Grand Bargain in 2018:

Annual Self Report – Narrative Summary

Name of Institution: Catholic Relief Services (CRS) _ USCCB

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(NB. Please limit your answer to no more than 3 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 2018?

Cash: CRS has begun building an evidence base on using cash for shelter, or other market-based shelter outcomes, through direct support to the shelter cluster: https://reliefweb.int/report/bangladesh/final-emergency-market-mapping-analysis-emma-report-strategic-recommendations https://reliefweb.int/report/bangladesh/delivery-mechanism-mapping-cash-based-interventions-cbi-cox-s-bazar-bangladesh

Localization: CRS continued to demonstrate our commitment to localization through our efforts focused on promoting local humanitarian leadership through multi-year partnerships with co-created, demand driven accompaniment and capacity strengthening. Building off CRS' three-year, four country PEER Project, CRS initiated the EMPOWER project which includes seven local responders within the Venezuela regional crisis. With CRS' support, these partners have been able to strengthen their internal systems to meet public donor eligibility requirements. In addition to successfully obtaining funding from various foundations and IOs. As of the end of CY2018, four of CRS' local partners had submitted applications directly to major bilateral donors; one organization had two grants approved (total value $4.4M), while three other organizations were waiting response (total $3M). It is anticipated that additional proposals will be submitted to bilateral donors in 2019.

Question 2: Please explain how the outcomes/results will lead to long-term institutional changes in policy and/or practice.

Localization: The EMPOWER project provides another opportunity for CRS to play a facilitating/accompaniment role for local partners who are accessing public funds from multiple donors directly over a multi-year period. CRS' expansion of this type of model is currently sustainable only in situations in which CRS has private funds to invest and complement funds that may come through a subgrant role for technical support. Moving forward, and as we reinforce our efforts to measure the value of this type of model on program outcomes, we hope that there will be an investment in new funding models that incentivize INGOs to play an accompaniment role at the request of multiple local/national partners. So that demand driven, capacity strengthening focused partnerships can exist between INGOs/local/national actors over a multi-year period with support from donors and beyond a single grant period.

CASH: CRS would like to highlight our overall commitment to greater collaboration as a means of contributing to the appropriate use of cash at scale. The CCD (Collaborative Cash Delivery) Network, for which CRS serves as a co-champion, is experimenting with existing models and engaging in new ways of collaboration to deliver assistance in a fundamentally new way. Projects are underway at the global and local levels to combine efforts, share resources and

complement each other's capacity and invest in collective preparedness. The CCD Network is developing a way to bring members together in a structured, adaptable way with the aim to maximize their effectiveness, operational efficiency and comparative advantages to reach greater scale and amplify impact.

Question 3: How has your institution contributed to the advancement of gender equality and women's empowerment [1] **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 addition to the outcomes reported in the excel document, CRS' Central Africa region produced a newsletter of case studies on gender integration in emergency response in 2018.   Other examples that we were not able to highlight in the excel report include:

a. As part of the Emergency WASH and Livelihoods Support (EWLS) to Vulnerable South Sudanese Refugees and Ugandan Host Communities grant, funded by PRM, CRS **Uganda** developed a custom indicator to measure females' [2] access to productive economic resources to improve their decision power in household and community**.** The project exceeded the 61% target, with 66% of females participating in various project interventions such as DiNER Fairs (64%), lead farmers (17.19%), SILC activities (74.7%) and vocational skills development (55%). Women also served in various leadership capacities such as chairperson, treasurer and secretary.

b. Uganda's Emergency Response Plan identifies classroom shortages as a key limitation in providing primary education and calls for additional classrooms to decrease the pupil to classroom ratio to the national standard of 53:1. CRS-built classrooms are helping address the shortage of suitable permanent or semi-permanent education structures and contribute to lowering the current classroom-to-pupil ratio. WASH facilities built by CRS are gender segregated. The girls' latrine block includes a 'shower' cubical to allow menstruating girls to change and wash themselves in a hygienic environment and safely manage disposal of sanitary pads. The boy's latrine block includes a urinal in place of the shower to reduce the usage pressure on the latrine cubicles

c. In **Gaza,** under CRS' Gaza 2020 project, the following gender and youth achievements took place: 836 women placed in Cash-for-Work and CFI/A, 742 youth placed in CFI/A placements, of which 497 are female, of 168 entrepreneurship grants disbursed to-date, 86 are female recipients and 95 are youth recipients (18 of the youth are female), and 68 women "age>29" (out of 73 "men and women, aged>29"), or 86 (female in general), received entrepreneurship training, with a focus on business plan development and market assessment

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[1] Refer to the IASC definitions of gender equality and women empowerment, available here.
[2] Women, young women and adolescent girls.

d. In **Bangladesh** the CRS MUKE II project focuses on communities that face frequent natural disasters yet receive little to no support to reduce their disaster risks. The project is targeting 3,000 people, 64% of whom should be women. After early monitoring revealed that in this conservative area of Bangladesh CRS and Caritas Bangladesh were not reaching sufficient numbers of women, the teams changed their approach, including adjusting the timing for meetings, door-to-door visits to ensure transparency and gain women's and men's trust in the project, recruitment of local project staff and religious leaders who have been instrumental in increasing women's participation, inclusion of activities of particular interest to women such as household gardens, and paying elderly community members to provide child care while the women work.

e. In **Indonesia,** CRS' DRR projects attracted an increased number of women as the project matured and women were able to see the results (kitchen gardens, farmer field school learning, understanding marketing). Since this was the first time that women were involved in activities of this kind, it took time, and evidence, to get their buy-in, partly because women's limited spare time mean that they are willing to engage only in the most promising activities.

Question 4: 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.
CRS is a multi-mandated agency with programming that spans across both the humanitarian and development programmatic space. Many of the examples of progress in each of the workstreams, especially as it relates to systems and tools, are designed to promote greater efficiency and effectiveness within both our humanitarian and development programming.