# **Grand Bargain Self-Reporting Explanatory Guidance**

- 1. All signatories to the Grand Bargain are expected to complete the self-report annually.
- Self-reports must be returned to the Grand Bargain Secretariat
  [gbsecretariat@un.org] no later than <u>Thursday 15 March</u>, <u>2018</u>. Any submissions after this date may not be considered by the 2018 Independent Grand Bargain Report.
- 3. Reporting should reflect activities and progress that has taken place between January 2017 and December 2017.
- 4. The self-report requests information by work stream, however, in order to best track progress, signatories are asked to provide as much specific and relevant detail on progress made against each of the 51 individual commitments as possible. A full list of commitments for each work stream is included in the self-report template for reference.
- 5. The questions contained in this self-report are the same as in 2017, however some work streams include additional question for signatories, at the request of the work stream co-conveners. If you are unable to provide this information, please note the reasons for this.
- 6. Signatories who have not previously completed a self-report are asked to answer question one for each work stream, to provide a baseline of where your organisation stood when it became a Grand Bargain signatory. Existing signatories can complete questions two to five for each work stream, as your 2017 self-report will have already provided the baseline information sought by question one.
- 7. Please type your answers immediately below each question asked.
- 8. Signatories are encouraged to report both on progress made, and where they may have experienced obstacles or challenges to realising their commitments.
- 9. Signatories are encouraged, where possible and relevant, to reflect on their contributions to the Grand Bargain both as recipients of humanitarian funds and donors of humanitarian funds. This will allow us to capture the transfer of benefits accrued at higher ends of the value chain down to the frontline.
- 10. Signatories are asked to limit their responses to a maximum of 500 words per work stream.
- 11. Self-reports are public documents, and will be published <u>as submitted</u> on the IASC-hosted Grand Bargain <u>website</u> from 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2018.

- 12. Self-reports will be used to inform the 2018 Independent Annual Grand Bargain Report, which will provide a collective analysis of the progress for each work stream, and for the Grand Bargain as a whole. The Independent Annual Grand Bargain report will be published prior to the 2018 Annual Grand Bargain Meeting on 18 June 2018, in New York.
- 13. The 2018 Independent Annual Grand Bargain Report is being prepared by <u>ODI/HPG</u>. Signatories may be contacted by ODI/HPG as part of their research and preparation of the Independent Report.
- 14. If you require support or advice to complete your self-report, you may direct enquiries to the Grand Bargain Secretariat [gbsecretariat@un.org].

#### **Gender Inclusion**

Signatories are encouraged address to the gender dimensions of their Grand Bargain commitments. For reporting on each work stream, consideration should be given to the guidance provided by the <u>Aide-Memoire</u> on Gender Mainstreaming in the Grand Bargain that addresses the gender dimensions of resources, capacity, evidence and data, participation, leadership, accountability and communication within the Grand Bargain. Signatories are also welcome to provide additional detail on how they consider they have, at a macro level, ensured their Grand Bargain follow-up is gender-responsive, and to include any examples of good practice that they wish to share. This data will assist in the preparation of the 2018 Independent Grand Bargain report, which will assess the extent to which gender has been considered by Grand Bargain work streams.



# **2018 Grand Bargain Annual Self-Reporting – [Name of Signatory]**

## Contents

Work	stream 1 - Transparency	5				
1.	Baseline (only in year 1)					
2.	Progress to date					
3.	Planned next steps					
4.	Efficiency gains					
5.	Good practices and lessons learned					
Work stream 2 - Localization						
1.	Baseline (only in year 1)	7				
2.	Progress to date					
3.	Planned next steps					
4.	Efficiency gains	8				
5.	Good practices and lessons learned	9				
Work stream 3 - Cash						
1.	Baseline (only in year 1)	10				
2.	Progress to date	10				
3.	Planned next steps	10				
4.	Efficiency gains	11				
5.	Good practices and lessons learned	11				
Work stream 4 – Management costs						
1.	Baseline (only in year 1)	13				
2.	Progress to date	13				
3.	Planned next steps	13				
4.	Efficiency gains	13				
5.	Good practices and lessons learned	13				
Work	stream 5 – Needs Assessment	14				
1.	Baseline (only in year 1)	15				
2.	Progress to date					
3.	Planned next steps	15				
4.	Efficiency gains	15				

5.	Good practices and lessons learned	15				
Work	stream 6 – Participation Revolution	16				
1.	Baseline (only in year 1)	16				
2.	Progress to date	16				
3.	Planned next steps	17				
4.	Efficiency gains	17				
5.	Good practices and lessons learned	17				
Work	Work stream 7 - Multi-year planning and funding					
1.	Baseline (only in year 1)	18				
2.	Progress to date	19				
3.	Planned next steps	19				
4.	Efficiency gains	19				
5.	Good practice and lessons learned	19				
Work	stream 8 - Earmarking/flexibility	20				
1.	Baseline (only in year 1)	20				
2.	Progress to date	21				
3.	Planned next steps	21				
4.	Efficiency gains	21				
5.	Good practices and lessons learned	21				
Work	stream 9 – Reporting requirements	22				
1.	Baseline (only in year 1)	22				
2.	Progress to date	22				
3.	Planned next steps	22				
4.	Efficiency gains	22				
5.	Good practices and lessons learned	22				
Work	stream 10 – Humanitarian – Development engagemen	t23				
1.	Baseline (only in year 1)	23				
2.	Progress to date	24				
3.	Planned next steps Error! Bookmark not defined.					
4.	Efficiency gains	24				
5.	Good practices and lessons learned	24				

# **Work stream 1 - Transparency**

Aid organisations and donors commit to:

- 1. Publish timely, transparent, harmonised and open high-quality data on humanitarian funding within two years of the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul. We consider IATI to provide a basis for the purpose of a common standard.
- 2. Make use of appropriate data analysis, explaining the distinctiveness of activities, organisations, environments and circumstances (for example, protection, conflict-zones).
- 3. Improve the digital platform and engage with the open-data standard community to help ensure:
  - accountability of donors and responders with open data for retrieval and analysis;
  - improvements in decision-making, based upon the best possible information;
  - a reduced workload over time as a result of donors accepting common standard data for some reporting purposes; and
  - traceability of donors' funding throughout the transaction chain as far as the final responders and, where feasible, affected people.
- 4. Support the capacity of all partners to access and publish data.

**Transparency work stream co-conveners reporting request:** How will you use the data from IATI within your organization including, for example, for monitoring, reporting and visà-vis other Grand Bargain commitments?

Data from IATA allows to plan and manage humanitarian aid most effectively. As a result, resources can be directed where they are needed most.

## 1. Baseline (only in year 1)

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

Luxembourg follows IATI initiatives and seeks to improve the transparency of humanitarian resources.

Luxembourg reports all its contributions to EDRIS, which transmits the information to the Financial Tracking Service (FTS).

Published national data includes annual reports with funding data and the executive summaries of all external evaluations. These are freely accessible on the Ministry's website.

Luxembourg is also a member of MOPAN.

# 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?

Luxembourg has engaged further with IATI and Development Initiatives on the question of publishing humanitarian data.

Since 2013, Luxembourg, in the framework of the emergency.lu program, has actively supported OCHA's "data and analysis" project (DAP) by providing technical expertise (developers) and hosting capacities. The DAP project was rebranded as "Humanitarian Data Exchange" (HDX) with the goal of making humanitarian data easy to find and use for analysis.

Luxembourg will continue collaborating with the OCHA Centre for Humanitarian Data on hosting sensitive humanitarian data.

#### 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)?

Luxembourg will continue to publish timely and transparent data via EDRIS and FTS, according to IATA standards.

### 4. Efficiency gains

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

### 5. Good practices and lessons learned

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 2 - Localization

Aid organisations and donors commit to:

- 1. Increase and support multi-year investment in the institutional capacities of local and national responders, including preparedness, response and coordination capacities, especially in fragile contexts and where communities are vulnerable to armed conflicts, disasters, recurrent outbreaks and the effects of climate change. We should achieve this through collaboration with development partners and incorporate capacity strengthening in partnership agreements.
- 2. Understand better and work to remove or reduce barriers that prevent organisations and donors from partnering with local and national responders in order to lessen their administrative burden.
- 3. Support and complement national coordination mechanisms where they exist and include local and national responders in international coordination mechanisms as appropriate and in keeping with humanitarian principles.
- 4. Achieve by 2020 a global, aggregated target of at least 25 per cent of humanitarian funding to local and national responders as directly as possible to improve outcomes for affected people and reduce transactional costs.
- 5. Develop, with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), and apply a 'localisation' marker to measure direct and indirect funding to local and national responders.
- 6. Make greater use of funding tools which increase and improve assistance delivered by local and national responders, such as UN-led country-based pooled funds (CBPF), IFRC Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) and NGO- led and other pooled funds.

**Localisation work stream co-conveners reporting request:** What percentage of your humanitarian funding in 2017 was provided to local and national responders

(a) directly (b) through pooled funds, or (c) through a single intermediary?<sup>1</sup>

(a) Directly: 1,66 %

(b) Trough pooled funds: 15,12 %

(c) Through a single intermediary: 83,22 %

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

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The "Identified Categories for Tracking Aid Flows" document agreed through silence procedure (<u>available here</u>) provides relevant definitions. The detailed data collection form (<u>available here</u>) may also assist you in responding to this question. Returning this form with your self report is optional, but encouraged.

Luxembourg recognises the important role played by local and national actors in humanitarian crisis and considers this work stream to be of one of the most important in the Grand Bargain.

Luxembourg has been contributing already for several years to Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPF) as well as to the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). Both funds enable support to local and national responders.

#### 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?

Luxembourg has committed to greater use of funding tools such as CBPFs, CERF and DREF. Luxembourg has almost doubled its contribution to DREF in 2017 (compared to previous years) and has concluded its first multi-annual agreement with CERF in January 2017. The same applies for the CBPF, where Luxembourg's contribution has increased significantly in the last few years: Luxembourg provides annual support to eight CBPFs, totalling 2.400.000 euros.

For humanitarian funding, Luxembourg has in principle no barriers in place that prevent the funding of projects of local or national NGOS. Luxembourg is already financially supporting a number of non-Luxembourg based NGOs directly.

Moreover, the General Terms and Conditions for receiving Ministry funding for humanitarian projects have been revised to highlight the question of involvement of local actors and local capacity building.

Luxembourg also supports the national authorities in Niger (Capacity building within the Ministry for Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management) and provided direct humanitarian funding to Cabo Verde and the Vietnamese Red Cross.

#### 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)?

Luxembourg will continue to support CERF and to CBPFs.

Luxembourg has started informal discussions with Luxembourg-based NGOs to debate how to take this question forward within our National Humanitarian Strategy, which will be reviewed in 2018.

#### 4. Efficiency gains

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

## 5. Good practices and lessons learned

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 greater use of funding tools such as CBPFs, DREF and CERF and the fact that the money is allocated through an inclusive and transparent process in support of priorities set out and the fact that funding is available and prioritized at the local level by those closest to people in need provides a good foundation for further work.

Luxembourg is in regular contact with its national NGOs in order to exchange best practices as they work closely with a wide range of local partners on the field. Special attention is given to the localisation marker debate and the importance of local capacity building.

#### Work stream 3 - Cash

Aid organisations and donors commit to:

- 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.
- 2. Invest in new delivery models which can be increased in scale while identifying best practice and mitigating risks in each context. Employ markers to track their evolution.
- 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.
- 4. 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.
- 6. Aim to increase use of cash programming beyond current low levels, where appropriate. Some organisations and donors may wish to set targets.

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

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

Luxembourg recognizes the potential and value of cash-based assistance. Already before the Grand Bargain was signed, Luxembourg co-financed projects of NGO partners implementing limited programs emphasising on cash-based assistance.

### 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?

Luxembourg is supporting cash-based programming in WFP and UNHCR and continues to fund NGO projects that incorporate cash-based assistance (both conditional and unconditional).

### 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)?

Luxembourg will continue to support cash-based programming and is very interested in further studies on the risks and benefits of cash programming.

Luxembourg will partner with WFP on a Blockchain project in order to enable more efficient cash based interventions

# 4. Efficiency gains

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

# 5. Good practices and lessons learned

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 4 – Management costs**

Aid organisations and donors commit to:

1. Reduce the costs and measure the gained efficiencies of delivering assistance with technology (including green) and innovation. Aid organisations will provide the detailed steps to be taken by the end of 2017.

Examples where use of technology can be expanded:

- Mobile technology for needs assessments/post-distribution monitoring;
- Digital platforms and mobile devices for financial transactions;
- Communication with affected people via call centres and other feedback
- mechanisms such as SMS text messaging;
- Biometrics; and
- Sustainable energy.
- 2. Harmonise partnership agreements and share partner assessment information as well as data about affected people, after data protection safeguards have been met by the end of 2017, in order to save time and avoid duplication in operations.

Aid organisations commit to:

- 3. Provide transparent and comparable cost structures by the end of 2017. We acknowledge that operational management of the Grand Bargain signatories the United Nations, International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and the NGO sector may require different approaches.
- 4. Reduce duplication of management and other costs through maximising efficiencies in procurement and logistics for commonly required goods and services. Shared procurement should leverage the comparative advantage of the aid organisations and promote innovation.

Suggested areas for initial focus:

- Transportation/Travel;
- Vehicles and fleet management;
- Insurance;
- Shipment tracking systems;
- Inter-agency/common procurement pipelines (non-food items, shelter, WASH,
- food);
- IT services and equipment;
- Commercial consultancies; and
- Common support services.

Donors commit to:

5. Make joint regular functional monitoring and performance reviews and reduce individual donor assessments, evaluations, verifications, risk management and oversight processes.

**Management costs work stream co-conveners reporting request:** What steps have you taken to reduce the number of individual donor assessments (if a donor) or partner assessments (if an agency) you conduct on humanitarian partners?

n/a

## 1. Baseline (only in year 1)

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

Luxembourg supports innovative solutions that help improve humanitarian coordination and help reduce management costs. Through its www.emergency.lu platform Luxembourg provides satellite connectivity for humanitarian coordination and needs assessment and IT solutions such as tracking software and digital versions of field manuals and user guides for humanitarian agencies.

#### 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?

Luxembourg strives to use shared procurement approaches and to avoid duplication or/and supplementary national donor assessments wherever possible.

#### 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)?

Luxembourg will undertake a self-assessment for donors against the Core Humanitarian Standard with CHS Alliance in 2018.

#### 4. Efficiency gains

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

### 5. Good practices and lessons learned

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?

Luxembourg will continue to favour shared procurement approaches and to avoid duplication or/and supplementary national donor assessments wherever possible.

Our national NGOs use a simplified version of the ECHO templates, thus reducing duplication.

#### Work stream 5 - Needs Assessment

Aid organisations and donors commit to:

- 1. Provide a single, comprehensive, cross-sectoral, methodologically sound and impartial overall assessment of needs for each crisis to inform strategic decisions on how to respond and fund thereby reducing the number of assessments and appeals produced by individual organisations.
- 2. Coordinate and streamline data collection to ensure compatibility, quality and comparability and minimising intrusion into the lives of affected people. Conduct the overall assessment in a transparent, collaborative process led by the Humanitarian Coordinator/Resident Coordinator with full involvement of the Humanitarian Country Team and the clusters/sectors and in the case of sudden onset disasters, where possible, by the government. Ensure sector-specific assessments for operational planning are undertaken under the umbrella of a coordinated plan of assessments at inter-cluster/sector level.
- 3. Share needs assessment data in a timely manner, with the appropriate mitigation of protection and privacy risks. Jointly decide on assumptions and analytical methods used for projections and estimates.
- 4. Dedicate resources and involve independent specialists within the clusters to strengthen data collection and analysis in a fully transparent, collaborative process, which includes a brief summary of the methodological and analytical limitations of the assessment.
- 5. Prioritise humanitarian response across sectors based on evidence established by the analysis. As part of the IASC Humanitarian Response Plan process on the ground, it is the responsibility of the empowered Humanitarian Coordinator/Resident Coordinator to ensure the development of the prioritised, evidence-based response plans.
- 6. Commission independent reviews and evaluations of the quality of needs assessment findings and their use in prioritisation to strengthen the confidence of all stakeholders in the needs assessment.
- 7. Conduct risk and vulnerability analysis with development partners and local authorities, in adherence to humanitarian principles, to ensure the alignment of humanitarian and development programming.

Needs	assessment	work strea	am co-conv	eners repoi	rting request	: What h	nurdles, it	any
might I	be addressed	to allow for	r more effect	ive impleme	ntation of the	GB com	mitment?	

n/a

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

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

Luxembourg has always been a strong advocate of a strong and impartial needs assessment and is in favour of developing a better joint understanding of needs, capabilities, and appropriate response.

## 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?

We encourage our national NGOs to participate in common needs assessment to enhance coordinated humanitarian planning and cooperation.

# 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)?

### 4. Efficiency gains

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

# 5. Good practices and lessons learned

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

Luxembourg conducts no national/individual needs assessments and avoids duplication

Luxembourg financially supports the work of UNDAC and is a member of IHP.

# **Work stream 6 – Participation Revolution**

Aid organisations and donors commit to:

- 1. Improve leadership and governance mechanisms at the level of the humanitarian country team and cluster/sector mechanisms to ensure engagement with and accountability to people and communities affected by crises.
- 2. Develop common standards and a coordinated approach for community engagement and participation, with the emphasis on inclusion of the most vulnerable, supported by a common platform for sharing and analysing data to strengthen decision-making, transparency, accountability and limit duplication.
- 3. Strengthen local dialogue and harness technologies to support more agile, transparent but appropriately secure feedback.
- 4. Build systematic links between feedback and corrective action to adjust programming.

Donors commit to:

- 5. Fund flexibly to facilitate programme adaptation in response to community feedback.
- 6. Invest time and resources to fund these activities.

*Aid organisations commit to:* 

7. Ensure that, by the end of 2017, all humanitarian response plans – and strategic monitoring of them - demonstrate analysis and consideration of inputs from affected communities.

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

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

Luxembourg engages in regular exchange with the NGOs that receive Ministry funding.

Luxembourg provides an annual flexible envelope to its main humanitarian NGO partners which allows them to adapt their projects to changing circumstances on the ground.

### 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?

Luxembourg has engaged in a dialogue with its national humanitarian NGOs and field offices/embassies on strengthening local dialogue and feedback.

During our national Development days ("Assises de la Coopération luxembourgeoise" in 2017, local humanitarian actors from the Sahel provided valuable feedback on the challenges they face and how the humanitarian system should address them.

Luxembourg has endorsed the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action and is co-funding the elaboration of the IASC Guidelines on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action, notably the participation of people with disabilities at the regional conferences.

#### 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)?

Luxembourg will further push and mainstream the topic of the inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action. The topic will be one of the priorities in Luxembourg's humanitarian Strategy, which will be reviewed in 2018.

## 4. Efficiency gains

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

### 5. Good practices and lessons learned

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?

Luxembourg has signed a jointly elaborated "national humanitarian charter" with Luxembourg-based humanitarian NGOs in May 2016 with a special focus on inclusion of vulnerable groups. Terms and Conditions for Ministry funding have also been adapted in this light and special attention will be given to the involvement of local actors and local capacity building.

Luxembourg has endorsed the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action.

Luxembourg maintains close dialogue with local humanitarian actors, especially in the Sahel zone.

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

Aid organisations and donors commit to:

- 1. Increase multi-year, collaborative and flexible planning and multi-year funding instruments and document the impacts on programme efficiency and effectiveness, ensuring that recipients apply the same funding arrangements with their implementing partners.
- 2. Support in at least five countries by the end of 2017 multi-year collaborative planning and response plans through multi-year funding and monitor and evaluate the outcomes of these responses.
- 3. Strengthen existing coordination efforts to share analysis of needs and risks between the humanitarian and development sectors and to better align humanitarian and development planning tools and interventions while respecting the principles of both.

**Multi-year planning and funding work stream co-conveners reporting request:** Please report the percentage and total value of multi-year agreements<sup>2</sup> you have provided (as a donor) or received <u>and</u> provided to humanitarian partners (as an agency) in 2017, and any earmarking conditions.<sup>3</sup> When reporting on efficiency gains, please try to provide quantitative examples.

General budget: 42.000.000 EUR

Total value of multi-year funding: 26.300.000 EUR 62,6 %

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

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

In line with GHD principles, Luxembourg was already committed to improving the quality of its funding by increasing the predictability and timeliness, while emphasizing on multi-year funding as well as a more flexible funding for humanitarian crises. Multi-year flexible funding arrangements (covering 4-to 5 year periods) are in place with ICRC, WFP, UNHCR, OCHA and UNISDR.

Similarly, Luxembourg is a long-standing supporter of pooled funds. In 2017, Luxembourg allocated 6,1 million euros to UN pooled funds, which were comprised of a contribution to the Central Emergency Response Fund (4,6 million euros) as well as a contribution to the mutual funds in CAR, DRC, South Sudan and Syria, Nigeria and Myanmar (250.000 euros to each Country Based Pooled Fund).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Multiyear funding is funding provided for two or more years based on a firm commitment at the outset

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> For the Grand Bargain definitions of earmarking, please see Annex I. Earmarking modalities, as contained with the final agreement, available <u>here</u>.

Moreover, Luxembourg-based humanitarian NGOs receive an annual (flexible) funding envelope.

#### 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 instruments are in place both at the national and international level. Luxembourg has committed to multi-year funding in Afghanistan, RCA, Mali, Syria, DRC. In most of those cases, there has been a coordinated approach between humanitarian and development planning tools, the general assumption being that while humanitarian funding will decrease over time, development funding will have to increase proportionally.

A multi-year funding agreement (covering 2017-2018) was concluded with CERF.

#### 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)?

The share of multi-annual commitments will be increased to 65% by 2020. Moreover, in 2018, Luxembourg will allocate more than 6 million euros to UN pooled funds and plans to allocate a contribution in the first half of 2018 to the mutual funds in CAR, DRC, South Sudan, Syria, Nigeria and Myanmar, Yemen and Iraq (300.000 euros to each Country Based Pooled Fund).

### 4. Efficiency gains

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

#### 5. Good practice and lessons learned

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?

Currently the share of multi-annual commitments is at 62% of overall humanitarian funding. Luxembourg will continue its good practice of concluding multi-year funding agreements, which provide UN agencies and specialised bodies as well as international humanitarian organisations with multi-annual, predictable funding. Our current Strategic Partnership Agreements with WFP, ICRC, UNHCR, UNISDR and OCHA cover the period up until 2020.

Moreover, Luxembourg will also continue to provide yearly funding envelopes to national humanitarian NGOs. In line with our budgetary procedures (and notably subject to parliamentary approval of the annual budget), these envelopes are renewed on a yearly basis and provide the NGOs with at least the same funding as in the preceding calendar year thus guaranteeing multi-annual predictability as well.

# **Work stream 8 - Earmarking/flexibility**

Aid organisations and donors commit to:

- 1. Jointly determine, on an annual basis, the most effective and efficient way of reporting on unearmarked and softly earmarked funding and to initiate this reporting by the end of 2017.
- 2. Reduce the degree of earmarking of funds contributed by governments and regional groups who currently provide low levels of flexible finance. Aid organisations in turn commit to do the same with their funding when channelling it through partners.

# *Aid organisations commit to:*

- 3. Be transparent and regularly share information with donors outlining the criteria for how core and unearmarked funding is allocated (for example, urgent needs, emergency preparedness, forgotten contexts, improved management)
- 4. Increase the visibility of unearmarked and softly earmarked funding, thereby recognising the contribution made by donors.

#### Donors commit to:

5. Progressively reduce the earmarking of their humanitarian contributions. The aim is to aspire to achieve a global target of 30 per cent of humanitarian contributions that is non earmarked or softly earmarked by  $2020^4$ .

**Earmarking/flexibility work stream co-conveners reporting request:** Please specify if possible the percentages of 2017 vs 2016 of:

- Unearmarked contributions 2017: 32,9 %
- Unearmarked contributions 2016: 35,3%
- Softly earmarked contributions 2017 4 %
- Softly earmarked contributions 2016: 3,2 %
- Country earmarked contributions 2017 : 32,6 %
- Country earmarked contributions 2016:37%
- Tightly earmarked contributions 2017: 30,5 %
- Tightly earmarked contributions 2016: 24,5 %

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

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> For the Grand Bargain definitions of earmarking, please see Annex I. Earmarking modalities, as contained with the final agreement, available <u>here</u>.

In line with GHD principles, multi-year and increasing un-earmarked funding has long been a priority for Luxembourg.

### 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?

Luxembourg will continue, together with its humanitarian partners, to foster multi-year funding agreements and un-earmarked funding.

Current multi-year funding agreements (Strategic Partnership Agreements) with WFP, ICRC, UNHCR, UNISDR and OCHA cover the period up until 2020. The level of non-earmarked funding varies depending on programmes but the general approach is to avoid earmarking altogether or to choose soft earmarking whenever possible. This objective has been stated clearly in the current multi-year funding agreements.

In an effort to increase un-earmarked funding, Luxembourg has also increased its contributions to country-based pooled funds.

### 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)?

Overall, Luxembourg intends to raise its level of un-earmarked and softly earmarked funding to 40% by 2020.

### 4. Efficiency gains

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

## 5. Good practices and lessons learned

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?

Current level of non-earmarked funding varies depending on programmes but the general approach is to avoid earmarking altogether or to choose soft earmarking whenever possible.

# **Work stream 9 – Reporting requirements**

Aid organisations and donors commit to:

- 1. Simplify and harmonise reporting requirements by the end of 2018 by reducing its volume, jointly deciding on common terminology, identifying core requirements and developing a common report structure.
- 2. Invest in technology and reporting systems to enable better access to information.
- 3. Enhance the quality of reporting to better capture results, enable learning and increase the efficiency of reporting.

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

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

Luxembourg is very much in favour of a harmonized and simplified reporting

### 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?

### 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)?

Our national NGOs use a simplified version of the ECHO templates, thus reducing duplication.

### 4. Efficiency gains

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

### 5. Good practices and lessons learned

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**

Aid organisations and donors commit to:

- 1. Use existing resources and capabilities better to shrink humanitarian needs over the long term with the view of contributing to the outcomes of the Sustainable Development Goals. Significantly increase prevention, mitigation and preparedness for early action to anticipate and secure resources for recovery. This will need to be the focus not only of aid organisations and donors but also of national governments at all levels, civil society, and the private sector.
- 2. Invest in durable solutions for refugees, internally displaced people and sustainable support to migrants, returnees and host/receiving communities, as well as for other situations of recurring vulnerabilities.
- 3. Increase social protection programmes and strengthen national and local systems and coping mechanisms in order to build resilience in fragile contexts.
- 4. Perform joint multi-hazard risk and vulnerability analysis, and multi-year planning where feasible and relevant, with national, regional and local coordination in order to achieve a shared vision for outcomes. Such a shared vision for outcomes will be developed on the basis of shared risk analysis between humanitarian, development, stabilisation and peacebuilding communities.
- 5. Galvanise new partnerships that bring additional capabilities and resources to crisis affected states through Multilateral Development Banks within their mandate and foster innovative partnerships with the private sector.

**Humanitarian-Development engagement work stream co-conveners reporting request:** What has your organisation done to operationalise the humanitarian-development nexus at country level?"

Luxembourg has increased awareness at HQ and field level.

A joint evaluation is planned in Niger to evaluate effectiveness of humanitarian and development action in 2018/2019.

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

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

Luxembourg strongly believes in the need of safeguarding humanitarian principles and at the national level endeavours to maintain separate funding for humanitarian assistance, development cooperation and stabilization activities respectively. With this caveat in mind,

Luxembourg strives to bridge the gap between prevention, humanitarian response and long-term recovery.

Whenever national humanitarian appeals are launched, development actors are associated in information sessions so that they can start planning a long-term approach already at the start of an emergency and are aware of the actions taken by their "humanitarian" counterparts. This improves coherence and coordination between the immediate humanitarian response and rehabilitation/reconstruction activities that will come in at a later stage.

Moreover, the Terms and Conditions for Ministry funding include a "resilience funding instrument" which enables a bridging activity for reconstruction activities providing there is a clear link with the initial humanitarian project and the subsequent project.

## 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?

Luxembourg has committed to multi-year funding approaches in many humanitarian contexts (Afghanistan, CAR, Syria, Mali, Niger etc.) and aims to have a coordinated approach between humanitarian and development financial planning tools, the general assumption being that while humanitarian funding will decrease over time, development funding will have to increase proportionally.

Luxembourg has also engaged with UNHCR on a study exploring how humanitarian principles can be safeguarded in a humanitarian-development nexus approach.

#### 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)?

Luxembourg will seek to further promote synergy and complementarity between humanitarian and development actors in the sectors of health (transition to health systems) and nutrition (food security and resilience), notably in Mali and RCA. However, there cannot be a one-size fits-all approach and a context specific approach will be important.

A joint evaluation is planned in Niger to evaluate effectiveness of humanitarian and development action in 2018/2019.

### 4. Efficiency gains

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

# 5. Good practices and lessons learned

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?