

**Grand Bargain in 2018:  
Annual Self Report – Narrative Summary**

**Name of Institution: New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade**

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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?**

### **Result 1: Joint MFAT-DFAT Humanitarian Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the Pacific**

New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) and Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) collaborate closely on humanitarian issues and have jointly developed a monitoring and evaluation framework to strengthen the effectiveness of our humanitarian responses to rapid-onset disasters in the Pacific.

The purpose of the framework is to:

- a) Support decision-making during humanitarian responses;
- b) Improve the evidence base on the impact of humanitarian response efforts;
- c) Support better communication of the difference made for affected communities and governments; and
- d) Improve the effectiveness of future responses through the identification of lessons.

The framework is built around six key strategic results areas: appropriateness and relevance; timeliness and effectiveness; efficiency and management; engagement with, and accountability to, affected populations; reinforcing national and local leadership and capacity; and coordination and complementarity. These areas are drawn from and incorporate OECD-DAC evaluation criteria, Grand Bargain and World Humanitarian Summit commitments, and they reflect the Sphere Humanitarian Charter, protection principles and the Core Humanitarian Standard on Quality and Accountability (CHS).

The joint MFAT-DFAT monitoring and evaluation framework firmly embeds quality and accountability to affected populations into planning, decision-making, implementation and evaluation. It maximises synergies between MFAT and DFAT's data collection processes to strengthen shared understanding of needs, priorities and complementary decision-making. The framework also more clearly sets out joint expectations for reporting. In this way, it contributes to Grand Bargain work streams on greater transparency, reduction in duplication, and harmonised reporting.

### **Result 2: Localised humanitarian action: Supporting the Government of Vanuatu respond to the Ambae volcano eruption (2017 and 2018).**

New Zealand is a strong supporter of nationally and locally-led disaster preparedness and response in the Pacific region.

Key features of New Zealand's support to the Government of Vanuatu's response to the Ambae Island volcanic eruptions in 2017 and 2018 included:

- Responding to specific, targeted requests for assistance by the Government of Vanuatu;
- 61% of New Zealand's financial support went direct to national and local actors. (This included payments to local government, not-for-profit and private sector service providers; purchase of requested relief items transferred to the Government of Vanuatu; and provision of technical assistance. It does not include the cost of logistical support provided by the New Zealand Defence Force).
- The remaining 39% of New Zealand's financial support was transferred 'as directly as possible', via one intermediary (New Zealand NGOs with existing local partnerships on the ground).
- We coordinated closely with Australia and France, to ensure complementarity among international donors.

### **Result 3: Investing in UN Country-Based Pooled Funds**

New Zealand is a long-standing contributor to the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), demonstrating our commitment to un-earmarked, pooled funding mechanisms. Following signing on to the Grand Bargain in 2017, we examined opportunities to increase our support for pooled funding mechanisms. In 2018, we made our first contribution to a UN Country-Based Pooled Fund, making a NZ\$1 million contribution to the Myanmar Humanitarian Fund.

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

New Zealand's humanitarian policy settings embed commitments to strengthening the effectiveness and efficiency of international humanitarian action. There is long-term bipartisan political support for providing un-earmarked core contributions to multilateral agencies. Commitments under the Grand Bargain have led to small changes in policy and practice. For example, New Zealand has articulated decision-making criteria for making humanitarian allocations outside our geographical priority areas of the Pacific and South-East Asia, as a contribution to greater transparency. Where relevant, we also now routinely consider Country-Based Pooled Funds as an option for funding when recommending new humanitarian contributions.

The joint MFAT-DFAT Humanitarian Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the Pacific ensure a number of Grand Bargain commitments are embedded in humanitarian Monitoring and Evaluation enquiry and real-time evaluation.

#### **Question 3: 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**

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

**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 stepping up our support for disaster preparedness activities in the Pacific region, we have included support for greater access to sexual and reproductive health and rights. However, this was influenced by wider New Zealand Government policy settings rather than Grand Bargain commitments.

**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.

New Zealand's Pacific development cooperation reflects nexus policy thinking by prioritising climate change adaptation and mitigation and disaster risk reduction measures. We leverage bilateral development programmes to respond to emerging humanitarian needs in slow-onset emergencies such as drought.

We have strengthened joint analysis across our investments in humanitarian action, development cooperation, and peacebuilding in some contexts where we have concurrent engagement in humanitarian, development and peacebuilding initiatives.

While we see the potential for direct benefits in slow onset emergencies, such as drought, and the effects of climate change in slow-onset emergencies, we are mindful that development cooperation brings with it a natural bias towards state-centric activities, and this may not always be appropriate in situations of armed conflict or where a state is unwilling or unable to protect and fulfil the basic human rights of its citizens.

New Zealand will continue to periodically allocate humanitarian funding to large-scale global emergencies in response to spikes in need and new rapid-onset events. Nexus policy is unlikely to influence this, as we are not in a position to introduce development finance or make multi-year contributions in contexts where we do not have a diplomatic presence or existing development cooperation.