

**Grand Bargain in 2020:
Annual Self Report – Narrative Summary**

Name of Institution:

World Bank

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*(NB. Please limit your answer to no more than 5 **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 2020?

Workstream 1: World Bank International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) reporting practice was further improved to follow IATI guidance on publishing data related to COVID-19, including reporting on the IATI standard's Humanitarian Scope element.

Workstream 3: Ever since the WHO announced the COVID-19 outbreak a global pandemic, the Social Protection and Jobs (SPJ) Global Practice at the World Bank has delivered 10 cash transfer operations in response to COVID-19 in the Fragile, Conflict-affected situations (FCV), with a total of US\$1.48 billion, which are an integral part of the SPJ new financing in the calendar year of 2020. These operations target 41 million beneficiaries in the Republic of Congo, Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Chad, Central African Republic, Republic of Yemen, Lebanon, and West Bank and Gaza. In alignment with the objectives of the [World Bank Group's COVID-19 Crisis Response Approach Paper](#), these projects provide the poor and vulnerable households with an adaptive and efficient social assistance, including more transparent and reliable cash transfer to cope with immediate crisis impacts. The projects also help strengthen the delivery systems for expanded coverage, better digital delivery, and greater resilience in response to natural or man-made disasters in the future.

Additionally, under the [Sahel Adaptive Social Protection Programme \(SASPP\)](#), in response to the COVID-19 crises, governments have started to “flex” nascent adaptive social protection systems to provide income support to the (newly) poor. In Senegal, for instance, the government was able to deploy a quick response and provide assistance to those affected by the floods in the summer of 2020 using mobile money accounts. Additionally, the Government of Mauritania --using the adaptive Social Protection systems-- was able to quickly provide a one-off cash transfers to 206,000 households across the country and is providing a second payment to those households with the support of the SASPP and the AFD. Senegal and Mauritania have nearly national registries, while other countries are expanding at a rapid rate. Niger has registered an additional 400,000 new households between FY20 and FY21 following the COVID-19 crisis.

In Yemen, the World Bank approved a \$204 million [Emergency Social Protection Enhancement and COVID-19 Response Project](#) in December 2020, which would continue cash transfers to 9 million poor Yemeni individuals, as well as a range of other cash-based programs to respond to food insecurity.

The ability of existing Social Protection and Jobs 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 Social Protection and Jobs delivery systems, including investments in social registries, beneficiary registries, information systems, payment systems, client interface and institutions. **The COVID-19 crisis has further highlighted the need for dynamic and adaptive delivery systems that can support the rapid scale up of programs in response to shocks and crisis.** 200+ countries have scaled up their social protection measures in response to COVID-19. In many countries, innovations have been introduced to register and assess needs and conditions of households and individuals, as well as to determine eligibility and beneficiaries. The adoption of digital payments has increased to provide a safe and quick way to distribute social assistance during the pandemic.

Lastly, together with DFID/FCDO and UNHCR, the Social Project and Jobs Global Practice of the World Bank is developing tools for the integration of humanitarian and domestic safety-net and cash transfer programs and the social and economic inclusion of refugees and the displaced into host communities.

Workstream 5: We have increased our collaboration with the UN¹ and the EU on delivering joint assessments, through both Risk and Resilience Assessments (RRAs) as well as through the Recovery and Peacebuilding Assessment (RPBA) mechanism. This has enabled us to build platforms for dialogue and consensus around not only the definition of key drivers of fragility, conflict, and violence, but also to agree upon peacebuilding, development and (where relevant) recovery priorities. Increasing our ability to undertake rigorous joint analysis has kickstarted a more coherent approach to formulating recommendations, being able to determine an appropriate division of labour between respective institutions and mandates, as well as deepened our knowledge about other actors and their respective priorities in each context. While partnership, especially around something as sensitive as joint analytic work, is always going to be transaction heavy – and it remains a work in progress – we have advanced our collaboration in this area, and there is continued momentum to do more.

The 2017 Grand Bargain Annual Report identified **Workstream 5** as one of the most challenging and slowest moving, despite its high level of importance. In response to this, the World Bank was invited to engage in the working group to help unblock and accelerate progress at the political level. The World Bank engagement focused on unblocking and improving the use of joint analysis and assessments covering humanitarian and development aspects. Through active engagement with OCHA, ECHO, and UNDP, and in consultation with the Grand Bargain on Needs Assessments (GBNA) partners, a joint paper was developed and finalized before the end of 2018, outlining an approach to use the GB platform to promote, incentivise, and learn from cases of hum-dev collaborative analysis and assessments. A process was also agreed

¹ For more about the World Bank's UN partnership, including case studies at the country level, see: <http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/707891612484648757/pdf/United-Nations-World-Bank-Partnership-in-Crisis-Affected-Situations-2020-UN-WB-Partnership-Monitoring-Report.pdf>

to identify test cases, good practices and innovative methods to leverage the unique strengths within the humanitarian and development sectors to better bridge the analytical divide. The Social Protections and Jobs Global Practice is also working with DFID and UNHCR on a multi-country study to improve the integration of humanitarian and social safety-net systems, with results expected in 2021.

The joint effort will generate recommendations based on active learning from past, ongoing and new cases. The Grand Bargain on Needs Assessments and World Bank group will coordinate the learning aspects at the central level and offer support to teams on the ground to connect up, collaborate, and to translate lessons into politically relevant messages for the Grand Bargain global leadership. In recognition that most humanitarian situations are protracted, the joint effort will also lead to improvements in methods to focus on critical path analysis and assessments aimed to understand how governments and development partners address the underlying causes of crises, and how best to respond, over time. The ongoing collaboration between SPJ, UNHCR and DFID on humanitarian and social protection programming will yield evidence for improved responses to these situations.

Question 2: How has your institution contributed to the advancement of gender equality and women’s empowerment² 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.

Workstream 3: 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 gender-based violence (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. Under the Adaptive and Dynamic Social Protection / [Rapid Social Response](#) (ADSP-RSR) multi-donor trust fund, the Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice is supporting gender-transformative operations in many FCV environments, including (but not limited to) Liberia, Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Haiti, and South Sudan. In South Sudan, the ADSP-RSR is financing the integration of gender-based violence (GBV) prevention, response, and risk mitigation interventions into the design and delivery of domestic social safety nets (SSNs). The SPJ Global Practice also conducted a global review of the impact of SSNs on violence, particularly intimate partner violence (IPV) and violence against children, by reducing poverty-related

² Refer to the IASC definitions of gender equality and women empowerment, available [here](#).

stress, empowering women and strengthening their social networks. Among other outcomes, this work has yielded an operational guidebook for the design and delivery of SSNs, to strengthen and amplify the role of social safety nets in GBV prevention and response.

Question 3: 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.

Workstream 1: 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.

Workstream 3: 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. 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 Social Protection / 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.

Workstream 5: Over the last 4 years, the cooperation between the WBG and UNHCR has grown into a solid strategic and operational partnership rooted in the principle of complementarity. It has evolved around concrete areas in line with the two organization's respective comparative advantages, including: i) cooperation around policy and programmatic aspects of the WBG's dedicated financing instruments for refugee-hosting countries such as (the IDA18 Refugee Sub-Window (RSW), the IDA19 Window for Host Communities and Refugees (WHR), and the Global Concessional Financing Facility (GCFF); ii) data collection and analysis, including the launch of the Joint Data Center on Forced Displacement (JDC) in October 2019; iii) joint learning and capacity building initiatives; and iv) as well as increasing technical collaboration in specific sectors, such as social protection and education.

The partnership has thus actively contributed to the operationalization of the United Nations' Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) which aims to strengthen the international response to large movements of refugees and protracted refugee situations. The World Bank and UNHCR collaborate systematically in their efforts to support countries impacted by forced displacement and create development opportunities for refugees and host communities in protracted situations.

1. Grand Bargain 2016-2020: Overall achievements and remaining gaps

2. **Question 4: What are the 2-3 key achievements/areas of most progress by your institution since 2016?** Please report on your institutional progress for the period 2016-2020, **even** if your institution did not become a signatory until after 2016.

Workstream 1: From 2016 to 2020 the World Bank improved its IATI reporting and increased the ranking in the Aid Transparency Index by Publish What You Fund from sixth to second in the best "Very good" category with an increase in score from 86.1% to 97.1%. Improvements from 2016-2020 of particular relevance to the Grand Bargain transparency commitment include, upgrading from IATI version 1.05 to 2.03, increasing publication frequency from quarterly to monthly, and inclusion of the data fields "humanitarian attribute" and "humanitarian scope" in the World Bank's IATI reporting.