

**MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON LOCALISATION OF AID
PROPOSED PRIORITY ISSUES – DAY 2
(IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER)**

CAPACITY STRENGTHENING/CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

- Reinforce the capacities, especially institutional capacities, of LNAs, decided by themselves.
- Acceptance of a broad range of dimensions of capacity and how they are developed or strengthened (not just trainings only); inclusive of institutional strengthening; and also attention to who is doing the capacity development
- Can be inspired by OFDA practice in DRR
- Make sure specific, adequate, appropriate funds are available

INCLUSION AND REPRESENTATION

- Representation and inclusiveness in coordination mechanisms
- National and sub-national platforms for local actors – create and/or further strengthen platforms for the operationalisation of localisation commitments at local level
- Coordination mechanisms
 - Give a voice to LNNGOs and let them lead their own coordination platform
 - Provide a platform for all local actors (LNNGOs, local and national authorities, civil protection) to be able to share responsibilities among themselves
- Support to national fora and their presence in national level coordination mechanisms
- Allocate resources (funds/staff) for collective representation

RESOURCING

- Funding/Financing and compliance
 - Flexible, multi-year and unrestricted funding for LNAs, allowing them to build capacity and engage in accountability
 - Deliver on commitments for flexible, multi-year funds
 - Clear evidence on obstacles for more funding (risk/compliance, anti-terror)
 - Inclusion of localisation clause in all aspects of a funding proposal
 - Evaluate pooled funds and DREF with localisation lens
 - LNNGOs to be included in conversations with donors
 - Focus on importance of core funding – both from donors and own income-generation
 - Fair pass-through of overhead
- Diversify local funding base
 - Alternative local funding schemes
 - Government support through MOUs
 - Private sector

PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS, ENGAGEMENT

- True partnerships at all levels
 - Based on equity, mutual respect, transparency, long-term, two-way accountability
 - Formal agreements should have a clause on localisation in different relevant aspects
 - Moving from transactional relationship to true partnership

- Communication and learning between donors and local actors, between international, national and local NGOs
 - Feedback and project design
 - Coordination
 - Defining needs and strategies
- Clarify roles – rights and responsibilities within partnerships at all levels
- Principles of engagement

ACCOUNTABILITY

- Standardised global quality and accountability benchmarks
- Transparency – builds and increases trust

WOMEN LEADERSHIP

- Women inclusion and leadership at the heart of localisation
- Focus on women-led organisations and women’s community-based organisations

UNDERSTANDING LOCALISATION

- Development of common understanding of localisation and focus on shared principles of localisation
- Broad definition of goal of localisation agenda
- Inclusive localisation (gender, diversity, intersectionality) targets and indicators
- Common understanding and measurement – build on HAG and NEAR Network frameworks
- Explore new ways of framing the localisation discourse?

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES:

GENDER MAINSTREAMING

- Gender-responsive, inclusive localisation
- Build on evidence to develop specific priorities
- Develop an agenda and agree measurable indicators

MANAGING RISKS

- Understanding and mitigating risks
 - Risk management is cross-cutting – every priority has its own risks which we need to analyse individually
 - Threshold of taking risks need to be raised
 - Donors are risk averse, need due diligence