

**Grand Bargain in 2022:
Annual Self Report – Narrative Summary**

Name of Institution:

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

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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 2022

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 2022?

- **Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus:** The Global Network against Food Crises¹ provides coherent coordination to promote collective efforts across the HDP nexus. Through the Network, in 2022 FAO, WFP and the European Union prepared and launched (i) [Global Report on Food Crises \(GRFC\) 2022](#); (ii) a [Mid-Year Update of the Global Report](#) presenting the latest estimates of the acute food insecurity situation; (iii) [the IGAD Regional Report on Food Crises](#); (iv) the [2022 Report on Financing Flows and Food Crises](#); (v) three editions of the FAO-WFP “Hunger Hotspots: FAO-WFP early warnings on acute food insecurity” reports; (vi) two editions of the “Monitoring food security in countries with conflict situations” update for the United Nations Security Council. Within the UN Food System Summit (FSS) process, the Global Network supported the establishment of the Fighting Food Crises along the HDP Nexus Coalition.²
- **Flexible funding:** In 2022, quality funding to FAO’s emergency and resilience programme increased significantly. Compared to 2021, multi-year contributions rose 2.5 times to USD 338 million, while un-earmarked or softly earmarked funding to FAO’s Special Fund for Emergency and Rehabilitation Activities (SFERA) doubled to USD 28 million. Despite the increase, humanitarian investment in agricultural livelihoods remains extremely low compared to other food sector responses (below 5 percent in 2021 and 2022). In rural contexts, both flexible and multi-year funding for agricultural livelihood responses are indispensable to lowering food insecurity levels, as they uniquely prevent more people from entering hunger and provide an exit.

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](#).)

Multi-year contributions

Through multi-year contributions in 2022, FAO is supporting communities to address root causes of humanitarian needs, reduce their exposure to risk and regain self-reliance. The largest, a USD 150 million programme funded by the World Bank in Afghanistan, will assist 5.3 million Afghans to improve their food security, nutrition and incomes, with a focus

¹ The Global Network against Food Crises was founded by the European Commission for International Cooperation and Development, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP) at the first World Humanitarian Summit in 2016. More information available [here](#).

² The [coalition](#) is hosted by the Global Network and composed by more than 50 partners from United Nations organizations, NGOs, civil society and research institutions, as well as member states and regional organizations.

staple and backyard food production, nutrition and climate-smart practices, and improved water access. Multi-year funding from USAID to FAO and UN Women was also critical in the immediate aftermath of the floods in Pakistan, sparing no time to address the severe impacts on infrastructure, crop and livestock systems. In the Syrian Arab Republic, multi-year funding from the United Kingdom will enhance access to water – one of the biggest challenges to food production in the Syrian Arab Republic – while providing farmers with crop and fodder inputs and production support, including training on climate-smart practices.

Within the framework of the African Development Bank's Emergency Food Production Plan, FAO is supporting government-led efforts to enhance local cereal production and food security in response to the consequences of the war in Ukraine, in countries such as Zimbabwe, the Niger and South Sudan and through related regional initiatives. The UN Secretary General's Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) continued to strengthen FAO's partnership and impact with UN and civil society to sustain peace in conflict-affected countries in Africa. As part of these joint efforts, FAO interventions focus on reducing conflicts over access to natural resources and transhumance; building local capacities to prevent climate-related conflicts; and promoting the participation of youth in decision-making processes. Multi-year funding from Germany to the Horn of Africa proved highly flexible, swiftly shifting focus from desert locust response to addressing severe drought impacts in the region.

Other multi-year contributions are mitigating the risk and impacts of transboundary animal disease; enhancing agricultural value chains; supporting fishery-based livelihoods; and strengthening food security and nutrition information systems; among other interventions. Multi-year contributions from Germany and European Union are also building local capacity to implement anticipatory action.

Flexible and un-earmarked contributions

Un-earmarked and softly earmarked contributions to FAO's SFERA enabled effective coordination and response in 2022. Under the SFERA Agricultural Inputs Response Capacity (AIRC) window, USD 14.4 million was received in 2022 from Australia, Belgium, Canada, Louis Dreyfus Foundation, Norway, the Republic of Korea and Sweden. The contributions supported FAO's rapid response to large-scale crises, enabling immediate procurement and delivery of time-sensitive inputs in 19 countries. For example, rapid release of AIRC funds in Ukraine enabled FAO to deliver emergency relief to rural areas, including cash interventions, agricultural inputs and livestock production inputs.

SFERA's Anticipatory Action (AA) window gave FAO access to the financial means and flexibility to act ahead of forecast shocks and therefore avoid or lessen their potential impact on lives and livelihoods. In 2022, USD 8.7 million was received under the SFERA AA window from Belgium, Canada, Germany, Norway and Sweden. Eight AA projects were implemented in the Niger (floods); Burkina Faso (floods); Cabo Verde (economic crisis); Sri Lanka (economic crisis); Iraq (drought); Rwanda (drought); Madagascar (drought); and Tajikistan (locust invasion). In the Niger, for example, seasonal forecasts in May 2022 pointed to a high risk of floods, including in Maradi region, a key production area for millet (the main cereal crop). Thanks to this funding from Sweden, FAO was able to mitigate potential flood impacts by supporting communities with cash-for-work to reinforce dykes, river guards and irrigation canals; animal health support; unconditional cash transfers;

control of millet caterpillar (a pest that damages crops particularly during heavy rains), and training on flood prevention and preparedness.

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.

With the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency's (Sida) funding, FAO is operationalizing the localization agenda in eight crisis-affected countries (South Sudan, Somalia, Bangladesh, the Niger, Burkina, Mali, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Nigeria). The focus is on improving the capacity of local actors to deliver quality agriculture-based humanitarian interventions and build agri-food systems' resilience. In line with GB 2.0, the pilot countries have been mapping and assessing capacity gaps of a wide range of local and national humanitarian actors (LN/As) and strengthening capacities through learning forums/exchange platform/trainings. FAO is also scaling up community engagement using approaches like Farmer Field schools and Dimitra clubs, and engaging in a strategic partnership with IFRC in Mali, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Niger.

In terms of participation, FAO has consistently mainstreamed inclusive and human rights-centered approaches sensitive to the diversity of affected people's needs and priorities. FAO continues to strengthen (Accountability to Affected People) AAP structures, mechanisms and systems. A compendium of promising and good AAP practices at country level was produced to show-case how the Organization is using accountable and principled programming and implementation even in challenging contexts like Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nigeria and Yemen.

Question 4: Has your institution endorsed the caucus outcome document on quality funding, on the role of intermediaries, on cash coordination, Yes/No?

If yes, briefly describe the actions you took to contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of the caucuses.

If not, please explain why.

FAO has endorsed the caucus outcome document on quality funding, on the role of intermediaries, and on cash coordination in principle. Relevant divisions are currently reviewing the commitments. FAO will notify the Grand Bargain Secretariat if the Organization will formally endorse the commitments ahead of 2023 Annual Meeting.

Grand Bargain and cross-cutting issues

Question 5: How has your institution contributed to the advancement of gender equality and women's empowerment³ in humanitarian settings through its implementation of the Grand Bargain? What results/outcomes

³ Refer to the IASC definitions of gender equality and women empowerment, available [here](#).

have been achieved in this regard? (Please outline specific initiatives or changes in practice and their outcomes/results).

FAO has continued to promote gender equality and women's empowerment in humanitarian settings, with a focus on rural communities, through greater joined-up and integrated work including the adoption of gender transformative approaches, such as the Dimitra Clubs in sub-Saharan Africa. In 2022, for example, FAO targeted women-led organizations for capacity sharing and strengthening.

FAO's policy on Gender Equality requires that gender analysis be incorporated in the identification and formulation of all projects. This includes in baseline data collection and project monitoring and evaluation. To mainstream gender, FAO has included requests for gender-disaggregated data in the 8+3 reporting template in the FAO project management system used for cash and voucher programming.

Gender mainstreaming is also at the heart of FAO evaluations. In this regard, FAO completes the UN-SWAP on an annual basis, which is led by UN Women and includes gender equality (indicator 4).

Question 6: 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 - 10.5⁴ with other commitments from other workstreams.

During 2022 FAO has continued to articulate what the HDPN means for the Organization, both strategically and programmatically.

On the former, the evaluation of FAO's contributions to the Humanitarian Development Peace Nexus 2014-2020 has FAO's work. A full-time HDP Nexus Adviser was hired in 2022 to support operationalization of the evaluation recommendations. FAO is co-leading a priority work stream under IASC Task Force 4 to develop guidance⁵ for Cluster Coordinators in applying a HDPN approach, due for finalization in mid-2023.

Programmatically, there has been a continued focus on improved integration of the 'peace' element of the HDP Nexus in FAO country activities. Guidance on Operationalizing Pathways to Sustaining Peace: A How-to-guide, co-created with Interpeace, was published and is being promoted across the Organization, including indicators for measuring peace impacts for incorporation into MEAL frameworks.

⁴ Refer to the original Grand Bargain agreement, available [here](#).

⁵ The note is primarily intended for Global Cluster Coordinators – advocating for and supporting their efforts to engage with development and peace actors and related processes in order to foster and drive a nexus approach. It aims to further the implementation of the HDPN approach through IASC clusters and partners. It will provide entry points and parameters to apply a Nexus approach in clusters' country-level planning, programming processes and response and promote the development of their own sector/cluster specific guidance.

OPTIONAL QUESTION:

Question 7: Has your institution taken any steps to share risks with its partners? If so, please describe how. *(For ease of reference, please see a set of actions and recommendations to enhance risk sharing as suggested in the report [Risk Sharing in Practice](#), June 2022, commissioned by the Netherlands and the ICRC).*

FAO is exploring support for the funding of compliance advisor(s), both at headquarters and in the field, to specifically support and strengthen internal control and compliance in complex situations. Recent examples are the setting up of a dedicated compliance team in the Office of Emergencies and Resilience and fielding of compliance advisors to high-risk environments. Similarly, specific resource partner funding for the strengthening of PSEA capacity is being sought.

At an operational level, the use of project risk logs in a more strategic way as an advocacy and communication tool, to both communicate high-level risks and agree in advance on possible mitigating actions is being pursued.

FAO is leveraging existing platforms to share and reduce risks in humanitarian action. Following a positive feasibility assessment, FAO is due to onboard in 2023 the United Nations Partner Portal (UNPP), which will improve access to due diligence information on implementing partners (IPs). UNPP also allows participating UN agencies to confidentially flag IPs in case of issues, thus allowing other UN agencies to be more risk informed.

In Somalia, an FAO project funded by Sida is strengthening the capacities of local partners (LNGOs and CSOs) to analyse the context, anticipate and respond to threats and crises, and promote resilient livelihood gains, peacebuilding and disaster risk reduction. This also promotes the adoption by NGOs of a conflict-sensitive approach that can help to enhance positive impacts and prevent and mitigate the risk of negative impacts, including conflict.

Another example of collaboration around risk sharing is related to AAP. With restricted access issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been even more critical to partner with and build the capacities of beneficiaries, local CSOs and national governments in technical work and emergency field operations. Awaaz Afghanistan is the country's first countrywide interagency humanitarian call centre. It ensures that vulnerable people in Afghanistan, including host communities, returnees, internally displaced people, and those affected by shocks, can voice their concerns and receive critical information and support in times of need across all 34 provinces. In March 2021, FAO signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations Office for Project Services regarding the Awaaz referrals, whereby FAO and its partners will directly receive livelihood-related referrals and complaints. The Awaaz referral mechanism helps FAO to understand, determine and address community feedback in real time. This also overcomes barriers to direct contact with beneficiaries due to security and accessibility obstacles (<https://www.fao.org/in-action/kore/good-practices/good-practices-details/en/c/1627414/>).