

**Grand Bargain in 2019:**  
**Annual Self Report – Narrative Summary**

**Name of Institution: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Crisis and Support Centre, Centre for Humanitarian and Stabilization Operations**

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**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?**

In 2019, France worked on the implementation of the Nexus at the institutional level. In this regard, the mission for humanitarian action and the mission for stabilization of the Crisis and Support Center were merged to give birth to the Center of Humanitarian and Stabilization Operations. This allows a stronger coordination towards integrated approach, respectful of DAC recommendations on the Triple Nexus. France continued its work to reinforce coordination between humanitarian assistance tools and development tools to ensure a joint analysis of the root causes of crises and complementary strategies (joint missions to the field, shared studies, regular meetings on the most strategic crises, and work in task force for the most strategic crises).

Regarding simplification, France decided to adopt the 8+3 reporting format for all its humanitarian funding going through NGOs, be it through Crisis and support center or through Food aid. This step received good feedback from NGOs and is likely to produce better analysis of funding outcomes and efficiency.

In terms of localization (WS2), France maintained in 2019 a working group with the community of French humanitarian NGOs, launched in 2018, with a view to agreeing on the financial incentive that could be granted to them, on a long-term perspective, to strengthen their investments in local capacities. In addition, the Center for Humanitarian Operations and Stabilization provided direct support to local NGOs for the implementation of the PA, including capacity building activities.

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

The adoption of “Harmonized reporting” (WS9) for different humanitarian funding tools, including funding going through embassies on the field will hopefully lead towards an improved shared analysis of the impact of French humanitarian interventions. This is also a signal towards humanitarian actors that France is ready to simplify its procedures and rationalize them in coordination with other donors, improving the institutional dialogue.

In terms of quality of funding, France is increasingly using unearmarked or softly earmarked funding. France also raised its contributions to Country-based pooled funds, seen as efficient instruments especially to fund local NGOs and build their capacities.

On localization, France is implementing a “local marker” to better track its funding going through national responders. France encourages INGOs partners to work in partnership with local NGOs rather than through service contract in order to build upon existing capacities and build them further when relevant.

**Question 3: 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).**

Gender equality and women empowerment are two of the French key priorities.

At humanitarian operational level, they are quantified through the classification by "beneficiaries" of all projects funded by France referred under question 1: indeed, a dedicated "women" specification for all projects targeting this social group allows an overall view on French humanitarian gender based policy. France is applying the OECD's gender marker to its bilateral humanitarian projects.

Regarding the year 2019, the gender marker shows that more than a third of the projects funded by the Crisis and support center, significantly or mainly target gender equality. Given the implementation of the marker in March 2018, this figure constitutes for the CDCS the first result over a full year.

In addition, France's humanitarian strategy 2018-2022 reaffirms our commitment to the Women, Peace and Security Agenda by supporting actions that provide specific assistance to women and girls to further their reintegration and empowerment and especially in terms of income-generating activities.

Finally, gender equality is part of the French advocacy and political dialogue with UN agencies to make sure it is mainstreamed through all programmes and structures.

**Question 4: How has the humanitarian-development nexus been strategically mainstreamed in your institutional implementation of the Grand Bargain commitments?**

The creation of the Center for Humanitarian Operations and Stabilization within the Crisis and Support Center of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the conflict and post-crisis unit at the French Development Agency (AFD) have enabled France to strengthen the link between humanitarian assistance and development aid at the institutional level.

These new structures allow better planning of the integrated response, better communication between French actors, effective interventions, and improved complementarity. Moreover, new financial tools (MFA for stabilization support; Minka resilience Fund for AFD) have been created with increasing budgets (+/- 200M€/year).

As a result of the integrated approach of the triple nexus (humanitarian-development-peace), France has set up co-financings between the Center for

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

Humanitarian Operations and Stabilization and AFD, for prolonged crises, such as in the Gaza Strip for strengthening the health system through a UNICEF project or as part of the integrated approach in the Sahel region.