

Grand Bargain in 2018:

Annual Self Report – Narrative Summary

Name of Institution: Department for International Development

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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?

The UK's Humanitarian Reform Policy sets out our firm commitment to supporting a more efficient and effective humanitarian system, and as part of this, we remain fully committed to delivering on our Grand Bargain commitments. The Grand Bargain addresses a lot of what needs to change within the system. DFID has particularly focused its efforts on the Grand Bargain commitments, which we believe are the most critical enablers of transformative change and where the UK can add most value. These are Joint Needs Assessment (JNA), Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) and Cash. We also support work on the humanitarian-development-peacebuilding nexus in line with the Grand Bargain and the New Ways of Working initiative.

DFID is actively engaged in the **Joint Needs Assessment** workstream, and was part of the Advisory Board for the development of "Quality criteria for joint needs assessments". DFID is also part of a joint **humanitarian-development-peacebuilding** analysis group made up of the World Bank, ECHO, UNDP and OCHA. As part of this, DFID contributed to a Non-paper on humanitarian and development collaboration on joint analysis, which was developed by UNDP.

DFID has incorporated a Payment By Results (PBR) framework in its humanitarian core funding to UN agencies (OCHA, CERF, WHO, UNICEF, WFP, UNHCR and IOM). This is designed to encourage collective action on Grand Bargain commitments.

Against the PBR indicator on JNAs, a DFID Annual Review showed that UN Agencies reported that 12 out of 19 (63%) Humanitarian Response Plans (HRPs) for 2018 refer to response prioritisation. DFID Country Offices report that HRPs were informed by a prioritisation based on a joint analysis of needs in the Humanitarian Needs Overviews (HNOs). In Somalia, the process was particularly inclusive, with consultation from donors. In DRC, the 2018 HRP has begun to map severity of needs geographically and analyses multi-sectoral needs. In Afghanistan, limited data and significant gaps in needs prompted a Whole of Afghanistan (WoA) needs assessment in 2018 to better determine the nature and intensity of the humanitarian needs that conflict affected populations are experiencing at the district level. This initiative will help further strengthen the HNO and HRP process in 2019.

Another PBR indicator is related specifically to **Accountability to Affected Populations**. Here, DFID's Annual Review found that *"Agencies reported the PBR indicator compelled them to move beyond rhetoric to planning collective action on joint accountability mechanisms"*. Furthermore, the review concluded that beneficiary feedback mechanisms featured highly in humanitarian response planning and while this is to be welcomed, measures should seek to go further. Overall, Yemen, Somalia, Afghanistan, Iraq and DRC were found to fulfil the PBR criteria in their responses. Syria and Yemen responses have frameworks in place for common, system-wide community engagement; fulfilling the milestone criteria for Level 3s in 2017.

DFID remains committed to expanding the use of humanitarian **cash** transfer programming as set out in the UK's Humanitarian Reform Policy. In 2018, the use of humanitarian cash expanded by 40% in Somalia, for example.

DFID is active in the Donor Collaboration Group, where we supported the drafting of the Common Donor Approach to Humanitarian Cash. This now has 10 signatories from major donors of cash and will support greater coherence and leadership in the evolution of cash, ensuring that implementing partners can scale up cash efficiently.

PBR indicators encouraging expanded **cash** delivery capacity were also included in DFID's UN and Red Cross core humanitarian funding, as well as indicators on expanding the volume of

cash. These indicators represent a specific commitment for humanitarian partners to expand and improve their use of unrestricted cash.

In 2018, DFID funded research focused on improving the effectiveness of cash using case studies in Kenya and Iraq. The research considered the aspects of cash transfer delivery that provide the most satisfactory user experience. The outcome of the research was widely disseminated and is being used to further develop recipient participation in programme design. DFID has also commissioned additional research into this area which will be published in 2019, aimed at improving the ability to measure effectiveness in cash delivery throughout the sector.

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

As a key member of the **JNA** workstream, DFID provided technical input to the development of an inter-sectoral and severity of needs analysis framework designed to strengthen the quality of data and joint needs analysis underpinning HNOs. This will also inform a prioritization of HRPs according to severity of need and urgency of activity. DFID will continue to support and advocate for these efforts and the initiatives of the workstream. Over time, we hope that these interventions will strengthen the quality of the Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC) in the following ways:

- Partners share data openly and strengthen their capacity to undertake data analysis. An increase in the use of coordinated multi-sector needs assessments, and comparability of inter-sectoral severity measures across crises, to inform HNOs.
- HRPs are routinely based on single, impartial and joint analysis of need, independently validated.
- HRPs are prioritized according to severity of need and urgency of activity and all stakeholders stand behind one prioritized HRP.
- Better monitoring and evaluation to make sure we are helping the most in need.
- Donors coordinate more effectively in their support to the HPC.

DFID is also supporting specialist independent agencies to promote best practice on use of data and joint needs analysis as well as improvements in this field. For example, in 2018 DFID agreed to provide coordinated support to the Humanitarian 2 Humanitarian Network. H2H organisations provide specialised products and services to other humanitarian actors performing a wide range of activities in support of Grand Bargain objectives and depending on context and need, including: response specific-early warning and risk information, geographic information system services, support to needs analysis and standards-setting, and strengthening of accountability to affected populations.

DFID has developed an internal guidance note setting out our approach to **AAP** and recommendations for DFID Country Offices, which will inform long-term institutional changes in policy and practice in DFID and more widely. In December 2018, DFID presented this approach and strategy to the Inter Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Accountability to Affected Populations/Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Task Team.

DFID's research on **cash** will support strengthened analysis of value for money in decision making on cash transfers. The specific focus on better understanding cash from a user perspective will help to put recipients at the centre of decision making. It will also allow DFID and others to explore cost saving and greater efficiency without compromising quality.

The Common Donor Approach, supported by DFID, will drive improved coherence in donor efforts to improve cash at a country level. The Approach is reflective of the UK principles of

cash and as such is reflected in existing policy but its development will greatly improve the ability of country offices to influence change.

Question 3: How has your institution contributed to the advancement of gender equality and women's empowerment¹ 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).

DFID considers promoting gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment to be integral to ensuring the humanitarian system is as effective, efficient and accountable as possible. DFID's approach to integrating gender equality within humanitarian response is captured in our Strategic Vision for Gender Equality and Humanitarian Reform Policy. It aligns with and supports delivery of our Grand Bargain commitments, through practical measures such as:

Work with partners to ensure that there is greater accountability for commitments on gender equality and women's empowerment.

- As co-Chair of the States and Donors Working Group for the Call to Action to Protect Women and Girls in Emergencies and a member of the global steering committee for the Real Time Accountability Partnership for action on protection from GBV in emergencies, DFID is working with partners to drive forward system wide accountability for Gender Based Violence (GBV) protection and response.
- DFID chairs the Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) in Crises Donor Group and is working with the Partnership for Maternal and Newborn Health to conduct a global consultation on improved coordination for the full continuum of women, children and adolescents' health in humanitarian crises. We are also funding WHO to develop a global monitoring framework for SRHR in crises to improve the quality of data and drive global accountability.

Scaled up support for women and girls in crises, including through expanded programmes to address VAWG and sexual and reproductive health and rights in protracted contexts.

- We ensure that UK-funded organisations place gender equality at the centre of their work through compliance with the UK's International Development (Gender Equality) Act 2014 and requirement to use gender guidance in humanitarian funding guidelines.
- Continued and expanded programming to support GBV and SRHR programming for women and girls affected by crises, including via support to UNFPA in the Rohingya refugee response and the Syria humanitarian crisis. This includes new development programmes that incorporate fragile contexts and crisis-affected populations, e.g. the Women's Integrated Sexual Health Programme.

Contribute to evidence-based programming on what works to address VAWG in humanitarian settings and deliver life-saving SRHR.

- DFID funded research is demonstrating that violence is preventable across a range of fragile contexts. Findings will be shared at high profile events and exchanges across 2019 to drive action on GBV.

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

- DFID is testing innovative approaches for improving SRH service delivery in crisis contexts via the Amplify innovation programme and UK Aid Connect, and working with the Guttmacher Institute on research into safe abortion care in crisis affected populations.

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.

DFID efforts to mainstream the humanitarian-development-peace nexus have focused primarily on support to local capacity and responders; Joint and Impartial Needs Assessments; Multi-year planning; and the participation revolution.

As co-chair to the OECD's International Network on Conflict and Fragility, the UK worked in 2018 with INCAF and Germany to develop the **DAC Recommendation on the Humanitarian-Development-Peace nexus**, adopted by the DAC on 22 February 2019. The DAC Recommendation provides a roadmap on how donors and others can help strengthen coherence and complementarities between humanitarian, development and peace approaches to tackle drivers of crises and reduced needs over time.

Support to local capacity and responders

The UK focused on investing through development channels where we could, and humanitarian ones where needs would not otherwise be met, to address needs, and build resilience and stability in crisis countries. The following are selected examples of our work.

In 2018, DFID used a blend of development, humanitarian and peace investments in 19 countries affected by protracted crises. In 17 of those, DFID relied on development interventions in two sectors at least alongside humanitarian interventions to support long-term interventions in health, education, water infrastructure, governance, economic development and peacebuilding in crisis.

In Burma and Nigeria, the UK is shifting approach to tackle the drivers and consequences of crises through humanitarian, development and peace programming including putting those affected at the centre of our work. The UK is investing for instance in education, health, economic development, governance, peacebuilding and resilience alongside humanitarian approaches, to address short-term needs and help build resilience and peace over time.

The UK invested in development support to strengthen systems and local capacity to manage crises and crisis risks. For instance:

- The UK provides technical assistance to partner **health** institutions to strengthen e.g. emergency preparedness and surveillance;
- The UK is helping build resilient social protection to protect the poor from shocks and we build the evidence on shock-responsive social protection.²
- The UK supports Education Cannot Wait to enable the transition to long-term education interventions and systems strengthening.

The UK played an active role in the formal consultation process and supported the passage of the Global Compact on Refugees, adopted December 2018.

Joint and Impartial Needs Assessments

In 2018-19, DFID refreshed its tools to guide UK country diagnostics. Working across sector teams, we produced a new template to enable joint analysis of the current state of

² 'Shock-Responsive Social Protection Systems research: Synthesis report'

development, barriers to progress and tractable opportunities to create change. This tool was rolled out across most countries and regions and will guide internal UK planning processes.

Increase collaborative multi-year planning

DFID is investing to strengthen linkages between the peace, development and humanitarian architecture, analyses and planning. Through our support to the Peacebuilding Fund (doubled from £8m to £16m per year), we are enabling better conflict prevention and resolution, which in turn helps to reduce the likelihood of humanitarian need.

DFID support to UNDP and the Department for Political Affairs is helping deploy Peace and Development Advisers to Resident Coordinator offices, to strengthen the UN Country Teams' capacity to undertake conflict-sensitive programming and tackle drivers of instability.