

**Summary note
Localization workstream teleconference
November 22 2017**

The co-conveners welcomed the participants to this second teleconference of the Grand Bargain localization work stream. The aim of the call was to brief workstream participants on the Joint Facilitation Group meeting that took place October 24 in Berlin; update on the outcome of the silence procedure from 12.11 to a revision of the earlier definitions proposal; discuss the baseline study on measurement and tracking; agree on the draft workplan 2018-2019 and a discussion of potential criteria/choices for “demonstrator countries” for the workstream.

The following points can be highlighted:

1. Intro and feedback on the Berlin 24.10 Joint Facilitation Group handover meeting

The co-conveners briefed participants on the Joint Facilitation Group meeting, which focused on the following four cross-cutting challenges:

- 1) Improving Grand Bargain cooperation and communication
- 2) Driving progress in Grand Bargain work streams and strengthening the quid pro quo
- 3) Achieving greater field impact
- 4) Pushing for more synergies with external processes.

The outcome of the Berlin meeting is a workplan for the incoming Facilitation Group, which operationalizes and translates strategic priorities into a concrete set of actions. The minutes of the meeting were shared by the Grand Bargain Secretariat.

2. Feedback on silence procedure

(Update on the outcome of the silence procedure to a revision of the earlier definitions proposal from 12.11)

The results of the silence procedure on the revised definitions were presented by the co-conveners. The silence was not broken, which means that the signatories agreed to the revised definition regarding the question on affiliation. The revision makes clearer the intention to focus on those local actors that are not affiliated with international NGOs’ with the caveat that a local actor is not considered to be affiliated merely because it is part of a network, confederation of alliance, wherein it maintains independent fundraising and governance systems (cf co-conveners letter for all agreed definitions).

During the discussion, a number of questions came up to get more clarification on what exactly affiliation means. It was decided that the co-conveners, together with a small group of volunteer participants, would collect challenging examples and put together a set of recommendations and advice on interpretation and share it on the Grand Bargain Secretariat website for easy reference.

3. Discussion of baseline study on measurement and tracking

(Presentation of the baseline study and discussion)

Lydia Poole, a consultant contracted by OCHA to devise the survey and analyse the results, presented the plan for a baseline survey. As agreed by the GB signatories, there will be “mandatory” categories of reporting and “optional”, more detailed, sub-categories, which signatories may also wish to separately track. The baseline survey follows the two level of reporting and will adapt the definition of categories to track according to the GB agreed definitions. Questions on the timing and timeline of the survey were raised as well as how it relates to the self-reporting exercise. It was suggested that it may be less burdensome to GB signatories if the period of response was similar to that for next year’s annual report.

Poole assured that the survey was ready to be sent out once updated with the agreed definitions and with a deadline for response of 4-6 weeks. The analysis of the survey would be finalized within a couple of months, ideally before the start of the self-reporting period. Workstream participants were given the possibility to send

feedback and comments on the baseline survey directly to Lydia Poole. It was agreed, that the co-conveners would from now on take forward this study via the localization workstream.

4. Localization workstream workplan

(Discussion and agreement on revised workplan)

The co-conveners presented the revised workplan based on comments received by participants. They stressed that it is not a compilation of what everyone is doing in the area of localization but rather a prioritization of initiatives and activities that the whole workstream wants to push forward together in order to implement its workstream commitments. Participants welcomed the revised workplan and it was endorsed as a draft living document, a work in progress. Future local actor participants in the workstream calls will still have the possibility to comment on the workplan and provide inputs if necessary. It was agreed that the workplan would become a standing agenda point in the teleconferences with the possibility for participants to adjust as necessary. Christian Aid had some few comments (non-substantial) that they would share with the co-conveners.

5. “Demonstrator countries” for the Workstream

(Discussion of potential criteria/choices)

The co-conveners introduced the discussion by explaining that during the Joint Facilitation Group meeting in Berlin it was decided to use the terminology of “demonstrator” countries instead of “pilot” countries for the Grand Bargain workstreams. No formal criteria have been formulated, however, the Facilitation Group recommends that workstreams, where useful, introduce field impact “demonstrators”, potentially in the same contexts to assure better alignment and visibility. For the localization “demonstrator” countries it is important to come up with examples considering a variety of countries including contexts of conflict situation, natural disasters, countries where the national government is supportive of NGO’s and CSO’s and countries where it’s not. Geographical variety is also to be taken into account.

During the discussion, many possible countries/regions/contexts came up as well as working level countries of for example ICVA, Christian Aid or Oxfam. Participants agreed not to waste too much time on lengthy discussions around selection criteria and suggested to continue the conversation virtually and to circulate a google doc with options and to make a final decision as soon as possible. The co-conveners will share a google doc for input and further discussion on possible localization “demonstrator” countries.

6. AOB

Update on local actor involvement

The co-conveners updated participants on the selection of local actors to participate in the regular workstream calls. So far some NNGO representatives (around 20 applications) have expressed interest in participating in the workstream calls. As yet, no national government participants had been identified. In order take a decision on the best representation of local actors, co-conveners suggested to have separate call with volunteers to discuss the selection and have a final decision by the next call in January 2018.

Workshop on recent/planned research on localization November 30 in Geneva

The IFRC informed about the workshop concerning research projects related to the localization of aid agenda. The aim is to explore potential synergies, ensure that we are all well informed about what others are doing/learning, and see if there are important questions that are not yet being addressed. The co-conveners will update the localization workstream on the outcome at the next call.

Webinar on localization (date tbc)

The co-conveners informed about the organization of an open webinar on localization, aiming at informing interested stakeholders beyond GB signatories and participants of the localization workstream about the work done by the GB localization workstream.

Next regular call of the Workstream

The next call will be held on 26 January 2018 at 3pm Geneva time.

Participants: Ali Gokpinar, OCHA, Amanda Schweitzer, CRS, Andreas Deutchting, WFP, Ane Devos – Zoa, Anita Kattakuzhy, Oxfam, Anne Street, CAFOD, Brigitte Mukengeshayi, ECHO, David Fisher, IFRC, Elisabeth Bellardo, USA, Frederique Lehoux, CARE, Hans van den Hoogen, Netherlands, Jeremie Labbe, ICRC, Jeremy Wellard, ICVA, Jonas Losau , WFP, Juan Chavez, OCHA, Kirsten Hagon, IFRC, Lydia Poole, Humanitarian Outcomes, Maya Kapsokavdis, Oxfam, Melissa Pittoti, ICVA, Michael Mosselmans Christian Aid, Nathalie Goetschi, Switzerland, Neil Patrick, DFID, Regina Gujan, Switzerland, Rolla Hinedi, Syria Relief, Tove Myrhman, Sweden