

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

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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?

In 2022, OCHA's pooled funds allocated \$1.72 billion of unearmarked (CERF) or softly earmarked (CBPF) donor funding to global humanitarian action. The funding was allocated as high-quality, flexible funding to humanitarian partners in 47 countries, respectively \$695 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund and \$1.03 billion from the CBPFs. OCHA's pooled funds enabled responses to a wide range of humanitarian needs, including tackling food insecurity, responding to disease outbreaks, and addressing the consequences of violent conflict and displacement. This was made possible by donors that contributed some \$1.95 billion to the Funds representing a record level of income. Of this, CERF received \$612 million and the CBPFs \$1.34 billion, the highest contribution level on record for the latter.

FTS, Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC) Tools, the Country Based Pooled Funds (CBPF), and the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) adopted and in 2022 completed the integration of the Grand Bargain definitions into OCHA systems and services to better track funding to national and local organizations in a standardized manner.

Funding for national and local organizations remains low when compared to the Grand Bargain 25 per cent target. FTS is working closely with the Grand Bargain Working Group on Humanitarian Financing to socialize the effort, including the need for adoption across the humanitarian community of the Grand Bargain definition and reporting into FTS and by doing so enhance the tracking of monies going into to national and local organizations enhance reporting. Also, to highlight the shared responsibility, including at field level and with Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs) level to enable more direct funding using advocacy and promoting the role of local partners.

The findings from FTS data analyses show that direct and indirect funding to national and local organizations has remained low since 2016, with most of the

funding going to national governments, and most of that money is to support activities outside the coordinated effort.

Of the total funding going to national and local actors each year, less than half is to support IASC Plans/Appeals.

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 2022, OCHA's pooled funds allocated \$1.72 billion to emergencies around the world. Funding from the pooled funds is timely, predictable, and flexible, thereby meeting the main criteria of quality funding. The quality funds allocated by OCHA's pooled funds enabled emergency responses in 47 countries around the world through over 1,600 supported projects.

In doing so, OCHA's Pooled Funds took several steps to improve the quality of its funding:

- Substantively increasing the share of assistance provided through cash and vouchers (CVA). In 2022, CBPFs distributed \$169 million in CVA amounting to 14 per cent of funds allocated. In addition, CERF provided \$113 million in CVA to affected people amounting to 15.4 per cent of funds allocated, a considerable increase from 9 per cent in 2021.
- Expanding the use of risk-informed approaches to facilitate time-critical, cost-effective, life-saving assistance, including anticipatory action ahead of drought, floods, cholera and other recurring hazards in Ethiopia, Somalia, Bangladesh, Niger, Nepal, South Sudan, the DRC, Burkina Faso, the Philippines, Malawi, Chad, Mozambique, and Madagascar based on previously agreed anticipatory actions.

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.

Since 2017, OCHA's Pooled Funds have consistently increased their support to local and national actors. This has taken the form of sub-grants from CERF

recipients and efforts to enable local and national actors to engage successfully with CBPFs processes including funding applications, reporting, etc.

In 2022, 35 percent of overall funding allocated by CBPFs went to local and national actors. UN agencies funded by the CERF in turn sub-granted some \$115 million, or 14 per cent of total CERF funding, to national and local partners using 2020 grants, the latest year for which comprehensive data is available. In addition, OCHA took dedicated steps to further leverage CERF allocations under its Underfunded Emergencies window to support localisation efforts at country level, including through enhanced consultations with local and national actors (LNAs) in the prioritisation processes, and by setting ambitious benchmarks for LNAs as sub-grantees and implementing partners under CERF grants. As a result, LNAs will receive an estimated 25 per cent of funding under the second underfunded emergencies round of 2022. Moreover, there has been a concerted push to ensure improved engagement with and funding to women-led organizations under CERF allocations.

OCHA has also revised its guidelines covering CBPFs. Among other things, the revised global guidelines place a renewed emphasis on localization. The 2022 guidelines explicitly mention localization as the secondary aim of CBPFs, stating that “while addressing humanitarian needs is the primary goal of CBPFs, localization is recognized as a secondary aim. CBPFs have become a key vehicle for advancing localization. CBPFs are aligned to the Grand Bargain commitment to making principled humanitarian action as local as possible and as international as necessary”. The Guidelines go beyond this principled statement and include specific commitments and provisions that promote partnership with local and national actors in different aspects of CBPF governance and operations. These provisions mostly reflect existing best practice from different Funds and are designed to ensure that such practices can be applied across all the Funds through a clear and conducive policy framework.

OCHA systems and services, (FTS, CBPF and CERF) adoption and integration of the Grand Bargain definitions, and ongoing efforts to promote adoption of the Grand Bargain definition and a sense of shared responsibility across humanitarian partners contribute to achieving the Grand Bargain 2.0 enabling priority 2 (localization and participation). These efforts aim to increase tangible actions that demonstrate the commitment made by the Grand Bargain and tangible gauge the progress against this commitment. By better tracking funding in a standardized manner, the aim is to measurably promote more funding directed towards local organizations, which will increase their participation and ownership in humanitarian response efforts.

However, the current data shows that funding to national and local organizations remains low and falls short of the Grand Bargain target of 25%. Corrective actions such as promoting the role of local partners and advocating for more direct funding, with support from the Grand Bargain, IASC Secretariate and other stakeholders are a priority. FTS indicates that funding to national and local organizations has remained low since 2016, with most of the funding going to national governments and activities outside the coordinated effort.

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.

OCHA was part of the caucuses on quality funding and cash coordination and has, therefore, already endorsed those outcome documents. OCHA is currently reviewing the outcome document of the caucus on intermediaries.

The outcome document from the cash coordination caucus was formally endorsed by the IASC Principals in March 2022. Since this agreement, OCHA has – together with UNHCR – established and chaired the new global level Cash Advisory Group (CAG) as recommended by the cash coordination caucus. The global CAG reports to the IASC Deputies and in September 2022, finalised an agreed transition plan for all applicable contexts to adopt the new cash coordination model by March 2024. At country level in 2022, OCHA offices were supported with training and guidance on how to effectively support cash working groups in line with the new model. At global level, OCHA has – together with UNHCR - chaired fortnightly CAG meetings in 2022.

In addition, OCHA has taken steps to promote the use CVA in its pooled funds. Notably, the revised global guidelines for country-based pooled funds now state that the use of cash should be prioritized across the project portfolio where feasible and appropriate to address needs. Similarly, CERF advanced the use of cash, in particular multi-purpose cash, in 2022 with a record level of 15.4 per cent of assistance being provided through cash, up from 9 per cent in 2021.

Grand Bargain and cross-cutting issues

Question 5: How has your institution contributed to the advancement of gender equality and women's empowerment¹ 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).

2022 was an important year for the implementation of the OCHA Policy Instruction on Gender Equality and the accompanying Gender Action Plan where meaningful progress was made on OCHA's three gender priorities: driving robust gender analysis, promoting women and women's organizations meaningful participation in humanitarian-decision making, and prioritizing prevention, response and mitigation of GBV. In 2022, HNOs and HRPs demonstrated strengthened gender analysis and uptake of inclusion of sex and age disaggregated data. Traction was made on facilitating women's meaningful participation in humanitarian decision-making in particular in Turkey Syria cross border, Afghanistan, South Sudan, Lebanon, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Venezuela, and Niger. In Somalia, 20 percent of clusters' local partners were women-led organizations, engaging in the humanitarian country team through the Somalia NGO Consortium. Local women-led organizations were represented on Advisory Boards of Country Based Pooled Funds, shaping the funding priorities for operations including in complex contexts such as Afghanistan, Lebanon, Ethiopia, Sudan, and Ukraine.

OCHA operations in Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Niger, Somalia, South Sudan, and Sudan were successful in systematically identifying and mapping national women led organizations active in humanitarian action. For example, OCHA in Sudan, collaborated with UNFPA and UN Women in this exercise. OCHA Somalia identified and included WLOs as part of its Operational Presence, providing critical information for humanitarian actors in their engagement across regions and states. In Niger, where the mapping is ongoing, a capacity building plan will be developed alongside to strengthen engagement and representation of women led organisations in humanitarian action. OCHA Afghanistan conducted the mapping exercise as part of a 2022 study by the GiHA Working Group to assess the impact of the political transition on women civil society organizations (CSO), followed by country-wide discussions to better understand challenges and perceptions of different stakeholders.

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

In Guatemala, the Protection sector engaged in local consultations to develop the Protection Analysis Update (PAU), feeding into the HNO and HRP. Contributions from women's organizations were integrated into the PAU. OCHA Ukraine successfully facilitated the inclusion of WLO into the Accountability for Affected Populations (AAP) and Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Taskforces as well as well as successfully prioritized and increased funding to local organization including women led organisations through opening a special allocation for local NGOs in the Ukraine Country Based Pooled Fund which allowed local organisations to access direct humanitarian funding for the first time. OCHA Libya held a special Gender in Humanitarian Action training in collaboration with UN Women for women led organizations, and a workshop for municipality leaders from the South region to outline humanitarian/development programming in underserved areas. And in Turkey, OCHA organized a workshop with female humanitarian workers to discuss challenges and identify recommendations to improve the working environment for women and enhance their representation and leadership for the Syria Cross border humanitarian operation. In November 2022, OCHA's Gender Unit convened the first in-person Global Capacity Strengthening Training for its Gender Focal Points in Nairobi, Kenya. The training was attended by staff from 30 operations, regional offices, and HQ, as well as by several PSEA and AAP focal points. The training examined strategies, resources, tools and the 'how-to' of gender equality in practice, including leveraging and partnering with local women's organizations, gender and GBV experts, GenCap, and other partners such as UN Women, UNICEF, UNFPA, GBV AoR and more.

The Inter-Agency Standing Committee's Gender Standby Capacity Project, hosted by OCHA, provided senior expertise on gender equality in humanitarian action across 23 countries in Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia (two deployments – one dedicated to northern Ethiopia), Haiti, Honduras, Jordan, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Somalia, South Sudan, Turkey/Whole of Syria, Ukraine, Venezuela, and Yemen.. The Gender in Humanitarian Action Working Groups also contributed to the work of 13 humanitarian country teams. UN Women joined the Inter-Agency Standing Committee in 2022 guide and strengthen accountability to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls across

To address this, the Central Emergency Relief Fund (CERF) is working to ensure that at least 30% of CERF funding for gender-based violence is sub-granted to local women-led and women's rights organization, this benchmark works to

ensure that local women organizations who are first line responders providing GBV services have increased and direct access to humanitarian funds. Country-Based Pooled Fund and CERF, both managed by OCHA, funded \$ 977.9 million for projects in 2022 with gender mainstreaming components as scored by the GAM across humanitarian operations.

In addition, all projects funded by OCHA's Pooled Funds undergo an assessment according to the IASC Gender with Age Marker (GAM). In addition, OCHA committed to promoting WLO/WROs through its governance arrangements and CBPF processes, including Advisory Board and project review committees. OCHA has also convened an interagency contact group on gender to identify opportunities for the strengthening of the gender dimension throughout the pooled fund project cycle. This has led to, among other things, the revision of CERF and CBPF application templates to better capture gender considerations. OCHA also developed a gender action plan, which includes concrete targets for pooled funds. For example, at least 30% of CERF funding for GBV is sub granted to women led/women's rights organisations. The action plan also specifies that all CBPF Advisory Boards should have representation from local WLO/WROs who should also make up at least 10% of organizations trained on CBPFs. In addition, in 2022 implementation continued of a multi-country and multi-year \$25 million GBV-focussed CERF allocation to UNFPA and UN Women with. The allocation has a specific focus on empowerment of WLO/WROs who will receive more than 30 per cent of funds as implementing partners. Implementation will conclude in early 2023.

FTS in 2022 as in 2021 and previous years contributed to the advancement of gender equality and women's empowerment in humanitarian settings by implementing the Grand Bargain in the following ways:

- Tracking funding to Protection AoRs, including Protection against GBV, in FTS from 2021, with the goal of showing progress and funding gaps for projects and activities that support GBV protection efforts and promote gender equality. A special Global Sectors page was created to support this effort.
- Tracking funding to projects that promote gender equality across age groups being implemented by local and national actors and international actors. Gender Age Marker questions were introduced at project registration to support financial tracking of this effort within the broader localization agenda.

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 - 10.5² with other commitments from other workstreams.

Throughout 2022, OCHA has continued to strengthen humanitarian-development-peace (HDP) collaboration both at the country and global level. OCHA continues to support the adaption of the [UN-IASC Light Guidance on Collective Outcomes](#) through strengthened field implementation and there has been an increase in the number of countries reflecting this in the *Humanitarian Response Plans* (HRPs). By way of comparison, in 2021, 37 per cent of HRPs included collective outcomes, which increased to 44 per cent in 2022. This includes strengthening the HPC to foster joint-analysis and joined-up planning with the overall aim to ensure that development programming and investments are geared as well towards addressing underlying drivers of need.

Although not an adherent to the DAC Recommendation on the HDP Nexus, OCHA continues to engage actively in the DAC-UN Dialogue and helped to prepare the Partnership for Peace II High-Level Roundtable in May 2022. OCHA also continued to support the Nexus Academy, launched in February 2022, to “facilitate joint learning and knowledge exchange to accelerate nexus approaches and promote complimentary HDPN actions that tackle the root causes of crises and end need”³. The academy is managed by UNDP but supported by UN-DAC members, the UN system, NGOs and array of stakeholders and saw OCHA directly contribute through the design and delivery of modules as part of the academy’s core curriculum. Graduating classes are critical in ensuring HDP knowledge and understanding is mainstreamed through headquarters and operational contexts with the intent of closer humanitarian, development and peace collaboration.

OCHA is further engaging in promoting HDP activities through the IASC’s Task Team 4 on *Humanitarian Development Collaboration and its Linkages to Peace*. In 2022, OCHA and WFP began to co-chair an IASC workstream on basic social services. The aim of this work is to better understand the opportunities and challenges around how these essential services are maintained in fragile operational contexts so that guidance and direct support can be provided to each unique context if requested by the respective in-country leadership teams.

² Refer to the original Grand Bargain agreement, available [here](#).

³ [Launch of the Nexus Academy](#), IASC, 23 February 2022

OCHA, UNDCO and DPPA/PBSO jointly organized a Nexus Day for Resident Coordinators (RCs) in the margins of the most recent Humanitarian Coordinators Retreat conducted in October, 2022 in Montreux, Switzerland. The forum was designed to provide RCs with the space to share their unique “experiences, discuss opportunities and challenges with a view to advancing humanitarian-development-peace collaboration particularly in violence and fragile operational contexts”⁴. Seventeen action points were generated as a result of this forum which are now being used to develop a joint strategy between OCHA, DCO and DPPA/PBSO to support RCs in their leadership and coordination of the delivery of programmes around the HDPN. A retreat will be conducted in May 2023 (tbc) to finalize a strategy that will guide the three bodies in their efforts.

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).*

⁴ Concept Note, *Humanitarian-Development-Peace Collaboration*, 4 October 2022