

Grand Bargain Enhanced Quality Funding Workstream (7+8) Priority Action Plan

GRAND BARGAIN ENHANCED QUALITY FUNDING WORKSTREAM – PRIORITY ACTION PLAN			
Objectives	Co-convenor Lead, Support, Additional Stakeholders	Priority Actions	Timeline
Mapping <i>Improve our ability to count and track volumes of unearmarked and multi-year funding.</i>	Canada and Sweden	1) Develop a Guidance Document to clarify the definitions and applicability of multi-year funding, flexible / unearmarked funding, and multi-year planning. When developing the Guidance Document, the workstream will ensure that all relevant actors will be consulted including the IASC Results Group 5.	By December 2019
	ICRC UNICEF	2) Work with the Facilitation Group to help Grand Bargain signatories better report on their provision and usage of multi-year funding, flexible funding, and multi-year planning.	By January 2020
	OCHA All co-conveners	3) Strengthen reporting for humanitarian funding to track the level and duration of unearmarked and multi-year funding through tools such as FTS and IATI.	Ongoing
Both sides of the spectrum <i>Understand the incentives and barriers to increasing multi-year and unearmarked funding at the top two transaction layers.</i>	NRC Canada UNICEF ICRC OCHA FAO Development Initiatives Netherlands	4) Develop a Collection of Best Practices Picnic Basket on Quality Funding, including extending beyond the existing commitments on quality funding in the Grand Bargain. This Picnic Basket will include: (a) Highlighting the overall objectives of quality funding for all humanitarian actors; (b) A “mapping exercise” that catalogues and categorizes both how donors provide quality funding as well as how UN Agencies and NGOs use quality funding; (c) A compilation of best practices for the provision and usage of unearmarked funding, drawing from different initiatives such as the ICRC case studies; and	By June 2020

		(d) A Tool Box of concrete examples on how to use earmarked funding in a more flexible way.	
<p>Document the barriers to passing on quality funding to implementing partners <i>Understand the barriers and opportunities for first level recipients to cascade down quality funding to implementing partners.</i></p>	<p>UNICEF NRC IRC</p>	<p>5) Continue the dialogue on passing quality funding to implementing partners with other workstreams and multilateral fora to better understand the barriers and key opportunities for progress.</p>	Ongoing
<p>Collect and gather evidence on the impact and effectiveness of multi-year planning <i>Understand the impact of multi-year planning in different humanitarian contexts (sudden vs. protracted crises) and the linkages with other processes such as the humanitarian-development nexus.</i></p>	<p>OCHA Canada UNICEF NRC</p>	<p>6) Work with the IASC Results Group 5 on Humanitarian Financing to gather further evidence on the impact and effectiveness of multi-year planning, as well as capture the linkages between multi-year planning and multi-year funding.</p>	Ongoing
<p>Synergies with other Workstreams and Multilateral Fora <i>Increase the evidence base and address barriers that would support increased levels of quality funding at the top two transaction layers.</i></p>	<p>UNICEF</p>	<p>7) Engage with the UNDS team leading on the development assistance Funding Compact to discuss interlinkages and synergies with this workstream, including a comparison of relevant indicators.</p>	Ongoing
	<p>ICRC UNICEF Canada</p>	<p>8) Liaise with the Facilitation Group to follow up on signatories' individual commitments related to quality funding announced at the June 2019 Grand Bargain Annual Meeting, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belgium's commitment to continue to provide flexible funding; • The OECD's suggestion to establish a group of auditors and legal staff to look at areas of counterterrorism, risk transfer and sharing, compliance, reporting, and localization; 	Ongoing

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ICRC’s commitment to conduct case studies on the relevance and importance of quality funding; • WFP’s commitment to share its management insights regarding quality funding; and • UNICEF’s commitment to review its internal systems to better identify and tag “quality funding” in order to track the onward transfer of quality funding to implementing partners and provide guidance on budget utilization considerations for quality funding, with a view to increase quality funding for local implementing partners. 	
	All Co-conveners	9) Continue to work with Workstream 1 (transparency), Workstream 2 (localization), Workstream 4 (reducing costs), Workstream 9 (reporting), and the Friends of Gender Group, where linkages apply.	Ongoing
<i>Increase Political Momentum on Enhanced Quality Funding</i> <i>Strengthen the political narrative on flexible and predictable humanitarian funding, as well as address domestic political constraints at the multilateral and political levels.</i>	All Co-Conveners	10) Continue to liaise with the new Eminent Person and the Facilitation Group to support sustained higher-level political dialogue on the issue of flexible and predictable funding.	Ongoing

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LIST OF COMPLETED PRIORITY ACTIONS

Objectives	Co-convenor Lead Support, Additional Stakeholders	Priority Actions	Timeline
Mapping <i>Improve our ability to count and track volumes of unearmarked and multi-year funding</i>	ICRC UNICEF	1) Propose indicators on MYF and reducing earmarking to be reflected in the 2019 Grand Bargain self-reports.	COMPLETE
Both sides of the spectrum Workstream approach <i>Understand the incentives and barriers to increasing multi-year and unearmarked funding at the top two transaction layers</i>	Canada NRC Development Initiatives	2) Continue and enhance analysis, via an independent study, of a) barriers (including identification of impediments for donors**, e.g. legal); and b) best practices to increasing multi-year and unearmarked funding.	By December 2019
	All Co-conveners	3) Create a think piece that leverages knowledge from a representative spectrum of actors, including other signatories, workstreams 1, 4, and 9, and multilateral and international groups, on how to quantify the efficiency gains of multi-year and reduced earmarking, as well as studies that can provide the evidence of increased impact of multi-year funding. The outcome of this think piece is to identify the key challenges on advancing quality funding and serve as a guide for the working-level workshop (Priority Action 5).	By September 2019
	NRC/Canada All Co-Conveners	4) Organize a working-level workshop to address how to move the issue of quality funding forward. The workshop will be based on two assessments: barriers (Priority Action 3) and efficiency gains (Priority Action 4). The outcome of this workshop is two-fold: (a) to identify good practices, challenges, and opportunities to enhance more cost-effective humanitarian assistance through unearmarked funding and multi-year humanitarian funding and planning; (b) and to stimulate further discussion at the political level in order to fulfill the Grand Bargain commitments.	September 19 th , 2019

<p><i>Increase Political Momentum on Enhanced Quality Funding</i> <i>Strengthen the political narrative on flexible and predictable humanitarian funding, as well as address domestic political constraints at the multilateral and political levels.</i></p>	<p>Canada Support from all co-conveners</p>	<p>5) Organize a political-level meeting, which may include a Sherpa-level workshop, building on the workshop in Priority Action 5, to outline a plan of action to advance quality funding across the Grand Bargain.</p>	<p>By late 2019</p>
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** Organizations ensure that similar terms of multi-year funding agreements are applied with their implementing partners.*

*** All donors, including UN agencies when applicable*