

Grand Bargain in 2019:
Annual Self Report – Narrative Summary

Name of Institution: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, JAPAN

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

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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?

With a view to creating an environment of greater trust, transparency and accountability, Japan promoted the participation of the affected population in decision making. It furthermore worked on the humanitarian-development aid nexus to promote effective assistance.

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) formulated the plans to improve living conditions in Palestine refugee camps through dialogues with residents, and implemented projects aiming at improving living conditions accordingly. A medium-term plan was formulated based on the identified needs of residents in three West Bank refugee camps. Based on this plan, pilot projects such as renovation of public facilities to improve universal access were carried out. JICA with PLO published manuals on planning and implementing camp improvement plans and projects, which will enable other camps to improve their camps in the same way. (WS4-Participation)

JICA continued to implement projects benefitting both refugees and host communities in places such as Uganda, Zambia, and Jordan, aiming at enhancing local solutions for refugees. In Zambia, JICA worked closely with the Government of Zambia, UNHCR, UNDP and other actors to support the Government's sustainable resettlement program which targeted also former refugees. In Uganda, under close cooperation with UNHCR/WFP, JICA provided technical support on rice cultivation, contributing both host community and refugees to improve their livelihood. (WS10-h-d nexus)

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

In relation to WS10 (h-d nexus), Japan/JICA co-organised, with Uganda, UNHCR, UNDP, OECD and the World Bank, the Global Refugee Forum Spotlight Session titled "Development and HDP Nexus addressing forced displacement" in December 2019. Japan shared at the meeting the above mentioned humanitarian-development nexus projects JICA is implementing in Uganda as good practices. It is expected that these projects would set an example in providing aid worldwide.

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

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

for definitions of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, which are included in this self-report template package.

Japan has been mainstreaming gender equality and women's empowerment in various parts of its work.

Emergency grant aid is one of such examples and Japan has been requesting aid agencies to consider mainstreaming it when formulating projects. All the projects which were selected for implementation reflected such consideration. Gender sensitivity is taken into consideration as well in Japanese NGOs' projects through the Japan Platform, an emergency humanitarian aid organization which the Government of Japan is supporting.

JICA has been adopting gender mainstreaming² as the key strategy for its operations. Under the strategies and actions for gender equality and women's empowerment, five priority areas are specified, one of which is women's rights and security. In this area, JICA assists partner countries in ensuring women's rights and security in conflict, natural disasters, trafficking in persons and other gender-based violence.

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.

Japan continued to work on empowerment of local government officials, as part of its development aid, aiming at disaster risk reduction whereby shrinking humanitarian needs. Japan furthermore contributed to build the capacity of local governments in order to improve the livelihood of both the affected as well as the locals and to promote durable solutions.

Japan has been promoting Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and announced "Sendai Cooperation Initiative for Disaster Risk Reduction Phase 2" in June 2019, where Japan committed to provide DRR assistance including flood prevention to at least 5 million people and train 85,000 government officials, local leaders and young generations etc, and assist 80 countries in formulating DRR plan. (WS10 h-d nexus)

JICA continued to implement projects benefitting both refugees and host communities in places such as Uganda, Zambia, and Jordan, aiming at enhancing local solutions for refugees. (WS10-h-d nexus) Japan furthermore provided multi-year funding to an international aid agency for a project of WASH, Health, and Education, benefitting Afghan refugees as well as receiving community in Pakistan in 2019. (WS 7 Quality Funding)

² The details are available on the link below.

https://www.jica.go.jp/english/publications/brochures/pdf/gender_EN.pdf

https://www.jica.go.jp/activities/issues/gender/ku57pq00002cucek-att/position_paper_en.pdf