

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

**Name of Institution: Sheri Arnott**

**Point of Contact: Sheri Arnott, Director of Policy, Disaster  
Management, World Vision International  
([sheri\\_arnott@wvi.org](mailto:sheri_arnott@wvi.org))**

**Date of Submission: February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

(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.)

## **Grand Bargain in 2020**

**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?**

**Transparency:** *On IATI, no major steps forward in 2020.*

**Localisation:** *In 2020 World Vision conducted a survey of its work with local partners in four countries (Somalia, Honduras, Philippines, Mozambique) as part of its ongoing efforts to increase its partnering capacity (including improving internal systems). In Somalia, World Vision has a multi-year strategy and programme on holistic capacity strengthening of local partners. This includes partnership agreements with 16 local NGOs, with specific activities related to training, mentoring, coaching and resource mobilisation. As a result, World Vision's local partners in Somalia have increased their access to direct funding from public (ex. WFP, UNICEF) and private (ex. Somalia diaspora) sources. This increase in direct funding to local partners has led to a decrease in World Vision's funding allocation to its local partners in Somalia from 25% to 9% which World Vision considers a key measure of success for its partnering work (ie that World Vision's local partner is now accessing direct funding from WFP). World Vision, CARE and the Sadar Institute (formerly Somalia Disaster Relief International) co-developed a three-year, comprehensive capacity building programme for 31 frontline local NGOs in Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan. The programme includes peer-to-peer learning, scaling, and adaptive management. For countries where data is available, World Vision has increased the proportion of grant funding going to local partners from 7% in 11 countries in 2016 to \$48M in 8 countries in 2020. (Note that this is only a snapshot of World Vision's humanitarian partnering work; the internal mechanisms to capture humanitarian funding allocations to local partners across the entire organisation are not yet fully developed). Some country-level examples include: Lebanon: sub-grants totalling \$3.5M to 10 local NGOs for refugee responses; Syria: partnership agreements with 10 local partners, with 68% of the total funding allocated to local NGOs; Myanmar: World Vision granted 33% of the funding from three grant-funded projects to its local partners (one grant was for 3 years).*

**Cash and Voucher Programming (CVP).** *In 2020, just over 39 percent of World Vision's total global humanitarian programmes were delivered as CVP. World Vision assisted over 6.4 million people in 41 countries with CVP, 42 percent of whom were children. This represents a 28 percent increase from 2019. Sixty-one percent of CVP beneficiaries were reached with e-cash or e-vouchers and 80 percent of the assistance provided was unconditional.*

*World Vision continued its investments in capacity building through: providing ongoing training for staff across a range of functions through World Vision's [Cash Academy](#) training programmes; the development of twenty country-level Cash Readiness Assessments and fifteen Standard Operating Procedures guidance documents for field offices, and establishment of field level cross-functional cash task forces to enable holistic design, implementation and risk review of CVP operations.*

World Vision continues to contribute to key 'cash' technical/coordination mechanisms at global, regional and national levels. This includes an interagency initiative to develop outcome indicators for multi-purpose cash; these indicators have now been integrated into World Vision's CVP monitoring and evaluation processes, in support of World Vision's organisational priority to improve the quality of outcomes in its CVP programmes. World Vision co-chairs Cash Cap and the Collaborative Cash Delivery network (CCD) and was engaged in 29 CVP-related working groups at the national and/or regional levels throughout 2020.

- World Vision released 13 CVP-related technical/advocacy publications(ex. [Child -sensitive social protection and Covid19 policy brief](#), [Guidance on Humanitarian Cash -Social Protection & Social Accountability](#), [Technical guidance on scaling up CVP in World Vision's Covid-19 response](#), [Programmatic Pathway Guidance](#) on social accountability and social protection transfers etc.
- World Vision contributed to four interagency papers: Child Protection and Social Protection policy paper led (by Child Protection Alliance, UNICEF); three interagency position papers on the role on of humanitarian cash programmes in the COVID-19 response, [one of which was a Grand Bargain workstream product](#).
- World Vision contributed to multiple inter-agency tools, developed in response to COVID-19. Examples include conflict-sensitivity/market dynamics (COSMATool); Financial Inclusion Pathway Guidance.
- Presentations and cross-network contributions (CaLP, CCD) to aspects of (digital) data sharing, data privacy and protection aspects in CVP. Use of World Vision's LMMS E-voucher mechanism that uses block-chain enabled technology in emergency CVP response

**Question 2: 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.

*In 2020, more than 50% of World Vision's cash and voucher assistance was provided to women and girls*

**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.

- Aligned to its Grand Bargain commitments and as a key component of its [global response to COVID-19](#), World Vision committed to allocate up to US\$100 million of its private development funding as a crisis modifier to protect development gains, meet immediate needs, bridge the humanitarian development nexus, support localisation efforts, and help communities quickly prepare, respond, and recover from COVID-19.
- As part of its [organisation-wide commitment to increasing its impact in fragile and humanitarian contexts](#) :
  - produced field guidance on adaptive management in a time of COVID-19 and presented its experience on the same at the joint OECD- IASC Roundtable "Commitments into Action: A holistic and coherent response to COVID-19."

---

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

- expanded World Vision's nexus approach to two additional countries: Mali, in collaboration with a local NGO) and Honduras which focuses on urban programming. In response to COVID-19, this was expanded to other cities in the El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras.
- Co-led (with IOM, FAO, OCED-DAC, PBSO) the development of the IASC issues paper [Exploring peace within the Humanitarian-Development- Peace Nexus](#), which was endorsed by the IASC Principles. World Vision also contributed to the [IASC interagency guidance on collective outcomes](#).
- Significant work has been done through World Vision's cash teams to facilitate nexus approaches, particularly in the area of linking humanitarian cash programmes to social protection system strengthening. This includes extending the reach of national systems, contributing to interagency efforts to improve targeting and monitoring elements of national systems and leveraging strong relationships with communities and its expertise in [social accountability approaches](#) to strengthen quality and equity elements of national systems. Within World Vision, CVP is increasingly being leveraged to support core sector objectives (livelihoods, financial inclusion), particularly for the most vulnerable (for more details, see response to Question 2 above)
- On transparency, our IATI publishing is inclusive of humanitarian and development programming. Progress in the Financial Tracking Service making use of IATI data has been slow, though World Vision remains interested in supporting this.

### **Grand Bargain 2016-2020: Overall achievements and remaining gaps**

**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.

*On IATI, World Vision's had a pre-existing organisational commitment to publishing data on IATI, so it is difficult to ascribe our organisational progress to the Grand Bargain. However, World Vision's efforts around IATI has been somewhat bolstered by the Grand Bargain.*

*At the World Humanitarian Summit, World Vision committed to increase the proportion of its global humanitarian portfolio delivered as 'cash' to 50 percent and increase the proportion of our 'cash' programmes that are delivered digitally. While an already a robust 'cash' community existed before the Grand Bargain, the Grand Bargain's unique membership (NGOs, UN Agencies and Donors) has provided a critical platform to identify and address key bottlenecks and impediments to growing the routine use of cash and digital systems across the humanitarian sector. World Vision considers the Grand Bargain as a critical contributing factor for its ability to increase the share of its humanitarian portfolio delivered as CVP to 39 percent in 2020, grow its in overall CVP by 269% between 2015 and 2020 and increase the proportion of its CVP delivered through digital mechanism to 61 percent in 2020. The Grand Bargain also gave impetus for World Vision to institutionalise CVP across its priority sectors, to improve its tracking, reporting, disaggregation aligned to interagency key markers, enhance shared-value partnerships with private and public sector actors and train over 800 new 'cash champions' within the organisation.*

**Localisation:** As per above, the Grand Bargain has provided a critical platform and set of commitment to advance and address key blockages and impediments to greater support for local NGOs. Aligned to World Vision's commitment to the Grand Bargain, World Vision has undertaken a series of initiatives to strengthen its work with local partners, recognising their critical role in humanitarian response and seeking to strengthen their sustainability and capability. These include:

- Development of a humanitarian partnering toolkit.
- Establishing 'Partnering' Focal Points across several field offices with large humanitarian responses (Lebanon, Somalia, Syria, Bangladesh, Indonesia, South Sudan). This role supports strategic coordination of World Vision's work with its local partners, in particular capacity strengthening, compliance and simplifying processes.

- *Investing in long term partnerships. Investing in long-term partner capacity development as in the case of Somalia where some of World Vision's local partners have 'graduating' to other donors and INGO funding streams.*
- *COVID-19 Response Guidance notes to enhance our work with local NGOs and the private sector: World Vision quickly developed guidance notes to support in adaption of the new and existing operations in a contextually appropriate manner through the pandemic, and worked largely with existing partners to revise existing programmes and increase scale. Partners stated that managing budget changes together enabled rapid response and access for messaging and medical/protective supplies.*

**Question 5: What, in your institutional view, have been the main achievements of the Grand Bargain signatories, as a collective, since 2016?** Please indicate specific commitments, thematic or cross-cutting issues or workstreams where you think most progress has been made collectively by signatories.

- *Progressing the scale up of CVP in the sector through anchoring an already robust technical mechanism (i.e. CaLP) in a platform that brings together key stakeholders (NGOs, UN Agencies and Donors).*
- *Localisation: as per above, providing an anchor for addressing long standing issues around localisation and participation.*

**Question 6: What has the Grand Bargain not been able to achieve in its five-year tenure? What outstanding obstacles, gaps, areas of weakness still remain after five years, in terms of improving the efficiency and effectiveness of humanitarian action?** Please indicate specific commitments, thematic or cross-cutting issues or workstreams where you think there remain key gaps or obstacles.

*Overall, despite its importance as a multi-stakeholder platform that convenes the three key stakeholders in the international humanitarian system, the Grand Bargain has largely been unable to translate its commitments and technical discussion/products into changes at the field level at any level of scale (except perhaps for key commitments on CVP).*

## **Risk and the Grand Bargain**

**Question 7a: How has risk (financial, operational, reputational, etc) affected your institution's implementation of the core commitments since you became a signatory to the Grand Bargain?**

**Question 7b: How has your institution sought to mitigate or address these risks to enable implementation of the core commitments?**

- *Localisation: Putting partnering focal points in place and building long-term relationships, seeking long-term funding, developing systems that are transparent to partners. World Vision's audit teams has been supporting an assessment of these risks and looking at practices to put in place to work with partners to mitigate these risks. World Vision is also finalising new financial minimum*

*standards and simplified procedures to help assess and engage with new partners. Mutually accountable partnership reviews are encouraged for longer term partnerships.*

- *Cash: World Vision has a strong focus of risk identification, mitigation and management capacity for CVP. Examples include its work in Fragile Contexts where guidance, capacity building and improved systems and tracking and reporting have contributed to the growth of CVP as well as the adaptation and expansion of Accountability to Affected Populations mechanisms.*