

Grand Bargain annual self-reporting exercise:

UNFPA

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Work stream 1 - Transparency

1. Baseline (only in year 1)

Where did your organisation stand on the work stream and its commitments when the Grand Bargain was signed?

Since 2012, UNFPA endorsed the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI): a voluntary, multi-stakeholder initiative that seeks to improve the transparency of aid, development, and humanitarian resources.

UNFPA fully supports greater transparency on humanitarian funding and is committed to fulfilling humanitarian funding reporting requirements using the IATI shared open-data standard as well as common data visualization platforms.

UNFPA commits to transparency through the regular sharing of information with partners, outlining criteria for how core and unearmarked funding is allocated (for example: urgent needs, emergency preparedness, forgotten contexts, improved management) and setting the stage for more participatory delivery while supporting and complementing national coordination mechanisms.

2. Progress to date

Which concrete actions have you taken (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream?

In line with its commitment, UNFPA has further refined its reporting through the UNFPA Transparency Portal, <http://www.unfpa.org/transparency-portal>. The transparency portal shows how funds are spent and whether the source of funds is from UNFPA core resources or from earmarked resources.

3. Planned next steps

What are the specific next steps which you plan to undertake to implement the commitments (with a focus on the next 2 years)?

This portal is just the first part of a bigger effort to integrate financial data as well as statistical data into a storytelling platform that shows the impact of UNFPA programmes on the lives of women and young people.

UNFPA will work with OCHA/FTS to pilot an initial version of the Grand Bargain IATI implementation – specifically on financial tracking component.

Work stream 2 - Localization

1. Baseline (only in year 1)

Where did your organisation stand on the work stream and its commitments when the Grand Bargain was signed?

Based on Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) data on UN agencies sub-grants to implementing partners in 2014, UNFPA has exceeded the 25 % target to local and national responders taking into consideration in-kind transfer to local and national responders.

UNFPA has also focused in enlarging its partnership with local organisations as well as making sure that local organisations are present and active within the coordination structures.

2. Progress to date

Which concrete actions have you taken (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream?

UNFPA is committed to delivering on the aggregate target of 25 per cent of humanitarian funding to national and local responders as directly as possible and is already working towards tracking financial flows provided to local and national responders.

National responders include local women's organizations, service delivery points focused on supporting women and girls with comprehensive care for SRH and GBV, and gender equality advocacy groups to advance a policy agenda. UNFPA's leadership on implementation of the IASC GBV Guidelines includes working with humanitarian clusters and sectors to promote their engagement with women and girls across the humanitarian programme cycle.

UNFPA's Minimum Standards for Prevention and Response to Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies emphasize the primacy of local participation at all stages of the programme cycle. Indeed, the first Standard of the 18 that are included in that guidance is on participation. Standard 2 on "National Systems" also speaks directly to localization in that it supports actions to promote ownership and to ensure interventions to respond to GBV are responsive to the local context while building resilience. UNFPA has also made progress in increasing the numbers of local organizations or local government in the GBV coordination. Overall, 54% countries have now coordination structure at sub-national level managed usually by local partners.

3. Planned next steps

What are the specific next steps which you plan to undertake to implement the commitments (with a focus on the next 2 years)?

UNFPA is twofold: 1) Institutionalize the financial tracking system and monitor fund flow to local and national responders 2) strengthen the capacity of national and local responders. In strengthening the capacity of national and local responders UNFPA will further reduce pressure on its surge mechanism by having a roster of qualified personnel available to respond to needs in country.

Through the GBV Area of Responsibility's "REGA" mechanism (Regional Emergency GBV Advisors),

UNFPA is stepping up investments in preparedness with a focus on local actors. UNFPA is also investing in a multi-year and multi-phased capacity development initiative focused on emerging GBV specialists for which we have set a target of at least 20% local actors.

UNFPA will continue to support country offices and partners to implement the GBViE Minimum Standards and will work through the GBV AoR to set a way forward for using these Standards as a base for development of new, inter-agency global standards. It is notable that in the first year of implementation of the Minimum Standards, 75% of UNFPA staff shared the Standards with actors external to UNFPA, including: within GBV Sub-Clusters, Protection Clusters, Health Clusters, Child Protection Sub-Clusters; with local implementing partners; and with local Government counterparts. This indicates a demand for the Minimum Standards among a wide range of GBV and protection actors especially those working at the local level. UNFPA will continue to roll out the Minimum Standards with local partners.

4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)

Please indicate, qualitatively, efficiency gains associated with implementation of GB commitments and how they have benefitted your organisation and beneficiaries.

5. Good practices and lessons learned (optional for year 1)

Which concrete action(s) have had the most success (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream? And why?

UNFPA efforts in this respect have been well recognized, with the NGO Local to Global Protection (L2GP) report¹ in Syria highlighting UNFPA as an example of 'good practice' in reference to its effective and efficient collaboration with local actors with regards to negotiating overheads and contractual arrangement: "UNFPA is faster, flexible, and very active."

¹ Funding to national and local humanitarian actors in Syria: Between sub-contracting and partnerships, L2GP May 2016

Work stream 3 - Cash

1. Baseline (only in year 1)

Where did your organisation stand on the work stream and its commitments when the Grand Bargain was signed?

UNFPA globally has implementing Reproductive Health (RH) voucher notably in Syria for the last four years. The program was developed in response to increasing need for life-saving emergency obstetric care as a result of the crisis. UNFPA local partners operating RH services in affected areas distribute RH vouchers to vulnerable women based on criteria, which entitles them to seek free RH services from a range of public and private sector hospitals.

2. Progress to date

Which concrete actions have you taken (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream?

UNFPA is prioritizing cash-based programming in its humanitarian action. Increasing the use of cash and vouchers can have a transformational impact on strengthening the economic and social recovery of local communities and markets. In addition to this, UNFPA is establishing coordination, delivery and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for cash-based programming.

The GBV AOR is working with a cash specialist from the Global Protection Cluster to ensure a Do No Harm approach in utilizing cash or vouchers for interventions related to Gender Based Violence. The GBV AOR is conducting a desk review to share best practices and lessons learned in addition to developing a Cash Tip Sheet that can be shared with UNFPA and other GBV actors. Until now, there are very few experiences of using cash for GBV programming.

3. Planned next steps

What are the specific next steps which you plan to undertake to implement the commitments (with a focus on the next 2 years)?

In addition to the above on-going initiatives, UNFPA plans to increase the use of cash and vouchers with regards to hygiene kits delivered to women and girls at the onset of a crisis.

4. Efficiency gains (optional for year 1)

Please indicate, qualitatively, efficiency gains associated with implementation of GB commitments and how they have benefitted your organisation and beneficiaries.

5. Good practices and lessons learned (optional for year 1)

Which concrete action(s) have had the most success (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream? And why?

Work stream 4 – Management costs

1. Baseline (only in year 1)

Where did your organisation stand on the work stream and its commitments when the Grand Bargain was signed?

Since 2014, UNFPA has been delivering quality-assured generic medicines, typically sourced at a lower unit price when compared with the originator products, thus increasing the quantity of products made available for the same amount of money, to ministries of health, NGOs and UNFPA country offices in 39 countries.

UNFPA has taken a lead role to advance UN procurement collaboration (details on savings can be found in the joint procurement report that was presented to the UNFPA-UNDP-UNOPS Executive Board in September 2015)

2. Progress to date

Which concrete actions have you taken (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream?

As the largest provider globally of cost effective contraceptives UNFPA is a market shaper (as UNICEF is for vaccines) and has brought down the cost of these commodities through economies of scale.

UNFPA is able to demonstrate procurement efficiency and savings and has developed a number of indicators to measure this output such as benchmarking UNFPA Unit costs of key commodities with the average price of international Procurers, measuring savings through increased procurement of generic products versus innovator products, or increasing collaborative procurement with UN sister agencies. Together with key partners and donors UNFPA has also been able to shape significantly markets for implants which has resulted in a price reduction greater than 60%.

3. Planned next steps

What are the specific next steps which you plan to undertake to implement the commitments (with a focus on the next 2 years)?

Moving forward, UNFPA plans to establish an LTA agreement for dignity kits and scale up investments in regional prepositioning to reduce cost of transport.

Work stream 5 – Needs Assessment

1. Baseline (only in year 1)

Where did your organisation stand on the work stream and its commitments when the Grand Bargain was signed?

UNFPA supports continued leadership of OCHA in leading efforts on the grounds to lead the assessments and will continue to support this with support/provision of technical expertise specifically when it relates to protection of women and girls and sexual and reproductive health.

Beyond active participation within multisectoral assessments carried out by OCHA or other interagency initiatives, UNFPA is determined to scale up GBV specific assessment that could then both inform the broader and more comprehensive GBV coordination as well as UNFPA GBV programme in emergencies.

2. Progress to date

Which concrete actions have you taken (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream?

UNFPA is scaling up technical support to joint rapid assessment. In particular, the initial rapid assessment conducted in Greece in relation to the migrants and refugee crisis was a coordinated joint humanitarian needs assessments focusing on protection, conducted by UNFPA together with UNHCR and WRC, used for strategic decision-making, including by UNFPA in planning and implementing its response in Greece.

UNFPA has also conducted three comprehensive GBV assessments in Iraq, Whole of Syria, and Myanmar, and rapid assessments in Haiti after the Hurricane Matthew as well as participated actively in including needs assessment in the Needs Humanitarian overview in over 20 countries collating data and information from all sub-cluster members. Finally, UNFPA has coordinated a multi-agency global and field baseline assessment in Myanmar, Iraq, South Sudan, Gazientep crossborder, and Nigeria to assess systemic global performances of global actors in addressing GBV within the Real Time Accountability Partnership.

3. Planned next steps

What are the specific next steps which you plan to undertake to implement the commitments (with a focus on the next 2 years)?

For 2017 UNFPA will pilot for the first time the active participation into the multi sectoral assessment planned in Libya as well as boosting a harmonized toolkit for assessments. UNFPA is also piloting partnership with external actors specialized in research as well as information management to include multi sectoral and GBV specific assessment in our country strategies. Finally, UNFPA will also include GBV data set into the IOM Displacement Tracking Matrix field level regular sites assessment.

- Work stream 6 – Participation Revolution

1. Baseline (only in year 1)

Where did your organisation stand on the work stream and its commitments when the Grand

Bargain was signed?

UNFPA is committed to the empowerment of communities affected by crises through improved communications accountability, thereby shaping a stronger response. By promoting stronger engagement with communities, UNFPA is actively mitigating risk and saving lives.

2. Progress to date

Which concrete actions have you taken (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream?

UNFPA has endorsed the 5 IASC Commitments on Accountability to Affected Populations (CAAP). In addition, UNFPA has integrated accountability to affected populations within its Emergency Response Standard Operating Procedures. Pending availability of funds, UNFPA will undertake an organizational assessment of its compliance with CAAP.

3. Planned next steps

What are the specific next steps which you plan to undertake to implement the commitments (with a focus on the next 2 years)?

At the request of the IASC Emergency Directors Group (EDG) Secretariat and the Senior Transformative Agenda Implementation Team (STAIT), UNFPA drafted a series of briefing notes on GBV prevention and response, informed by country level colleagues and partners, to aid in preparations for missions to Mali (STAIT), Nigeria, Somalia and South Sudan (EDG). The objective of the notes is to ensure that field perspectives on challenges and opportunities feed into the discussions with leadership during the missions and inform the mission's recommendations. These briefing notes serve as an entry point for high level advocacy for greater participation of women and women's groups in field leadership, and UNFPA will continue to use this avenue of support to humanitarian leadership both to highlight good practices in leveraging the participation of women (ie a women's NGO as co-lead of GBV sub-cluster at national level) and supporting greater space for their meaningful influence and participation.

Work stream 7 - Multi-year planning and funding

1. Baseline (only in year 1)

Where did your organisation stand on the work stream and its commitments when the Grand Bargain was signed?

As a dual mandated organization, participating at country level in both development and humanitarian planning frameworks, UNFPA contributes, within the UNCT/HCT, to multi-year planning and funding efforts.

2. Progress to date

Which concrete actions have you taken (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream?

Following the GB commitments, UNFPA advocates towards donors for predictable multi-year humanitarian funding. For our response to the Syria and Iraq crises, we are receiving several multi-year financial contributions.

Within the context of the UNFPA Strategic Plan 2018-2021, UNFPA has recognized that the organization must improve its capacity to react to disasters and conflicts, but also prepare and empower individuals and communities to withstand and recover from them. Multi-year planning and funding will enable UNFPA to more effectively anticipate and respond to emergencies through improved understanding of evolving needs and risks. The organization's resilience strategy, supported by multi-year planning and funding, will help in ensuring a shift from delivering aid to ending needs.

3. Planned next steps

What are the specific next steps which you plan to undertake to implement the commitments (with a focus on the next 2 years)?

UNFPA will accelerate efforts in advocacy with donors in receiving multi-year funding as done in Iraq and Syria where UNFPA's programmes foster community resilience. UNFPA is also planning to establish a thematic humanitarian multi-year trust fund to ensure continuity of funding for prolonged crises.

Work stream 8 - Earmarking/flexibility

1. Baseline (only in year 1)

Where did your organisation stand on the work stream and its commitments when the Grand Bargain was signed?

UNFPA supports joint UN pool funding especially Country-Based Pooled Funds, a multi-donor humanitarian financing instruments established by the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC). Donor contributions to each CBPF are un-earmarked and allocated by the HC through an in-country consultative process.

2. Progress to date

Which concrete actions have you taken (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream?

In 2016, UNFPA led, together with WFP, within the context of the IASC Humanitarian Financing Task Team, the development of the paper “Donor conditions and their implications for humanitarian response”. One of the key sets of recommendations outlined in the paper is focused on increasing un-earmarked funding for humanitarian action. In the spring of 2016, the paper was presented at a Working Group meeting with the Good Humanitarian Donorship network.

In January 2017, UNFPA also participated in a data collection exercise, led by ICRC within the context of the GB, on the level of (un)earmarked funding for UNFPA’s humanitarian action.

3. Planned next steps

What are the specific next steps which you plan to undertake to implement the commitments (with a focus on the next 2 years)?

UNFPA in close collaboration with the IASC Financing Task team, plans to take forward the paper on “Donor conditions and their implications for humanitarian response” and engage in dialogue and advocacy with the donor community.

Work stream 9 – Reporting requirements

1. Baseline (only in year 1)

Where did your organisation stand on the work stream and its commitments when the Grand Bargain was signed?

As per donor agreements, UNFPA complies with donor's reporting requirements to report on progress and impact achieved with funds received by donor.

2. Progress to date

Which concrete actions have you taken (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream?

Within the context of the IASC HFTT, UNFPA shared information, through a survey in November 2016, in terms of its reporting requirements with regard to implementing partners and the various aspects of standardization of these requirements within the UN.

UNFPA is also regularly sharing revenue recognized information with OCHA through FTS.

3. Planned next steps

What are the specific next steps which you plan to undertake to implement the commitments (with a focus on the next 2 years)?

A key recommendation coming out of the paper "Donor conditions and their implications for humanitarian response" (see point 8), focuses on donor reporting requirements. Within the context of the IASC HFTT, UNFPA is involved in the process of developing a standard reporting template (the so-called "10+3" template) which is planned to be piloted in 2017 by a group of donors, UN agencies and NGOs.

Work stream 10 – Humanitarian – Development engagement

1. Baseline (only in year 1)

Where did your organisation stand on the work stream and its commitments when the Grand Bargain was signed?

UNFPA has strived to bridge the humanitarian-development divide given its long-term engagement with national authorities at the country level.

2. Progress to date

Which concrete actions have you taken (both internally and in cooperation with other signatories) to implement the commitments of the work stream?

As an IASC member, UNFPA is accelerating efforts in strengthening the humanitarian – development divide and linkages with peacebuilding agendas. In particular:

- *UNFPA’s Strategic Plan 2018-2021 is working toward improved outcomes, with humanitarian being mainstreamed throughout the SP in order to achieve resilience throughout UNFPA programmes. In this context, all UNFPA functional units will have a responsibility to ensure resources and capacity are available to support humanitarian interventions.*
- *In line with Outcome Four in the UNFPA Humanitarian Results Framework, which focuses on increased national capacity for resilience building. UNFPA is working to ensure that vulnerable populations are included in decision making; Evidence, collected before the onset of a crisis, informs decision making; Health facilities are rehabilitated; and adequate risk mitigation measures are in place to lessen the impact of a crisis.*

3. Planned next steps

What are the specific next steps which you plan to undertake to implement the commitments (with a focus on the next 2 years)?

- *In line with the Every Woman Every Child Everywhere declaration, strengthening the resilience of Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent (RMNCA) health systems and services to deliver across the development and humanitarian nexus is of major importance.*
- *UNFPA is supporting efforts to bolster young people’s resilience, their role in humanitarian crises, and in building sustainable peace, drawing on UNFPA’s comparative advantage of working with and for young people in development and humanitarian settings. This is in line with UNFPA’s commitment to the Compact for Young People in Humanitarian Action, which was agreed to at the World Humanitarian Summit. UNFPA is a member of the Inter-Agency Working Group on Young People’s Participation in Peacebuilding and is co-leading, with the Peacebuilding Support Office, the secretariat of the Global Progress Study on Youth Peace and Security.*
- *UNFPA is committed to improving humanitarian preparedness throughout the organization. Beginning with a capacity assessment, which will establish a baseline and identify gaps in preparedness levels, efforts to enhance preparedness will be tracked through an online internal system.*