

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

Name of Institution:

Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs Luxembourg (MFEA)

Point of Contact (please provide a name, title and email to enable the consultants to contact you for an interview):

Max Lamesch, Deputy Director Humanitarian Action, Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs of the Luxembourg MFEA, max.lamesch@mae.etat.lu

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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?

- Luxembourg has increased its share of fully-unearmarked or softly earmarked funding to 77% of its total humanitarian budget in 2021.
- Luxembourg has renewed its multi-year flexible strategic partnership frameworks with UNHCR, WFP, OCHA, UNDRR and ICRC for 2022 to 2025.
- Reporting standards have been reviewed and adapted to the 8+3 template in 2021.

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, all of Luxembourg's strategic partnership frameworks with UNHCR, WFP, OCHA, UNDRR and ICRC have been renewed and will provide fully un-earmarked as well as softly earmarked predictable funding to those selected partners for the period of 2022 to 2025. The share of multi-year funding to its partners was roughly 62% of its total humanitarian budget. In addition, Luxembourg has continued its support to various multi-year NGO programmes (Luxembourgish NGOs or international NGOs).
- Luxembourg has also further pushed the agenda on flexible funding in 2021 and increased the share of fully-unearmarked or softly earmarked funding to 77% of its total humanitarian budget. Where funds are earmarked, they are either provided for a geographic context without sectoral earmarking, or for a specific thematic without geographical earmarking. Luxembourg is convinced that this greater flexibility of use of its funds has largely contributed to a more needs- and evidence-based use of the funds and therefore increased efficiency of its funding.

- The funding of OCHA's pooled funds has increased throughout 2021. In addition, the IFRC's DREF and ECHO's HIPs in the Central Americas and Myanmar have been supported, providing softly-earmarked funding to responders on the ground.

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.

- Luxembourg increased its support to CBPF, the CERF, ECHO HIPs and the IFRC DREF with the main aim of further increasing the share of funding to local actors and strengthening their capacities.
- In addition, Luxembourg has provided new funding directly to local NGOs in Thailand and Iraq and further increased the share of its funding towards partners that work directly with nation NGOs or CSOs.
- Through its partnership with ICVA, Luxembourg aimed at strengthening the capacity of local NGOs and CSOs.
- Furthermore, through its funding of the Luxembourg Red Cross' activities in multiple countries and contexts, the respective local Red Cross society's capacity is strengthened and participation of the local population in the design of the response is guaranteed.

Grand Bargain and cross-cutting issues

Question 4: How has your institution contributed to the advancement of gender equality and women's empowerment ¹ 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.

- Luxembourg supports Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment as a crosscutting issue in its humanitarian action. Gender equality and women's empowerment questions receive specific attention in the required reporting of its NGO partners.

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

- Furthermore, the newly signed strategic partnership frameworks include the UN's latest SEAH requirements which have also been translated into Luxembourg's General Terms and Conditions reigning over the funding for Luxembourgish NGO's.
- Luxembourg maintained its support for the International Centre for Transitional Justice's programmes in Tunisia and Colombia in 2021, aiming among others the promotion and strengthening of inclusive and gender-sensitive transitional justice processes in the respective countries.
- In response to the Haiti earthquake in 2021, Luxembourg provided two mobile clinic units to UNFPA in order to strengthen their capacity to provide sexual and reproductive health services to the affected population.
- Luxembourg furthermore provided flexible funding to UNDP and UNHCR's operations in Afghanistan aimed among others at socio-economic inclusion and empowerment of women and girls.

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.

- Luxembourg has held increased exchanges with its main partners on the implementation of the HD Nexus in their respective operations.
- The share of actions aimed at strengthening resilience of affected populations as well as the reduction of disaster risk has been increased progressively. As such, programmes with a significant share of DRR have been implemented by Luxembourgish NGOs in among others Bangladesh, Niger and Madagascar.
- Luxembourg renewed its strategic partnership with UNDRR in 2021 for the period of 2022 to 2025.
- An evaluation of UNHCR's implementation of the HD Nexus has been conducted throughout 2021 with significant funding by Luxembourg. The results of this evaluation are bound to be published in 2022.

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](#).)*²

- The Luxembourg MFEA has been a strong supporter of the ICRC's work on increasing awareness of risks associated with the use of data and new technologies in humanitarian action.
- Luxembourg also engages in frank discussions with its trusted humanitarian partners on risks encountered on the ground (e.g. Afghanistan) in view of better understanding what challenges organizations are confronted with, what measures they implement to mitigate these risks and what Luxembourg as a donor could do to help.
- Moreover, Luxembourg is working with NGO partners on harmonized reporting processes and agreed standards.
- Finally, providing access to quality funding remains a priority for Luxembourg.

² 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.