

# The 8+3 Template: A Grand Bargain Initiative to Simplify and Harmonize Reporting

## What's this about?

At the World Humanitarian Summit in May 2016, humanitarian actors committed themselves to the “Grand Bargain,” a sector-wide reform effort to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian action. One of the Grand Bargain’s priorities is to simplify and harmonize donor reporting requirements so that the process becomes simpler, more efficient and less bureaucratic.

In response, the Global Public Policy Institute (GPPI), with support from the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) and the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA), has **developed a simplified reporting template for use across the humanitarian system**. Based on common reporting practices, the new harmonized reporting template contains eight ‘core’ questions and six ‘additional’ questions. Users are free to select questions from each of the two categories, but should not go beyond eight core and three additional questions, which is why the template is also known as the ‘8+3 Template’.

## Okay. But what are the benefits?

The 8+3 Template **reduces the time and resources that NGOs and other implementing organizations have to invest to report back to their donors on humanitarian activities**. Through its accessible language and precise questionnaire guidance, the template streamlines narrative reporting (e.g., the description of activities, results, challenges, and lessons learned) by standardizing core questions – thus helping to minimize the workload of reporting to various donors while maintaining a standard that guarantees high quality reporting.

## Great. How can I get started?

With more and more donors using the 8+3 Template, it is set to become the new global reporting standard in the humanitarian system. Getting started with the 8+3 Template is easy:

- (1) **Download the up-to-date version of the template** as well as the related guidance document: [www.harmonizedreporting.com](http://www.harmonizedreporting.com);
- (2) After you’ve familiarized yourself with the layout, **select the questions from the template that reflect your organization’s information needs** and create a single document to forward to your implementing partners once reporting commences.

For additional questions about the 8+3 Template, please contact: Johannes Sender (GFFO; [S08-20@diplo.de](mailto:S08-20@diplo.de)) or Alexander Gaus (GPPI; [agaus@gppi.net](mailto:agaus@gppi.net)).



To learn more about the 8+3 Template and to download the template as well as the guidance documents, please visit: [www.harmonizedreporting.com](http://www.harmonizedreporting.com).