaluate point 1 and 2 above, and if proven successful, Sida will consider increasing the multiyear financed projects from 10 to 15 projects, and also increasing the programme based financing from 1 to 2 organisations.
- Successful co-convenorship of the work stream jointly with ICRC on less ear-marking.
- Promote more systematic, results oriented consolidated reports from UN Agencies on the comparative advantage of core support.

### **4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)**

Please indicate, qualitatively, efficiency gains associated with implementation of GB commitments and how they have benefitted your organisation and beneficiaries.

Please see above on general conclusions of efficiency gains with flexible funding.

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

Which concrete action(s) have had the most success (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream? And why?

See above.

## **Work stream 9 – Reporting requirements**

### **1. Baseline (only in year 1)**

Where did your organisation stand on the work stream and its commitments when the Grand Bargain was signed?

#### ***PARTNERS OWN REPORTING FORMAT***

Sida lets partners use their own narrative and financial format for reporting, adhering to organization's own project management and financial systems. For UN and ICRC, the appeal of the organisation constitutes the "application" and Sida uses the organisations global report for reporting. This means that the organisation does not need to write a specific application nor a report to Sida. This saves time for the organisation and increases the flexibility to include information relevant for many donors of the organisations priorities. It is up to the partner organisation to prioritize how to use the funds received from Sida within its operation in a particular crisis.

Sida only requires annual reports and encourage partners to simplify reporting focusing on results achievements and lessons learnt and simple but relevant financial reports. For UN agencies Sida accepts UNBOA audit reports. Sida has contributed to the development of a standard format for reporting for humanitarian country-based funds

See also work stream 4.

### **2. Progress to date**

Which concrete actions have you taken (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream?

Sweden's recently approved strategy for humanitarian assistance through Sida 2017-2020 stipulates that Sida should coordinate with other donors and actors and that such a good coordination can contribute to exchanging experiences, coordinated reporting, reporting requirements and monitoring.

Sweden contributes to harmonization of partnership agreements and assessment information through its substantial support to CERF and Country Based Pooled funds.

Sweden (through Sida) has piloted moving NGO to programme support instead of project support. Sida thereby provides support to a NGOs humanitarian country programme rather than a number of projects, (core support to country programme) i.e. funds part of programme. Partner aid organization will provide reporting on full programme rather than project reporting specific for just Sida. This is similar to the appeal reporting Sida applies to ICRC and UN agencies, see point 1 above. The appeal system provides the organisation with flexibility within the targeted country support from Sida to prioritize and reprioritize during the year to respond to the largest or underfunded needs. If other donors continue to apply this model, humanitarian organisations time and costs for reporting would drastically be reduced.

See also work stream 4.



### **3. Planned next steps**

What are the specific next steps which you plan to undertake to implement the commitments (with a focus on the next 2 years)?

- Increase the provide programme based support (rather than project support) from 1 to 2 organisations.
- Engage with other donors in the harmonising of reporting requirements within the WG
- Be part of the first Pilot of harmonised reporting in a selected country and within the WS of this GB commitment.

### **4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)**

Please indicate, qualitatively, efficiency gains associated with implementation of GB commitments and how they have benefitted your organisation and beneficiaries.

Sida and NRC have piloted a programme-based approach where NRC submits an ‘programme proposal’ document where NRC presents its humanitarian country programme per country/crisis. Sida earmarks per country but let NRC freely allocate within country programme. NRC will provide reporting on full programme rather than project reporting specific for just Sida. At present, this provides the organisation with flexibility within the targeted country support from Sida to prioritize and reprioritize during the year to respond to the largest or underfunded needs. If other donors committed to apply this model, humanitarian organisations time and costs for reporting would drastically be reduced (only one report for all donors per country would need to be written, using the partner’s own narrative and financial reporting format).

Efficiency gains also for Sida that will have one report per country rather than a number of project reports and will get better overview of aid organizations’ overall work per country.

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

Which concrete action(s) have had the most success (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream? And why?

## **Work stream 10 – Humanitarian – Development engagement**

### **1. Baseline (only in year 1)**

Where did your organisation stand on the work stream and its commitments when the Grand Bargain was signed?

Supporting engagement between humanitarian and development engagement has been a priority to Sweden since the adoption of the GHD principles. A major policy change was initiated in 2007 when Sweden selected a number of new focus countries for development aid, all affected by violent conflict and until 2007 Sweden primarily engaged with humanitarian assistance. Key rationale for this policy change was the need to engage beyond humanitarian assistance and use funding streams that could address root causes for protracted crises through state- and peace-building. One recent example of the same logic is Sweden's Syria crisis strategy focusing on complementing humanitarian assistance.

Sida has during the last years worked more systematically to increase risk and resilience in development cooperation and strengthen synergies between humanitarian assistance and development cooperation in order to reduce future humanitarian needs.

Since 2016, Sida has promoted a four-pronged approach to 1) strengthen common analysis, based on risk and vulnerability, 2) increase focus on resilience and synergies in Sida's development strategies, 3) increase flexible, innovative and effective development funding and 4) strengthen dialogue and coordination between humanitarian assistance and development cooperation.

### **2. Progress to date**

Which concrete actions have you taken (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream?

A common analysis based on risk and resilience is the point of departure for strengthening synergies between humanitarian assistance and development cooperation. Sweden (through Sida) has therefore integrated a perspective on synergies in Sida's Humanitarian Crises analyses for large on-going crises. This common analysis then leads to a number of concrete programmes that creates concrete synergies between humanitarian and development. In 2017, ten such programmes have been approved, of which one is the example below.

In Sahel, two forms of food security interventions are supported in parallel in the following four countries: Mali, Tchad, Burkina Faso, Niger and Cameroon. The first is a conventional humanitarian response, which addresses and responds to acute food insecurity through food distribution (through e.g. IRC) and acute malnutrition interventions (through e.g. UNICEF clinics). The second has the objective of preventing and mitigating acute food insecurity and severe acute malnutrition (SAM). This is done through a multiyear programme through FAO, with 20 MSEK for three years, 2017, 2018 and 2019. The objective of the programme is hence not addressing or responding to acute food insecurity and SAM, but rather preventing that to happen in the targeted geographical areas. This is done through: a) rehabilitation of farming land (that in most cases has been damaged by conflict), b) distribution of farming equipment (also in areas that have been affected by conflict), c) training for income

generating activities such as the production of dairy products, d) vaccination of cattle, and e) cash for work (mainly for rehabilitation of wells close to the farming land).

The objective of the programme is hence not addressing acute food insecurity and SAM, but rather preventing that to happen in the targeted geographical areas, which mainly include IDPs and refugee populations. This means that the expected result is to prevent this population from falling into acute food insecurity and acute severe malnutrition (SAM) which otherwise would require humanitarian assistance. This is done through activities that foster income generating and self-reliance.

Sida has also during 2015-2016 piloted the Resilience Systems Analysis (RSA) developed by the OECD/DAC in order to integrate risk and resilience at various parts of Sida's strategy process, for example as analytical basis for the Swedish development strategy for the Syria crisis (adopted 2015). It contributed to developing an analysis of risk and vulnerability in this specific context without jeopardising the humanitarian principles or blur the lines between humanitarian assistance and development cooperation. The RSA was also used within strategy-processes in Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan and Kenya.

There is progress on strengthening flexibility, innovation and effective development funding to handle the causes of crises, supports prevention and resilience against future crises and disasters. It includes building on humanitarian assistance and scale up, support local resilience programmes, disaster risk reduction, early warning/early action, durable solutions for refugees and internally displaced populations, risk insurance, social protection programmes and early warning/action.

Discrimination against women and girls require a long-term perspective. A gender equality perspective is integrated into all Sweden's strategies and special attention is devoted to empower women and girls. In Kinshasa, the Embassy is currently exploring how the Call to Action Against Gender-based Violence Road map can be a helpful tool to better link humanitarian aid and long term development aid.

### **3. Planned next steps**

What are the specific next steps which you plan to undertake to implement the commitments (with a focus on the next 2 years)?

- Sweden (through Sida) will during the next two years continue to strengthen further the common analysis, based on risk and vulnerability, increase focus on resilience and synergies in Sida's development strategies, increase flexible, innovative and effective development funding and strengthen dialogue and coordination between humanitarian assistance and development cooperation.
- That common analysis should then be clearly reflected in both the Humanitarian Crises Analysis (Sida's equivalent of HNO/HRP) as well as Sweden's development strategies (equivalent of UNDAF), as it will have been jointly developed by humanitarian and development colleagues.

- The common analysis will finally lead to at least four more new programmes similar to the one listed above, where clear and concrete synergies between humanitarian and development programmes are tangible.

#### **4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)**

Please indicate, qualitatively, efficiency gains associated with implementation of GB commitments and how they have benefitted your organisation and beneficiaries.

\*too early to state

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

Which concrete action(s) have had the most success (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream? And why?

The concrete action that has had the most success internally to implement the work stream is the piloting of the Resilience Systems Analysis in a number of contexts in order to promote joint analysis and planning based on risk, vulnerability and resilience. Together with OECD/DAC, Sida has collected experiences from these analyses in order to build on them, particularly within the framework of Sida's newly developed poverty analysis tool. More information is available on:

<http://www.oecd.org/dac/conflict-fragility-resilience/risk-resilience.htm>

Sida has also collected our earlier experiences in "Designing Relief and Development to enhance resilience and impact" (2015), available at [www.sida.se](http://www.sida.se)