

IOM Statement

2020 Grand Bargain Annual Meeting

- delivered in writing -

We wish to express our thanks to the Eminent Person, the Facilitation Group, and the Grand Bargain Secretariat for a proactive and forward-looking approach to this meeting to support a stronger response now and in the future.

Conflicts and disasters have yet again led to fast-growing numbers of people in need and a growing funding gap for humanitarian action. The humanitarian needs associated with COVID-19 are mounting and the global response to the pandemic is likely to take up a significant amount of aid resources. The COVID-19 pandemic requires humanitarian actors to consider the implications of the pandemic while responding to the urgent needs of affected populations. Indeed, effective and efficient humanitarian response is needed more than ever. In this respect we appreciate efforts to concretise how to best step up and accelerate progress during this time.

IOM has engaged in the Grand Bargain process from its earliest days and we firmly believe that the Grand Bargain continues to hold the best potential to substantially alter the ways in which the donor community, UN agencies and NGOs partners interact, and transform challenges into opportunities.

Over the past year, IOM has taken additional steps to progress against our institutional Grand Bargain commitments. Key achievements include the enhanced interoperability of beneficiary information and registration systems within the Organization's Strategy for Humanitarian Cash Based Interventions and the development of tools to foster functional community-based complaints and feedback mechanisms and inclusive community participation.

IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) data and analysis continued to inform system-wide responses. 81% of the Humanitarian Needs Overviews and Humanitarian Response Plans used DTM as one of the main sources of data and analysis for internal displacement. The DTM and Partners toolkit, formulated through Workstream 5 on Needs Assessment, has played an important part in expansion of partnerships and collaborations to improve needs assessment and analysis in humanitarian operations.

Apart from this, IOM advanced on institutional processes and systems such as the development of an internal IATI data web portal to increase transparency while enhancing the quality of reporting to better capture results.

The ongoing review of the IOM procurement system is an important contribution to the commitment to reduce duplication of management costs.

As an active member of the Friends of Gender Group, IOM also continued to promote gender equality and reduce gender-based violence risks in camps and camp-like settings in line with

IOM's framework for Addressing Gender-Based Violence in Crisis, and we continued to foster the inclusion of women in camp governance and leadership structures.

IOM works across the Humanitarian Development Nexus and is actively using data to support development and peace actors in their efforts to better address the underlying vulnerabilities and root causes of displacement and corresponding humanitarian needs. IOM continues to highlight the importance of joint data analyses in order to improve inter-sectoral needs assessments and ensure that HDN is adequately reflected, thus contributing towards collective outcomes.

IOM keeps strengthening the partnership with local responders and participates in and advocates for harmonization efforts that support less earmarked and flexible funding and the localization of aid. To lessen bureaucratic burden, IOM has also adopted the harmonised reporting template (8+3) as optional reporting format to be used by NGO collaboration partners, alongside other measures to simplify administrative requirements.

Individually and collectively the Grand Bargain Signatories have made big strides in the past four years, but we need to consolidate and scale up progress even more so now as we confront one of the worst pandemics in history. We welcome the current policy discussions on quality funding and have already seen encouraging steps from a number of donors. We hope that such dialogue and partnership can be enhanced in the months to come so that we can achieve further gains in this regard.

We are at a critical junction the Grand Bargain commitments can continue to guide us to achieve system-wide progress.

. Moving forward, IOM recommends to:

- Keep a strong focus on coordinated high-quality needs assessments while ensuring reporting of results and high transparency with regards to the use of funds.
- Pursue the comparative advantage of the various quality needs assessments to obtain operational efficiencies, achieve a comprehensive evidence base and ensure informed planning processes and response.
- Advance on quality funding -*unearmarked, flexible and multi-year* - as a key enabler of localized aid that responds to community needs and allows for more effective humanitarian-development collaboration.
- We would also like to see better synergies not only between the Grand Bargain Workstreams but also with other processes working on key issues such as Humanitarian Financing and Localization.

IOM remains fully committed to the process and we will step up and accelerate our efforts to fully implement our Grand Bargain commitments.

We look forward to continuing fruitful cooperation.

Thank you.