

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

**Name of Institution:** Save the Children

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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?**

Save the Children (SC) targeted organisational investment in Grand Bargain commitments that relate to **programme quality and accountability to children** with a focus on localisation, needs assessment and analysis – including participatory approaches to strengthen collective accountability to children – and cash transfers. As a member of NGO consortia - including Collaborative Cash Delivery (CCD), Dutch Relief Alliance (DRA) and Response Innovation Lab (RIL) – SC supported the collective roll-out of GB commitments at country level through a range of pilot initiatives on localisation, Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP), including the development of child-friendly Feedback and Reporting Mechanisms, and cash transfers. In addition, SC sustained institutional investment, including staff time and flexible funding, to improve the quality of IATI reporting and support efforts to harmonise reporting requirements through engagement with the Money Where it Counts initiative led by Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC).

In 2019, SC developed an **organisation-wide policy on localisation** to support the operationalisation of Grand Bargain commitments which is scheduled for approval by the end of quarter one in 2020. The policy focuses on enabling more support and funding for L/NNGOs. In line with SC's role as the co-lead for the Global Education Cluster, the policy includes a focus on supporting the localisation of coordination structures to ensure that L/NNGOs are represented in decision-making and coordination structures. Seven new members from L/NNGOs joined the Global Education Cluster Strategic Advisory Group (GEC SAG) and the GEC recruited a Localisation Specialist tasked with producing national level evidence on localisation and supporting national education clusters with a more localised response. At response level, SC initiated the first phase of a pilot initiative on capacity strengthening of L/NNGOs which de-links capacity strengthening from formal partnership arrangements in coordination with the Humanitarian Leadership Academy (HLA) and South Sudan NGO Forum.

SC completed an internal review of **needs analysis and assessment capability** including change requirements to strengthen participatory approaches to ensure that children's needs are reflected in needs analysis and assessment processes. At response level, SC supported two children's consultations in South Sudan and Ukraine to inform response prioritisation and strengthen collective accountability to children. SC continued to provide technical and leadership support to develop the Joint Inter-Sectoral Needs Analysis Framework (JIAF). SC and OCHA co-led a workshop for NGOs to review and discuss changes to the Enhanced Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC) to increase awareness of key changes in line with GB commitments.

Building on institutional investment in transparency, reporting and information management initiated in 2018, SC focused on developing the comprehensiveness of our **IATI publication** including improving the timeliness and extent of reporting to the platform and incorporating OECD DAC sector codes in SC's IATI publication. SC provided technical input and shared lessons learnt from the roll-out of Cost Allocation Methodology (CAM) to the **Money Where it Counts** initiative led by NRC.

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

In 2019, SC focused on translating high-level institutional policy commitment to the GB to **our approach to humanitarian response at country level and strengthening staff capacity to deliver changes through a combination of recruitment and training**. SC revised internal Guidance on Humanitarian Response Strategy to reflect Grand Bargain commitments. As a result, all response strategies must now include a focus on partnership with L/NNGOs; ensure that participation of affected populations informs needs analysis and strategy development; include mechanisms to strengthen community feedback and monitoring mechanisms and ensure a focus on cash transfer and voucher modalities of assistance where appropriate. The methodology for SC's Real Time Review (RTR) of response is fully aligned to the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS). This approach enables monitoring and course correction on partnership with L/NNGOs, AAP and also requires the participation of communities in the review process. SC established a new online Humanitarian Curriculum which enables SC staff and partners to access training and learning materials and is currently developing learning pathways on partnership with L/NNGOs, AAP and cash transfer programming.

In 2020, concrete changes to our approach to partnership with L/NNGOs will be rolled-out in line with the forthcoming Localisation Policy. Training and investment in staff capability in needs analysis and assessment will be taken forward by the newly established Needs Assessment Task-Team. SC will continue to partner with child-centred organisations to strengthen collective accountability to children with a focus on inter-agency approach to consult children to inform response prioritisation and strategy and appropriate feedback and reporting mechanisms for children.

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

SC introduced an adapted version of the Gender Equality Marker which is tailored to humanitarian settings to support the development of gender-sensitive proposals and concept notes. SC conducted gender analyses in Ukraine, Somalia/Somaliland and Mozambique to inform response strategy and developed the Gender Action Plan to

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

ensure that gender analysis informs programmatic response. The Gender Action Plan outlines targeted actions for each sector to take to mitigate gender-based violence (GBV) and mainstream gender, based on the findings of a gender analysis. The Gender Action Plans exist for North East Syria, Rohingya response, Mozambique (Cyclone Idai) and Somalia/Somaliland. Finally, SC launched the Gender and GBV Resource Package which contains tools and resources for humanitarian response teams to identify and address gender inequalities.

**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 2019, SC established an internal task team including technical, operations, country and regional leadership to oversee the development of a child-focused nexus strategy. The strategy is informed by an internal review of early warning and early action mechanisms; analytical frameworks including child rights analysis; adaptive programming approaches and partnership with L/NNGOs to strengthen preparedness for response. The strategy will be elaborated following the review of the outcomes of a deep-dive analysis of current state and potential change requirements in three countries.

Critical enablers of a nexus approach include context and foresight analysis; emergency preparedness and access to flexible funding to ensure early action in response to early warning information. At global level, SC continued to contribute to the production, dissemination and use of the IASC Early Warning, Early Action and Readiness Analysis that provides decision makers with a consolidated source of analysis to support preparedness, early response, advocacy, resource mobilization and prevention. Internally, SC's Emergency Preparedness Procedure strengthened its focus on resilience, disaster preparedness and early action and Minimum and Advanced Preparedness Actions were reviewed to ensure their relevance in evolving contexts.