

**Grand Bargain in 2021:**  
**Annual Self Report – Narrative Summary**

**Name of Institution: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Crisis and Support Center, Center for Humanitarian and Stabilization Operations**

**Point of Contact (please provide a name, title and email to enable the consultants to contact you for an interview): Carole BRESSON, desk officer for partnerships and institutional relations,**  
[carole.bresson@diplomatie.gouv.fr](mailto:carole.bresson@diplomatie.gouv.fr)

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(NB. Please limit your answer to no more than **4 pages in total** – anything over this word limit will not be considered. Please respond to all of the questions below.)

### **Grand Bargain in 2021**

**Question 1: Reflecting on the information you have provided in the Excel spreadsheet, please highlight the 2 or 3 key outcomes or results relating to the Grand Bargain that your institution achieved in 2021?**

France has placed the procedures harmonization at the center of its action. For example, the final report 8+3 template is used for each project. The main donors are consulted as soon as a need in terms of procedures is identified and in order to harmonize procedures with those of other donors (for example: the same model budget with DG ECHO).

In the context of the preparation of the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union, France has included the priorities of the Grand Bargain in its work programme as areas of work and discussion to be taken to the European level, particularly for localisation, gender and nexus.

**Question 2: Briefly explain how the outcomes contribute to achieving the Grand Bargain 2.0 enabling priority 1 (quality funding).**

*Enabling priority 1: A critical mass of quality funding is reached that allows an effective and efficient response, ensuring visibility and accountability.  
(For ease of reference, see Senior Officials Meeting recommendations [here](#).)*

In 2021, France has tripled its contributions to the Central Emergency Response Fund (3 million euros) managed by OCHA. It has also greatly enhanced (more than 31 million dollars in total) its contributions to some country-based pooled funds (Afghanistan ; Syria crossborder ; Ethiopia ; Yemen ; oPt ; Lebanon ; CAR ; regionally-hosted pooled fund in Central and West Africa). Also, for the first time, France has contributed (2 million euros) to the Immediate Response Account of the World Food Programme (WFP).

**Question 3: Briefly explain how the outcomes contribute to achieving the Grand Bargain 2.0 enabling priority 2 (localisation and participation).**

*Enabling priority 2: Greater support is provided for the leadership, delivery and capacity of local responders and the participation of affected communities in addressing humanitarian needs.*

The enhancement of our contributions to the country-based pooled funds contributes to the objective of localisation of aid. Moreover, in 2020 and 2021, France has started a risk-mapping procedure to assess the level of compliance of its partners. Local partners have been assessed and an accompaniment by an external firm was financed to help them receive funds from institutional donors. Local NGOs were given the same opportunities to receive funds from France and have increase their capacity to receive and manage funds from other institutional donors by implementing recommendations from the risk mapping procedure or by being helped by an external firm.

### **Grand Bargain and cross-cutting issues**

**Question 4: How has your institution contributed to the advancement of gender equality and women's empowerment<sup>1</sup> in humanitarian settings through its implementation of the Grand Bargain? What results/outcomes have been achieved in this regard? (Please outline specific initiatives or changes in practice and their outcomes/results).** Please refer to the Guidelines for definitions of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, which are included in this self-report template package.

Considering that when rural women have access to resources, services and opportunities, they become a driving force in the fight against hunger, malnutrition and rural poverty, and in line with France's commitment to gender equality and feminist diplomacy, more than 86% of projects funded by the French Food Assistance Program included a gender dimension in 2021 (DAC 1 or 2 from OECD); nearly 77% a nutrition component, with particular attention to pregnant and lactating women. For the response to humanitarian crises, 71,2% of the fundings of the Crisis and support center also included a gender dimension in 2021.

**Question 5: How has the humanitarian-development nexus been strategically mainstreamed in your institutional implementation of the Grand Bargain commitments?** Please explain how your institution has linked commitments 10.1 - 10.5 with other commitments from other workstreams.

The creation of the Center for Humanitarian Operations and Stabilization within the Crisis and Support Center of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the

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<sup>1</sup> Refer to the IASC definitions of gender equality and women empowerment, available [here](#).

conflict and post-crisis unit at the French Development Agency (AFD) have enabled France to strengthen the link between humanitarian assistance and development aid at the institutional level.

In addition to the Humanitarian Strategy, the doctrinal framework for French aid - and in particular its links between short and long term - has been supplemented by the "Prevention, Resilience and Sustainable Peace" strategy (2018-2022) and "France's International strategy for food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture" (2019-2024). These strategies ensure better coordination of French actions to implement a global approach.

Moreover, the humanitarian-development nexus is the subject of a reinforced dialogue between the different actors, for a better articulation between the pillars of crisis response.

On August 4, 2021, France passed the "LOI n° 2021-1031 de programmation relative au développement solidaire et à la lutte contre les inégalités mondiales" (programming act relating to solidarity development and the fight against global inequalities). This law support the implementation by French actors of a global and long-term approach to intervene in fragile areas, in particular through better humanitarian-development coordination.

**Question 6: Has your institution taken any steps towards improving risk sharing with its partners? If so, please describe how.** *(For ease of reference, please see a set of actions to enhance risk sharing as suggested in the Netherlands and the ICRC [Statement on risk sharing](#).)*<sup>2</sup>

France has been improving its risk sharing approach through constant dialog with the humanitarian community. Indeed, regular meeting have been taking place to define common understanding of donor requirements, especially regarding the fight against money laundering and terrorist financing. As part of a risk mapping process under which all NGO have to go through before being financed, France has checked that its partner had achieved a standard level of compliance. If not, they are offered a capacity building mission.

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<sup>2</sup> During the 2021 Annual meeting and in consultation leading up to this Signatories have expressed a strong interest in advancing the risk-sharing agenda. As communicated, the Netherlands, ICRC and InterAction are in the process of setting up a Risk Sharing Platform. This work will benefit greatly from an inventory of Signatories' risk-sharing practices.