

DRAFT Terms of Reference
Localization Workstream Field Missions to Demonstrator Countries
Dates: September-November 2018
Proposed Locations: Nigeria, Bangladesh, Iraq

1. Background

In 2016, a group of major donors and humanitarian agencies negotiated “the Grand Bargain” with commitments in 10 areas of “workstreams” related to making humanitarian aid more efficient and effective. Among these were commitments on increasing respect for and investment in national and local responders, including: (1) improved partnerships between international and local actors, (2) investment in the long term capacity of local actors, (3) better integration with local coordination mechanisms and (4) achieving an aggregate global target of 25% of international funding channeled as directly as possible to local actors by 2020.

Following the signature of the Grand Bargain, signatories have continued to work together to facilitate the completion of their commitments and achievement of joint objectives. The “Localization Workstream” of the Grand Bargain, composed of donors, UN agencies, NGOs and the Red Cross/Red Crescent signatories as well as representatives of non-signatory local actors, has developed a workplan for 2018-19 with a number of joint activities, including, in 2018, undertaking field missions to several “demonstrator countries.”

a. Origin of the demonstrator countries concept

The Grand Bargain localization commitments require action at all levels, but particularly in countries exposed to crisis. At the Grand Bargain’s annual meeting in 2017, signatories agreed that they wanted to emphasize field level implementation, and to this end would invest in supporting implementation and /or capturing good practices from different countries. The Chair’s summary of the Grand Bargain annual meeting noted “the importance of contextualizing the commitments and to make changed approaches visible in the field.” Signatories and workstreams were “invited to find ways to implement actions related to Grand Bargain initiatives at the field level.”

Accordingly, in developing its joint workplan for 2018, signatories participating in the localization workstream decided that the workstream would collectively visit 3 “demonstrator countries”.

b. Selection

Demonstrator countries were selected jointly by Workstream members according to the following criteria:

- *Regional variety* – no more than one from any given region
- *Contextual variety* – disaster, refugee/ displacement response, conflict, complex crises
- *Interest from local actors and international humanitarian community* (and capacity to engage with a multi-stakeholder mission).
- *Interest among workstream members in country to support coordination / logistics.*
- *Accessible* for a multi-stakeholder mission (issues of security, but also cost and distance and authorization/ visas)
- *Existing good practices* to be shared

Following a survey of members and discussion, Bangladesh, Nigeria and Iraq were selected for 2018, pending validation by relevant stakeholders in each country.

Note that while the demonstrator countries will be the focus of collective workstream action and engagement, the signatories are working and piloting different approaches and implementing their commitments in a range of countries.

2. Objectives of the field missions

The objectives of the Localization Workstream “demonstrator country” field missions are:

- a) Understanding what “localization” means for the various stakeholders in the demonstrator countries
- b) Identifying good practices, challenges and barriers around delivering on the four main areas of the GB localization commitments – partnership, capacity strengthening, coordination and financing -- as well as on signatories’ goals to integrate gender into localization efforts
- c) Promoting progress on the localization commitments in each demonstrator country

Findings from the missions will contribute to guidance documents on various aspects of the localization workstream currently under development while recommendations will be addressed to the relevant signatories.

3. Mission participants

The main missions will consist of 8-10 persons representing members of each stakeholder group among GB signatories (donors, RC/RC family, UN agencies, NGOs). It is expected that there will likely be a different group of participants in each of the three missions.

They should include at least three participants at senior level, technical support persons, and at least one local actor representative from each of the other demonstrator countries (to promote cross-fertilization of learning).

Each mission will have a leader, supported by the Workstream “secretariat” person from IFRC.

With the exception of the local actors from the other demonstrator countries (to be supported by IFRC), each participant is expected to cover her/his own costs of travel, accommodation and per diem/DSA.

Security will be a key consideration in all of the missions. Security arrangements will be made by the agency taking overall responsibility for logistics in the mission country. Each participant will be expected to comply with security directives of that agency.

4. Methodology

The demonstrator country projects will consist of the following steps:

- **Initial contacts** with country-level stakeholders to obtain validation on the advisability of the mission (including relevant governmental agencies, donors, Humanitarian Country Teams, NGOs, National Red Cross and Red Crescent Society and other civil society actors).
Objectives for the mission will be further refined in the initial contact stage, so as to tailor each mission to the country context.
- **Pre-mission visit** (of approximately 3-5 days) by an IFRC staff person (as secretariat to the Workstream) to (1) ensure good mutual understanding of the objectives and opportunities, (2) gather baseline information including through a stakeholder survey for inclusion in a pre-mission background report for mission participants, (3) clarify roles and responsibilities among the various Workstream volunteers in providing logistical and other support, and (4) solidify plans.

- **Pre-mission teleconference** – for mission participants, to discuss the baseline information and plans. A pre-mission briefing paper will also be prepared based on existing documentation and the findings of the pre-mission visit.
- The **main mission** (of approximately 5-7 days), including bilateral and group discussions as well as a visit to stakeholders outside the capital to gather further perspectives.
- **A follow-up teleconference** or if considered appropriate, **a follow-up mission** (of 2-3 days), consisting of 3-4 technical experts from among GB signatories to gauge progress and challenges in following through on any recommendations developed in the main mission.

The main mission will be a light and rapid exercise that will be based on meetings/ discussions/ interviews with key experts and practitioners. It will be participatory, using qualitative enquiry to inform analysis and recommendations. Each mission will have a leader and the group will be split for bilateral meetings to promote reach. At least a portion of the team should travel to a region away from the capital to obtain different perspectives.

Meetings should be set up with different stakeholder groups and individuals – including local NGOs, the National Red Cross/ Red Crescent Society, members of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement that are not local, local / national government, the RC/HC, INGOs, UN agencies, donors, affected populations (if possible).

Meetings will be structured around three key areas:

- Good practice being employed and how this may be replicable in other humanitarian crisis
- Significant challenges or barriers that have been encountered
- Steps that could be taken, either in country or internationally, to address challenges

Following the information gathering process, there will be a short synthesis workshop in the capital for all stakeholders to consider main findings and recommendations.

Information collection methods	
Pre-mission survey	To identify trends and areas to explore.
Report/document review	A light review of documents and reports will look at good practices.
Key informant interviews	The majority of the information for the learning exercise will be collected through key informant interviews (both individual and group-based). They will be semi-structured and based on the main areas of enquiry as set out above.
Group discussions	A series of group discussions will be held to validate and inform the findings and recommendations.

5. Mission outcomes

The report of the mission will be the sole responsibility of the mission participants, led by the mission leader and with drafting support from the IFRC's workstream secretariat. The report is intended for public use and will therefore be kept brief, avoiding any confidential information.

Results and findings will be shared with interested external persons via webinar, and will also be highlighted in regional workshops to be developed in late 2018-early 2019.