



CARE International Statement

Dear colleagues and partners,

Let me start by thanking Minister Kaag for her leadership over the last two years and by welcoming Mr. Egeland as the incoming Eminent Person. CARE is committed to working with you.

ODI's report is unequivocal. While we have some successes to celebrate, we have not delivered on several critical commitments and crisis affected people still report that programs are designed by international actors and don't meet their needs. For a framework that aimed to better serve people in need, this conclusion should be a wake-up call to all of us.

A recent CARE report entitled "[*Time for a Better Bargain: How the Aid System Short changes Women and Girls in Crisis*](#)" drew a similar conclusion and found that we continue to leave women and girls in crisis behind, at a time where the violence they face has reached pandemic levels. Yet, the solution is simple and well known. To truly respond to women and girls' needs and leave no one behind, we must increase funding to women's organizations on the front lines. Today, we estimate that less than one percent of all humanitarian funding is reaching women's organizations. I deliberately say it is "an estimate" because there is a dearth of data and no systematic reporting.

The GB 2.0 has the potential to change that. What gets measured matters most. Also, the rhetoric that asking for a target for funding to women's organizations contradicts our common call for less earmarked funding is a false dichotomy. Similarly to the call for 25% funding going as directly as possible to local actors, setting a specific target for funding to Women's Organizations is needed to address the inherent power imbalances within the system. It is high time we collectively acknowledge that women's organizations on the front lines face additional and specific barriers to access funding, including having to battle with the inherent patriarchy inside the humanitarian system at all levels, from local to global.

To conclude I have four asks as we finalize our renewed commitments:

One: In alignment with many signatories' expressed ambitions to GEEWG, signatories should formally commit to a target of humanitarian funding directed specifically to local women's organizations.

Two: Signatories that don't yet have systems to track funding specifically to women's organizations should commit to addressing this gap within a reasonable period of time;

Three: Reporting on funding to women's organizations under GB2.0 should no longer be voluntary. Targets should be made public, tracked and publicly reported on an annual basis.

Four: In alignment with our commitments to decolonize aid, we should ensure that we also address patriarchy within our own organizations and inside the aid system.

Thank you.

Delivered by Deepmala Mahla,
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