

Grand Bargain in 2018:
Annual Self Report – Narrative Summary

Name of Institution: UN World Food Programme

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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?

WFP continues to strongly support the Grand Bargain and will play a constructive and strategic role in its implementation going forward, in particular through our co-leadership of the cash workstream with DFID. WFP is pleased that the cash workstream was recognised in the 2018 Grand Bargain report as the best performing workstream.

In 2018, WFP transferred US \$ 1.7 billion in cash transfers to around 20 million people in 62 countries. This is a 21% increase from 2017, when WFP transferred US \$ 1.4 billion to 19.2 million people. WFP is increasingly using unrestricted cash transfers, accounting for 1.1 billion or 62% of the overall CBT transfer value in 2018. In 2018, WFP transferred 35% of its total assistance through CBT and commodity vouchers. Scale-up has entailed a renewed focus on tightening reporting, putting in place requisite oversight frameworks and segregation of duties across the digital cash flow, as well as establishing an end-to-end management of CBT data analytics.

Beyond cash-based transfers, progress was made on many of the commitment areas included in the Grand Bargain in 2018. WFP continues to strengthen our evidence base to demonstrate the efficiencies that can be achieved from reduced earmarking as well as the effectiveness that comes with increased predictability and multi-year commitments. WFP is also continuing the work with sister UN agencies on harmonising and simplifying partnership processes. The new partner portal launched in 2018 will bring a harmonised approach to NGO selection and due diligence across the agencies, and elevate risk management at the inter-agency level.

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

WFP has transformed in order to optimise the implementation of our 2017-2021 Strategic Plan in support to the SDGs. We have found a method of leveraging the humanitarian-development nexus in our Country Strategic Plans, and adopted a whole of society approach to zero hunger. Thus, implementation of the Strategic Plan reinforces WFP's progress towards Grand Bargain commitments.

However, WFP encourages all signatories to be clear sighted on the costs and risks associated with parallel reporting of the commitments similar to the Grand Bargain that UN agencies and Member States have now signed up to through the UN reform, in particular the Funding Compact. WFP encourages a focus on the real added value of the 'bargain'. The original purpose of the High-Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing – and the Grand Bargain as an efficiency accelerator -

was to shrink the needs and narrow the gap. However, in the past two years the gap between funding requirements and contributions has continued to widen.

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). Please refer to the Guidelines for definitions of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, which are included in this self-report template package.

In 2018, in line with its WHS commitments, WFP continued integration of gender in its work. Investments were made in producing evidence-based research in various domains. In partnership with Gallup and the FAO Statistics Division, the "Gender Equality for Food Security" measure was piloted in seven countries, and a multi-country study on the potential of cash-based interventions to contribute to gender equality and women's empowerment was conducted. Various gender studies and analyses were also undertaken in Egypt in relation to climate resilience of smallholder farmers, in Sudan about gender and food security study and study in Syria about gender and urban livelihoods.

Concurrently, WFP expanded implementation of its main gender mainstreaming mechanisms, being the Gender Transformation Programme (GTP), the Gender and Age Marker (GaM) and the second iteration of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan for gender equality and women's empowerment of women (UNSWAP 2.0).

In 2018, 21 WFP Country Offices were participating in the GTP, progressing from a gender baseline assessment to the development and implementation of an improvement plan and on to a final assessment which measures their achievements against the 39 benchmarks on which the GTP is based. The Kyrgyzstan, Mozambique and Syria Country Offices successfully completed the GTP.

WFP replaced the IASC Gender Marker with an adapted Gender and Age Marker (GaM) and became the first IASC member to institutionally apply the GaM. The WFP GaM is a corporate tool that codes – on a 0 to 4 scale – the extent to which gender and age are integrated into the design and monitoring of a WFP programme. Country Offices apply the GaM through an online dedicated platform and were supported with detailed guidance materials and advice.

Applicable to all UN entities, UN SWAP 2.0 comprises 17 Performance Indicators. In the first year of implementation, WFP exceeded nine, met four, approached three and did not report on one (due to non-applicability) of the Performance Indicators. WFP's 2018 performance reinforced the need to improve its results in relation to gender parity among employees and both financial resource allocation and tracking.

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

Gender equality and women's empowerment was a specific topic of the Annual NGO partnership consultation organised in WFP HQ in November 2018. A dialogue about concrete ways to strengthen localization with national and local women's right associations and gender focused community based organisations was established.

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.

WFP continues to build more and stronger operational partnerships – New Ways of Working - with organizations that can bring development and peacebuilding assistance to those we serve, as part of wider efforts to provide integrated support that can contribute to addressing root causes. We also continue to refresh our thinking on how WFP can remain principled in the humanitarian space, while also contributing to creation of a space where development dividends can be seeded.

In a number of countries, WFP leadership is engaging with wider national planning processes to set SDG-defined priorities as Collective Outcomes. These processes are proving to be enormously valuable for identifying new partners with whom we can work according to our comparative advantages. WFP is also setting a corporate decision and strategic framework on the Triple Nexus, in order to strengthen mainstreaming actions.

WFP's mandate and the nature of its programmes - that straddle humanitarian action and sustainable development - combined with hunger situations that more frequently are defined by conflict, means that the potential contribution of the organisation to outcomes across the humanitarian, development, and peace objectives can be significant. WFP has a clear role to play in ensuring that humanitarian and development action is strategic and linked. Opportunities for contributing to peace efforts are pursued whenever possible, but it is recognised that the possibilities for doing so, may in some contexts be more limited.

The opportunities afforded by adopting a comprehensive approach to work across humanitarian, development and peace spectrum to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 – end hunger and malnutrition - is also seen as an opportunity to demonstrate WFP's contributions towards SDG 1 for ending poverty and SDG 16 on peace and justice. It also reinforces WFP's contributions towards the SDG 17 – strengthening the means of implementation and revitalising partnerships at all levels.

WFP believes that donors can provide an incentive for better-linked humanitarian, development, and peace action by bridging the humanitarian-development divide and increasing flexible multi-year funding that supports collective outcomes.