

THE GRAND BARGAIN IN HUMANITARIAN OPERATIONS

The Grand Bargain, launched in 2016, is a unique agreement between some of the largest donors and humanitarian organisations who have committed to get more means into the hands of people in need and to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the humanitarian action. The Grand Bargain has 63 Signatories and is the only mechanism that connects donors, UN agencies, NGOs and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Society. Four years into the Grand Bargain process, it is clear that the mechanism is acting as a lever for change and is having a wider impact in terms of a more cohesive, collaborative approach across the international humanitarian aid sector. However, there remained substantial challenges in moving towards the original goals of the Grand Bargain.

HOW CAN THE GRAND BARGAIN HELP YOU IN YOUR DAILY HUMANITARIAN WORK?

QUALITY FUNDING

The Signatories committed to increase multi-year, collaborative and flexible planning and multi-year funding. Donors have been increasing quality funding, and the Grand Bargain workstream Co-convenors have been documenting its positive impacts on programme efficiency and effectiveness. In 2019, 11 donors met the target for allocating 30% of their annual funding as unearmarked or softly earmarked. You can encourage your own institution or your donors to continue to further increase quality funding, and provide positive examples of it.



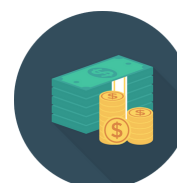
SUPPORTING LOCAL AND NATIONAL RESPONDERS

In 2019, 10 Signatories met the target for allocating 25% of annual funds to national/local responders as directly as possible. Capacity strengthening of local and national actors has been consistently a priority within the Grand Bargain. Local/national implementing partners can hold their donors accountable to provide capacity strengthening or funding for it.



DONOR REPORTS

The Grand Bargain Signatories committed to simplify and harmonise narrative reporting. A new 8+3 reporting was developed and piloted, and is now ready to use. You can request your donors to use it. The more donors adopt the 8+3 template as a standard, the greater the benefit of harmonisation, reducing the reporting burden across the humanitarian system.

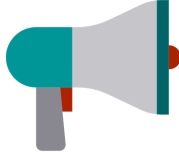


BETTER DATA



The Signatories committed to publish timely, transparent, harmonised and open high-quality data on humanitarian funding in order to enhance transparency and decision-making. You can encourage your institution to publish data to IATI to demonstrate how funding moves from donors down the transaction chain until it reaches the final responders and, where feasible, affected people.

PARTICIPATION OF AFFECTED PEOPLE



As a result of a Grand Bargain commitment to integrate meaningful participation in practice, a number of Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs) developed a joint approach to accountability to affected populations, and included indicators related to participation in a number of Humanitarian Response Plans (HRPs).

THE GRAND BARGAIN IN 2020-2021

THE GRAND BARGAIN ANNUAL MEETING 2020

The Grand Bargain Annual Meeting 2020 took place online on 24 and 25 June 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic influenced the conduct and content of the meeting, as donors and humanitarian agencies have been adapting their response to this global challenge. The Annual Meeting discussions started with a session on risk-sharing, followed by the identification of efficiency and transformative priorities for the next 12 months and concluded with a conversation around the future of the Grand Bargain post 2021.

[Read the Annual Meeting Summary Note here.](#)

THE FUTURE OF THE GRAND BARGAIN

As the Grand Bargain enters the fifth year since its launch, the Signatories will decide in 2021 what comes next – whether the process, or a successor process, should continue and if so what function and form should it have. To ensure an informed decision, the Facilitation Group will carry out participatory consultations from September to December 2020 and develop a proposal based on the inputs.

HOW ARE THE SIGNATORIES IMPLEMENTING THE GRAND BARGAIN COMMITMENTS AT COUNTRY LEVEL?

Read individual stories of the Grand Bargain in practice [here](#).

For further information or to subscribe to our Bimonthly newsletter, please contact gbsecretariat@un.org or the Grand Bargain focal point within your institution.
September 2020

Photo credit: OCHA/Christophe Verhellen