



CARE International Statement

CARE believes strongly **in the value of the Grand Bargain**. It remains a unique space for transforming the humanitarian eco-system to be better fit for purpose and more **locally-led and globally connected**.

We knew in 2016 that **change would take time and is complex**. Given this and the scale of our ambition, it is critical to **embrace this complexity and take a long-term view**. CARE recommends using the next six months for signatories to commit to a significantly longer timeline, **aligned with the 2030 agenda**, with specific and ambitious milestones that will link our reform goals to a process that advances **the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in fragile settings**.

This does not mean slowing down progress or being complacent. On the contrary, **we must accelerate change** and remain focussed on the most transformational priorities, **critical mass of quality funding**, especially to local actors, including to women-led and crises-affected people-led organisations, and **leadership of diverse local actors and participation of affected communities**.

But, with record high levels of people in need, **we must reprioritize the humanitarian financing agenda**. We must hold ourselves accountable to *our shared responsibility to shrink the need and to deepen and broaden the resource base* for humanitarian action. **We must recommit to greater aid effectiveness and efficiency**.

To do so, we must reflect on what works and what does not and **hold ourselves accountable to practicing participation, consultation and accountability internally**. There are important lessons to be learnt from the last twelve months to avoid further **fragmentation and duplication** of agendas across multiple spaces within the Grand Bargain and to **enhance internal accountability**. There are opportunities to strengthen the coordination with the Inter Agency Standing Committee Structures, especially OPAG and the new IASC Task Forces.

We are committed to continue our contribution to Grand Bargain processes while pursuing our transformation journey to be a more impactful organisation and a trusted partner. We are encouraged by the collective results in various commitments but, as co-chair of the Friends of Gender Group (FoGG), **we remain concerned about the limited collective progress against our Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women and Girls' (GEEWG) commitments**.

As an organisation, we are on track with the volume of humanitarian funding we provide to local partners, **reaching nearly 30% in 2021**. We commit ourselves to increase both the volume and the quality of our funding to local partners in general and particularly to women's organisations working alongside crisis affected communities. For the first time following the changes made in our systems, **we are able to report on our funding to women's organisations**. While where we stand (1.3% only) is not where we want to be (an initial target of 4% by the end of 2023 was set, aligned with the WHS 2016 recommendation), **capacity to report is critical to enhance accountability around our commitment to GEEWG and affected people in general**. We fully support the asks laid out in the FoGG's [statement](#), especially the call to signatories to set and announce agency specific targets for funding to WROs/WLOs and to report against this target annually through the self-reporting exercise.

Sufficient and quality funding to local actors, including to smaller women led organisations, is paramount to deliver on our participation revolution promise.