

Grand Bargain in 2019:
Annual Self Report – Narrative Summary

Name of Institution: Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland

**Point of Contact: Pilvi Taipale, Deputy Humanitarian Director,
pilvi.taipale@formin.fi**

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(NB. Please limit your answer to no more than **3 pages in total** – anything over this word limit will not be considered by ODI in their analysis. Please respond to all of the questions below.)

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 2019?

Finland has strongly advocated for disability inclusion in the humanitarian sector. The most significant result is the adoption of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Guidelines in Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action. Finland was one of the key actors in formulating and launching the Charter for Disability Inclusion in the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit, which called for elaborating new global standards for strengthening the role of persons with disabilities in all phases of humanitarian action. Finland provided expertise and funding for the IASC task force, supported the launch of the Guidelines and promoted actively their implementation, e.g. by inviting UNICEF disability experts to brief in the EU Council Working Party for Humanitarian Assistance and Food Aid (COHAFA) and in a separate event for Brussels-based UN organizations and NGOs in October 2019.

Finland also supported the development and launch of the EU Guidance on Disability Inclusion by providing expertise and by organizing jointly with ECHO and civil society partners the launch event at the European Development Days in June 2019.

During the Finnish Presidency of the EU Council, disability inclusion was one of Finland's key humanitarian priorities. In the Council Conclusions on Humanitarian Assistance and International Humanitarian Law, adopted on Finnish initiative, the EU Member States welcomed the Guidelines and expressed their "full support for their implementation and mainstreaming in all humanitarian action in line with the EU's own commitments in the area of disability inclusion".

Finland reviewed its humanitarian strategy and policy for humanitarian funding. As a result, it opened a new multi-year funding window for the Finnish humanitarian NGOs, allowing them to apply for two-year funding.

Question 2: Please explain how the outcomes/results have or will lead to long-term institutional changes in policy and/or practice.

The IASC Guidelines on Disability Inclusion will have a system-wide impact in providing protection and assistance to and ensuring the participation of persons with disabilities in all humanitarian contexts. As 15% of any given population are persons with disabilities and their share can be higher than 30% in crisis settings, the guidance will have an impact on a large share of affected populations, if properly implemented.

Question 3: 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). Please refer to the Guidelines for definitions of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, which are included in this self-report template package.

Question 4: 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.

In the Finnish MFA, a specific group of experts was established to strengthen the nexus work within the ministry. The process is ongoing and the main results will be achieved in 2020 and 2021.

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