

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

**Name of Institution: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan**

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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?**

JICA is supporting PLO in formulating Camp Improvement Plans (CIPs) for the Palestine refugee camps through participatory and inclusive dialogues with residents, and implementing projects accordingly. In 2021, formulation process of CIP for 3 refugee camps was initiated as the first batch, which is to cover in total 12 camps during the project duration.

In 2021, JICA expanded its engagements in Uganda benefitting both refugees and host communities. Based on outcomes of previous technical cooperation project for capacity improvement of local government (2016 – 2020), JICA initiated a technical cooperation project to enhance resilience of refugee hosting and affected communities in West Nile region, which aims at integration of refugee related issues into regional development planning. From 2021, JICA also dispatched a Refugee Advisor to the Office of Prime Minister to build capacity of Ugandan Government in effectively addressing refugee related challenges through the Humanitarian and Development Nexus. Under close cooperation with UNHCR, provision of technical support on rice cultivation, contributing to livelihood of both host community and refugees continues.

In Zambia, project for sustainable reintegration of former refugees is under progress. In 2021, JICA project team, together with relevant ministries, formulated Resettlement Promotion Council in Meheba, which will serve as key body to promote and process the resettlement of former refugees. Livelihood project is also on-going, covering both former refugees and host communities. JICA also dispatched an expert to the Department of Resettlement of the Office of the Vice President, to support the Zambian Government's overall engagements on the sustainable reintegration of former refugees.

In Niger, Senegal, Mali, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Madagascar, Djibouti, and Ghana, JICA has been conducting "School for All" project to improve access to education and school managements through participatory approaches with communities. The project not only contributes to the improvement of enrolment rate or education quality, but also cultivates mutual trust among local government and the people in the community by sharing the common goal and cooperating to support children's learning.

In addressing adverse effects of climate change, Japan also made a significant contribution on climate finance in 2021. Japan announced at the G7 Cornwall Summit in June 2021 that it would provide climate finance, both public and private, totaling JPY 6.5 trillion over the next 5 years, from 2021 to 2025, and that it would further enhance its assistance for adaptation.

Japan also announced in November 2021 at the COP26 World Leaders Summit that Japan would provide up to USD 10 billion on top of the JPY 6.5 trillion in the coming 5 years, and that Japan would double its assistance for adaptation to approximately USD 14.8 billion such as in the area of disaster risk reduction.

Based on this commitment, Japan has decided to support the 23 developing countries, including the most vulnerable countries to address the climate change through UNDP.

**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](#).)*

Japan acknowledges the importance of quality funding as an enabling priority of the Grand Bargain 2.0 to better address the increasing humanitarian financing gap and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the humanitarian assistance, including by scaling up core funding, contribution to pooled funds such as CERF and CBPF and funding local actors directly on a large scale.

It, however, takes accountability and visibility and thus, it should also be taken into account that donors face domestic and financial constraints and that there is a difficult aspect for Japan's contribution in such manners. Japan continues to make its efforts to keep funding CERF and to promote international aid agencies to work closely with local responders for an effective use of the funding and implementation of projects.

It is Japan's humanitarian aid policy to respond to humanitarian needs of international organisations timely and with transparency in a feasible way in terms of its financial system based on urgent appeals from relevant international organizations. Japan expects that such assistance and the one through CERF play a complementary role with each other and that synergy between them will then be created.

In the face of the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan in 2021, the Government of Japan promptly decided to extend Emergency Grand Aid of 65 million US dollars to Afghanistan and neighbouring countries (Pakistan, Iran, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan) by providing humanitarian assistance in such areas as shelter, health, water, sanitation, food, agriculture and education through seven international organisations in October 2021. Including this assistance, Japan provided a total of about 200 million US dollars to Afghanistan in the same year. In this way, Japan values its humanitarian assistance in an emergency phase provided speedily and followed by mid- to long-term reconstruction and development assistance.

Regarding core funding to international organisations, Japan continues its contribution for such organisations as OCHA, WFP, UNHCR, IOM and ICRC every year. In addition, Japan successfully provided funding to CBPF in 2021.

**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.*

Although Japan acknowledges the importance of direct funding to local actors in terms of efficiency of the humanitarian assistance, there is a need for an appropriate risk management and to ensure a high standard of accountability, and thus there are currently many challenges for Japan to fund local agencies directly on a large scale. Japan's contribution to international organisations has been mainly

utilised for their humanitarian assistance activities and a part of it is delivered for an effective use of the fund by local implementing partners.

Under the principle of human security, Japan places much importance in assistance for resilience enhancement and empowerment of local people and communities in terms of inclusiveness, ensuring that we leave no one behind. Japan therefore supports implementation of mid- to long-term development cooperation to go along with humanitarian assistance through humanitarian and development nexus approach in order to strengthen the resilience of affected people.

For example, we address the food shortage comprehensively. Alongside the provision of food, longer-term assistance such as enhanced production and agricultural productivity for addressing the root causes and preventing food shortage will also be considered. In collaboration with the WFP, we also provide assistance for school meals in the education sector and the food for works programme for the infrastructure development to facilitate the independence of local communities.

### **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.

Japan contributed to the advancement of gender equality and women’s empowerment in humanitarian settings by mainstreaming gender consideration in various policies.

Japan continued its effort to integrate and mainstream gender consideration in accordance with Japan's National Action Plan (NAP) on Women, Peace and Security (WPS). Some sex disaggregated data is available, depending on projects, and Gender analysis and trends in ODA data is included its evaluation report, which is available in Ministry of Foreign Affairs website. In 2020 to 2021, Japan has provided 5.5 billion financial contribution to gender responsive humanitarian assistance via UN Women, OSRSG-SVC, UNFPA, IPPF, UNHCR, UNICEF including provision and preventing gender based violence in humanitarian crisis.

Gender mainstreaming in project selections continued. Japan requested UN agencies to consider it when formulating Emergency grant aid projects. Projects by Japanese NGOs, where the Government of Japan provided financial support, due gender considerations were given in project approval and implementation process.

JICA has been adopting gender mainstreaming<sup>2</sup> as the key strategy for its operations. Under the strategies and actions for gender equality and women’s empowerment, five priority areas are specified, one of which is women’s rights and security. In this area, JICA continued to assist partner countries in

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

<sup>2</sup> The details are available on the link below.

[https://www.jica.go.jp/activities/issues/gender/ku57pq00002cucek-att/position\\_paper\\_en.pdf](https://www.jica.go.jp/activities/issues/gender/ku57pq00002cucek-att/position_paper_en.pdf)

[https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our\\_work/thematic\\_issues/gender/c8h0vm0000f9zdxh-att/COVID-19\\_01.pdf](https://www.jica.go.jp/english/our_work/thematic_issues/gender/c8h0vm0000f9zdxh-att/COVID-19_01.pdf)

ensuring women's rights and security in conflict, natural disasters, trafficking in persons and other gender-based violence.

**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.

Japan continued to work for the humanitarian-development nexus (HD Nexus) through various schemes.

In 2021, JICA developed its Global Agenda on Peacebuilding, which is one of the 20 thematic engagement strategy of JICA. Under the Agenda, JICA aims to realize peaceful and inclusive societies by contributing to the building of resilient states and societies that can prevent outbreaks and recurrences of violent conflicts. The Agenda highlights Humanitarian, Development and Peace Nexus as one of key approaches to address the issues relating to the forced displacement.

Under the OECD DAC, JICA actively participated in INCAF (International Network on Conflict and Fragility), and took a co-lead role for Trilingualism Workstream of DAC-UN Dialogue on the HDP Nexus Recommendation. The Trilingualism Workstream produced Nexus Academy training module for practitioners of HDP undertakings to develop their capacity in engaging/promoting Nexus approaches. JICA also continues working on mainstreaming the Nexus into each relevant organization for the Nexus.

In addition, with respect to Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), as a natural disaster prone country, Japan continues to implement "Sendai Cooperation Initiative for Disaster Risk Reduction Phase 2" and has been actively providing assistance to developing countries through JICA and other organizations in the field of ex-ante disaster investment for DRR, and has contributed to the reduction of future damage and humanitarian assistance needs.

**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>3</sup>

Japan holds regularly bilateral consultations with aid agencies such as WFP, UNHCR and ICRC. Also, a bilateral consultation with IOM was newly launched in 2021. Through these opportunities, we discuss comprehensively about our priority strategies and policies and thus constructively keep exchanging on various challenges including risk sharing.

Although it has been already decided that the Grand Bargain Workstream 4 (Reduce duplication and management cost) for which Japan and the UNHCR have worked as co-convenors would close under the GB 2.0, we expect that the follow-up of the commitment 4.5 (Make regular joint reviews and reduce individual donor assessments) will be handled under the political support by the Eminent Person within the discussions of risk sharing led by the ICRC/NL.

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<sup>3</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.