

Grand Bargain Signatory Application

Name of the Grand Bargain Signatory applicant (institution): *[Insert here]*

Contact details (person, title, email): *[Insert here]*

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| **INTRODUCTION AND CLARIFICATION OF THE PROCEDURE**  Introduction:  Five years after the Grand Bargain was launched, the Signatories endorsed a new Framework and annexes in 2021 for the Grand Bargain 2.0. Grounded in the original objective of the Grand Bargain, and maintaining the validity of the initial commitments, the iteration 2.0 aims to achieve better humanitarian outcomes for affected populations through enhanced efficiency, effectiveness, and greater accountability, building on progress achieved and lessons learned in the last five years. The Signatories will elevate collective efforts to the political level, and focus on the enabling priorities that are essential for achieving the objectives: quality funding, localisation, and participation of affected populations. [The Grand Bargain 2.0 Framework](https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/grand-bargain-official-website/grand-bargain-20-framework-and-annexes-deenesfr-0) also breaks the silos among individual priorities and commitments though the establishment of four outcome pillars: 1. Flexibility, predictability, transparency, and tracking; 2. Equitable and principled partnership; 3. Accountability and inclusion; 4. Prioritisation and coordination.  Procedure:  Grand Bargain Signatory applicants should fill out the application below, consisting of two parts:  1. *Part one – Purpose*: Please indicate reasons why your institution is interested in becoming a Grand Bargain Signatory.  2. *Part two – Implementation of commitments*: Please indicate any relevant actions you have undertaken to date that relate to the Grand Bargain 2.0 outcome pillars and the core commitments, and outline your plans to further strengthen your institutional efforts to implement the Grand Bargain commitments.  The Grand Bargain Signatory applicants should submit the application to the Grand Bargain Secretariat (gbsecretariat@un.org), who will share it with the Facilitation Group for their consideration. The Secretariat will inform the Grand Bargain Signatory applicant of the Facilitation Group’s feedback and decision. Detailed Standard Operating Procedure is outlined in Annex I. |

**SIGNATORY APPLICATION**

**1. Purpose:**

* [*Indicate purpose 1 for wanting to become a Grand Bargain Signatory*]
* [*Indicate purpose 2 for wanting to become a Grand Bargain Signatory*]
* [*Indicate purpose 3 for wanting to become a Grand Bargain Signatory*]

**2. Implementation of commitments:**

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| **Outcome pillar** | **Relevant Commitments** | **Grand Bargain Signatory applicant actions to date** | **To further Grand Bargain commitments Grand Bargain Signatory applicant will:** |
| **1. Flexibility, predictability, transparency, and tracking**  A greater amount of quality funding is transferred to humanitarian partners, including a greater proportion to local actors, to ensure a high quality response that is at scale, timely and relevant, with appropriate tracking and transparency around usage and impact of funding | *Core commitments on greater transparency (1.2), supporting local responders (2.1), multi-year, collaborative and flexible planning and multi-year funding (7.1) and reduced earmarking (8.2), and harmonised narrative reporting (9.1).* |  |  |
| **2. Equitable and principled partnerships**  Quality funding and local partnerships must be based on a system-wide understanding of risk management (including risk sharing and transfer) and clear principles for partnerships which support local leadership delivery and capacity | *Core commitments on greater transparency (1.2), supporting local responders (2.1), supporting local responders (2.4), increasing cash assistance (3.1), reducing individual donor assessments (4.5), multi-year, collaborative and flexible planning and multi-year funding (7.1) and reduced earmarking (8.2), and harmonised narrative reporting (9.1).* |  |  |
| **3. Accountability and inclusion**  To achieve quality, responses must adapt to the capacities, priorities, and views of affected people, and support the agency and participation of people whose needs and vulnerability are heightened by gender inequality, disability, social exclusion and marginalisation,and humanitarians must be accountable to  affected people | *Core commitments on supporting local responders (2.4), increasing cash assistance (3.1), reducing individual donor assessments (4.5), joint needs assessments and analysis (5.1), engagement and accountability to affected populations (6.1) and humanitarian-development nexus (10.4).* |  |  |
| **4. Prioritisation and coordination**  Quality funding targets the most vulnerable with what they need most based on inclusive consultative processes and gender analysis with affected populations, and effective coordination that promotes increased representation and where possible leadership of local responders including Women Led Organisations | *Core commitments on joint needs assessments and analysis (5.1), engagement and accountability to affected populations (6.1) and humanitarian-development nexus (10.4).* |  |  |

**ANNEX I: STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR ONBOARDING NEW GRAND BARGAIN SIGNATORIES**

To guide the process for parties interested in becoming a Grand Bargain Signatory, the Grand Bargain Facilitation Group has outlined the following criteria:

* Grand Bargain Signatory applicants commit to endorsing the spirit and principles of the Grand Bargain in its entirety, and to maintaining a level of ambition and commitment to the process. They commit to working in a collaborative and collective manner with other Signatories to develop tools, standards and policies required to advance the Grand Bargain process.
* If applicable, Grand Bargain Signatory applicants can outline where they perceive they have a comparative advantage in supporting the work of a particular Grand Bargain activity, through their organisational and operational mandate, and area of dedicated focus.
* Although the Grand Bargain is a voluntary commitment and there is no mechanism to enforce implementation of commitments, Grand Bargain Signatory applicants should commit to allocating staff and resources to advancing the Grand Bargain commitments where it is possible.
* Grand Bargain Signatory applicants must commit to holding themselves accountable for delivering on the core commitments, and publicising this information through participating in the annual Grand Bargain self-reporting exercise. The self-reporting exercise provides an understanding of the extent of progress made in advancing the Grand Bargain process. Signatories commit to submitting their annual self-reports within the stipulated timeframe, and agree that in the spirit of transparency their self-reports will be a publicly available document. Failure to self-report may result in Signatory status being revoked.
* Signatory applications are to be sent to the Grand Bargain Secretariat for onward submission to the Grand Bargain Facilitation Group.

Applications are to be made on a common template that is accessible on the IASC-hosted Grand Bargain webpage: https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/grand-bargain-hosted-iasc

The Grand Bargain Facilitation Group will:

* Review each Signatory application on a case-by-case basis, in an impartial and fair manner, informed solely by considering the ability of the applicant’s organisational and agency mandate to advance and deliver the Grand Bargain commitments.
* The Facilitation Group agrees to conveying its decision regarding the Signatory application request through the Grand Bargain Secretariat, in a timely manner. The Grand Bargain Facilitation Group, through the Grand Bargain Secretariat, will provide a written explanation to the Signatory applicant in the event that the application should be revised or that the application request is not endorsed.

The Grand Bargain Secretariat will:

* Inform the Grand Bargain Signatory applicant of the Facilitation Group’s decision regarding their application.
* The Grand Bargain Secretariat will inform existing Grand Bargain Signatories when a new Signatory has been endorsed by the Facilitation Group.
* The Grand Bargain Secretariat will share relevant resources with the new Signatory, and provide any related briefings that may be requested by the new Signatory.
* The Grand Bargain Secretariat can support new Signatories with ‘horizon scanning’ for opportunities to integrate their activities with the work of different Grand Bargain workstreams.
* Although there is a responsibility on the part of Signatories to advocate for, and promote the work of the Grand Bargain in their own context-relevant way, the Grand Bargain Secretariat can support with the advocacy and visibility requirements of Grand Bargain Signatories.

**ANNEX II: CORE COMMITMENTS**

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| **WORKSTREAM 1: Greater transparency**  **1.1.** Signatories publish timely, transparent, harmonised, and open quality data on humanitarian funding within two years of the World Humanitarian Summit, with IATI serving as the basis for a common standard.  **CORE COMMITMENT: 1.2.** Signatories make use of appropriate data analysis, explaining the distinctiveness of activities, organisations, environments and circumstances. |
| **1.3.** Signatories improve the digital platform and engage with the open data community to help ensure: to help ensure: - accountability of donors and responders with open data for retrieval and analysis; - improvements in decision-making, based upon the best possible information; - a reduced workload over time as - a result of donors accepting common standard data for some reporting purposes; and - traceability of donors’ funding throughout the transaction chain as far as the final responders and, where feasible, affected people." |
| **1.4.** Signatories support the capacities of all partners to access and publish data. |

**WORKSTREAM 2: More support and funding tools for local and national responders**

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| **CORE COMMITMENT: 2.1.** Increase and support multi-year investments in the institutional capacities of local and national responders, including preparedness, response and coordination.  **2.2.** Understand better and work to remove or reduce the barriers that prevent organisations and donors from partnering with local and national responders in order to lessen their administrative burden. |
| **2.3.** Support and complement national coordination mechanisms where they exist and include national and local responders in international coordination mechanisms as appropriate and in-keeping with humanitarian principles.  **CORE COMMITMENT: 2.4.** Achieve by 2020, a global aggregated target of at least 25% of humanitarian funding to local and national responders as directly as possible to improve outcomes for affected people and reduce transaction costs. |
| **2.5.** Develop, with the IASC, and apply a localisation marker to measure direct and indirect funding to local and national responders. |
| **2.6.** Make greater use of funding tools that increase and improve assistance delivered by local and national responders, such as UN-led CBPFs, the IFRC Secretariat's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF), and NGO-led and other pooled funds.  **WORKSTREAM 3: Increase the use and coordination of cash-based programming**  **CORE COMMITMENT: 3.1+3.6.** Increase the routine use of cash, where appropriate, alongside other tools. Some may wish to set targets.  **3.2.** Invest in new delivery models that can be increased in scale, while identifying best practice and mitigating risks in each context. Employ markers to track their evolution.  **3.3.** Build an evidence base to assess the costs, benefits, impacts and risks of cash (including on protection) relative to in-kind assistance, service delivery interventions and vouchers, and combinations thereof.  **3.4.** Collaborate, share information, and develop standards and guidelines for cash programming in order to better understand its risks and benefits.  **3.5.** Ensure that coordination, delivery and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are put in place for cash transfers.  **WORKSTREAM 4: Reduce duplication and management costs with**  **periodic functional reviews** |
| **4.1.** Reduce the costs and measure the gained efficiencies of delivering assistance with technology (including green technology).  **4.2.** Harmonise partnership agreements and share partner assessment information as well as data about affected people, after data protection safeguards have been met by the end of 2017, in order to save time and avoid duplication in operations.  **4.3.** Provide transparent and comparable cost structures by the end of 2017.  **4.4.** Reduce duplication of management and other costs through maximising efficiencies in procurement and logistics for commonly required goods and services.  **CORE COMMITMENT: 4.5.** Make joint regular functional monitoring and performance reviews and reduce individual donor assessments, evaluations, verifications, risk management and oversight processes. |

**WORKSTREAM 5: Improve joint and impartial needs assessments**

**CORE COMMITMENT: 5.1.** Provide a single, comprehensive, cross-sectoral, methodologically sound, and impartial overall assessment of needs for each crisis to inform strategic decisions on how to respond and fund, thereby reducing the number of assessments and appeals produced by individual organisations.

**5.2.** Coordinate and streamline data collection to ensure compatibility, quality and comparability, and minimise intrusion into the lives of affected people. Conduct the overall assessment in a transparent, collaborative process led by the HC/RC with the full involvement of the HCT and the clusters/sectors and, in the case of a sudden-onset disasters, where possible by the government. Ensure sector-specific assessments for operational planning are undertaken under the umbrella of a coordinated plan of assessments at inter-cluster/sector level.

**5.3.a.** Signatories share needs assessment data in a timely manner, with appropriate mitigation of protection and privacy risks.

**5.3.b.** Signatories jointly decide on assumptions and analytical methods used for making projections and estimates.

**5.4.** Dedicate resources and involve independent specialists within the clusters to strengthen data collection and analysis in a fully transparent, collaborative process, which includes a brief summary of the methodological and analytical limitations of the assessment.

**5.5.** Prioritise humanitarian response across sectors based on evidence established by analysis. As part of the IASC Humanitarian Response Plan process on the ground, it is the responsibility of the Humanitarian Coordinator/Resident Coordinator to ensure the development of the prioritised, evidence-based response plans.

**5.6.** Commission independent reviews and evaluations of the quality of needs assessment findings and their use in prioritisation to strengthen the confidence of all stakeholders in needs assessment.

**5.7.** Conduct risk and vulnerability analysis with development partners and local authorities, in line with humanitarian principles, to ensure the alignment of humanitarian and development programming.

**WORKSTREAM 6: Participation Revolution: include people receiving aid in making the decisions which affect their lives**

**CORE COMMITMENT: 6.1.** Improve leadership and governance mechanisms at the level of the humanitarian country team and cluster/sector mechanisms to ensure engagement with and accountability to people and communities affected by crises.

**6.2.** Develop common standards and a coordinated approach to community engagement and participation, with the emphasis on inclusion of the most vulnerable, supported by a common platform for sharing and analysing data to strengthen decision-making, transparency and accountability and limit duplication.

**6.3.** Strengthen local dialogue and harness technologies to support more agile, transparent but appropriately secure feedback.

**6.4.** Build systematic links between feedback and corrective action to adjust programming.

**6.5.** Fund flexibly to facilitate programme adaptation in response to community feedback.

**6.6.** Invest time and resources to fund these activities.

**6.7.** Ensure that, by the end of 2017, all humanitarian response plans –and the strategic monitoring of those plans – demonstrate analysis and consideration of inputs from affected communities.

**WORKSTREAM 7&8: Increase collaborative humanitarian multi-year planning and funding & Reduce the earmarking of donor contribution**

**CORE COMMITMENT: 7.1.a.** Signatories increase multi-year, collaborative and flexible planning and multi-year funding. Aid organisations ensure that the same terms of multi-year funding agreements are applied with their implementing partners.

**7.1.b.** Signatories document the impacts of multi-year, collaborative and flexible planning and multi-year funding instruments on programme efficiency and effectiveness.

**7.2.** Support in at least five countries by the end of 2017 multi-year collaborative planning and response plans through multi-year funding and monitor and evaluate the outcomes of these responses.

**7.3.** Strengthen existing coordination efforts to share analysis of needs and risks between the humanitarian and development sectors and to better align humanitarian and development planning tools and interventions, while respecting the principles of both.

**8.1.** Jointly determine, on an annual basis, the most effective and efficient way of reporting on unearmarked and softly earmarked funding, and initiate this reporting by the end of 2017.

**CORE COMMITMENT: 8.2. and 8.5.** Donors progressively reduce earmarking, aiming to achieve a global target of 30% of humanitarian contributions that is unearmarked or softly earmarked by 2020. Aid organisations reduce earmarking when channelling donor funds with reduced earmarking to their partners.

**8.3.** Be transparent and regularly share information with donors outlining the criteria for how core and unearmarked funding is allocated (for example urgent needs, emergency preparedness, forgotten contexts, improved management).

**8.4.** Increase the visibility of un-earmarked and softly earmarked funding, thereby recognising the contribution made by donors.

**WORKSTREAM 9: Harmonize and simplify reporting requirements**

**CORE COMMITMENT: 9.1.** Simplify and harmonise reporting requirements by the end of 2018 by reducing the volume of reporting, jointly deciding on common terminology, identifying core requirements and developing a common report structure.

**9.2.** Invest in technology and reporting systems to enable better access to information.

**9.3.** Enhance the quality of reporting to better capture results, enable learning and increase the efficiency of reporting.

**Humanitarian-development nexus**

**10.1.** Use existing resources and capabilities better to shrink humanitarian needs over the long term, with a view to contributing to the outcomes of the Sustainable Development Goals. Significantly increase prevention, mitigation and preparedness for early action to anticipate and secure resources for recovery.

**10.2.** Invest in durable solutions for refugees and internally displaced people and sustainable support to migrants, returnees and host/receiving communities, as well as for other situations of recurring vulnerabilities.

**10.3.** Increase social protection programmes and strengthen national and local systems and coping mechanisms in order to build resilience in fragile contexts.

**CORE COMMITMENT: 10.4.** Perform joint multi-hazard risk and vulnerability analysis, and multi-year planning where feasible and relevant, with national, regional and local coordination in order to achieve a shared vision for outcomes. Such a shared vision for outcomes will be developed on the basis of shared risk analysis between humanitarian, development, stabilisation and peacebuilding communities.

**10.5.** Galvanise new partnerships that bring additional capabilities and resources to bear in crisis-affected states through multilateral development banks and foster innovative partnerships with the private sector.