

Grand Bargain in 2020:
Annual Self Report – Narrative Summary

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Question 1:

Workstream 1: The World Bank has significantly improved the timeliness of data published through IATI. Publishing frequency was increased from quarterly to monthly. In addition, time lag of published data was reduced from three months to less than one month.

Workstream 3: Overall, the Social Protection and Jobs (SPJ) Global Practice is supporting 26 safety net operations in 21 countries considered as fragile, worldwide—with a total \$2.7 billion allocated to such activities. (This is in addition to the multi-country Adaptive Social Protection program in West Africa.) Through our SPJ activities, for example, the Yemen Emergency Response Program has now reached 9 million poor and vulnerable people with cash transfers, in response to the food crisis. In the Sahel region, by the end of FY19, some 1.8 million people benefited from adaptive social protection programs—enabling them to build resilience and better withstand the impacts of shocks that regularly afflict the sub-region including drought, climate change, conflict and displacement. In Cote d'Ivoire, the Social Protection and Economic Inclusion Project has surpassed its expected targets, providing cash transfers to more than 600,000 people, and prompting both additional financing from the World Bank and increased domestic financing of social protection programs on the part of the Government.

Workstream 5: The World Bank was invited to engage in the working group to contribute with a development perspective. Through engagement with OCHA and ECHO and in consultation with the GBNA partners, a paper was developed and finalized in 2018 outlining an approach to use the GB platform to promote, incentivise and learn from cases of humanitarian-development collaborative analysis and assessments. A process was also agreed to identify test cases and good practice to identify the strengths within the humanitarian and development arenas to better bridge the analytical divide. This paper in turn informed a workshop in May 2019 organized by OCHA and ECHO. The stocktaking workshop discussed recent approaches to joint humanitarian-development analysis and the World Bank shared experiences from CAR, Yemen and Somalia.

Question 2:

Workstream 3: The ability of existing SPJ programs to cater to the forcibly displaced (and refugees, in particular) requires the adaptive building blocks to be in place (government leadership, clear institutional arrangements, adaptive information, programming and financing), but there are also further aspects that require tailoring. These include: effectively managing outreach and communication for populations who lack basic literacy and may not speak the local language; overseeing identification in a context with limited or non-existent personal documentation; designing targeting mechanisms in settings where assets are non-existent or hard to measure; providing payments in a camp setting, with no prior financial inclusion; and determining graduation exit points, particularly in cases of long-term displacement. Of the total SPJ portfolio (including those in fragile settings), almost 90% of support is particularly geared towards the establishment or strengthening of SPJ delivery systems, including investments in social registries, beneficiary registries, information systems, payment systems, client interface and institutions.

Workstream 5: The ongoing collaboration between the WB, UNHCR and DFID on humanitarian and social protection programming will yield evidence for improved responses to these situations. The Recovery and Peace Building

Assessments (RPBA) are the main tools underpinning a joint partnership framework supported by the European Union, the United Nations and the WBG. The RPBA support coordinated reengagement in countries or regions emerging from conflict or political crisis and very much heed the call for joint analysis embodied in the GB by aiming to ensure that international and local interventions for recovery are aligned and working towards collective outcomes. The RPBA process therefore supports countries in assessing, planning and prioritizing requirements under a common process. The WBG is currently participating in the RPBA being conducted in Burkina Faso which spans across the HDP nexus. The WB is also currently updating its methodology for Risk and Resilience Assessments (WB fragility assessments) in order to strengthen their operational relevance and ensure that responses to drivers of crises are more fully considered within the organization's planning cycles.

Question 3:

Gender equality is a priority for the WB. The World Bank has a Gender Strategy which also focuses on gender equality in Fragile, Conflicts and Violence (FCV) situations. The forthcoming WBG FCV Strategy also prioritizes gender and states that throughout its engagement in FCV settings, the WBG will emphasize closing gender gaps and address the needs of women and girls. The Bank will increase operationally relevant analytical work that identifies gender-based discrimination and harmful gender norms (including those that drive GBV), as well as gender gaps in access to economic opportunities, assets, and human capital in FCV settings. During IDA18, the number of operations in IDA FCV countries preventing and responding to gender-based violence has increased. The WB will continue to scale up engagement to prevent gender-based violence.

The IDA18 Refugee Sub-Window (RSW) continues to provide a platform for scaling up approaches that are effective in addressing gender inequality in contexts of forced displacement. A 2019 RSW portfolio review found that 13 out of the 20 approved operations are gender tagged, and several projects address gender specific needs, for example the Displacement Impacts Project (DRDIP) in the Horn of Africa which seeks to address GBV in an integrative and holistic way in sectors such as basic social services, economic infrastructure, environmental and natural resources management, and livelihoods.

At field level, a number of initiatives are ongoing to strengthen the gender dimension of social protection programs in FCV settings. The Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Program under implementation in six countries (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Senegal) underwent a gender-sensitivity analysis, resulting in design recommendations to strengthen gender impacts in its next phase. Furthermore, a tool is being developed to minimize risks of GBV in social protection interventions and to maximize their positive potential for women's empowerment. The development of this tool included work on South Sudan. In addition, analytical work to strengthen the gender dimension of operations is underway in a number of FCV countries: in Liberia to empower women through digital payments, in the DRC to measure the gendered impacts of the Ebola crisis, in the Republic of Congo to strengthen the gender design of the overall social protection system, and in Afghanistan and the Gambia on women's economic empowerment.

Overall, the WBG will continue to engage in partnerships with humanitarian, development and peacebuilding actors, including deploying joint mechanisms for assisting vulnerable groups, closing gender gaps and empowering women and girls, and ensuring that “do no harm” approaches are implemented.

Question 4:

The process to develop the WBG FCV Strategy to be launched in March 2020 included consultations with both development and humanitarian partners. The Strategy itself states that the WBG will continue to engage in partnerships with humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding actors while remaining focused on its development mandate. While the WBG has been involved in fragile, conflict and violence settings for many years (through country projects), the WBG will work with humanitarian and peacebuilding actors to establish strong synergies and coordination across various interventions. In 2019, the WBG continued to address medium-term socio-economic dimensions of forced displacement in both middle- and low-income countries, with a focus on helping advance policy and institutional reforms to enhance the management of refugee situations, especially on jobs, education, and gender. Under the IDA18 RSW (for low-income countries), as of December 2019, 14¹ countries are eligible to access RSW resources, with 20 projects approved in 10 countries (\$932 million from RSW), covering diverse sectors including education and skills training, water and sanitation, slum upgrading, health (including GBV prevention and response), and social protection, targeting both refugees and host communities. In 2019, Ecuador became the fourth country eligible to access Global Concessional Financing Facility (GCF) financing. So far, GCF has supported 12 projects with \$514 million in concessional financing.

The SPJ/UNHCR/DFID collaboration will enable more effective responses both to the needs of the displaced and of vulnerable households in host communities, and how programs should be designed to facilitate integration among these two communities. This includes the development of evidence-based tools for legal frameworks, outreach and targeting, administration and financing, service delivery and client engagement. It is hoped that this work will identify entry points for potential integration of humanitarian and domestic safety-net / social protection systems, and ways in which domestic SP programs might be adapted to incorporate services for refugees and the displaced. Domestic SP / SN systems can play an essential role in supporting the displaced, by providing predictable cash and in-kind assistance, access to social services (e.g. health, education, child and family support), and work opportunities for disadvantaged groups and for longer-term assimilation.

Transparency: By publishing timely data on all humanitarian and non-humanitarian support through the IATI standard, the World Bank facilitates the coordinated action of actors in the humanitarian-development nexus

¹ The 14 countries are Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Republic of Congo, Djibouti, DRC, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Mauritania, Niger, Pakistan, Uganda.