

# DAY 2: SETTING KEY OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITY INITIATIVES 2019 - 2020



Four sub-regional groups held planning discussions, setting key objectives and priority initiatives for the coming two years. The results below were presented and discussed in a plenary session.

## **GROUP 1:** Iraq / Palestine

### CURRENT SITUATION / REGIONAL CONTEXT

#### PARTNERSHIPS

- unequal: money talks
- both INGOs-locals & Donors-locals
- locals put in one basket
- end up with contractual relationship
- competition (calls)
- reduced funding (regional)
- anti-terrorism regulations

#### FINANCING

- lack of funding & limited mechanisms
- competition
- implementation challenges
- no overheads
- no funding for institutional strengthening
- insufficient funds for WOs/WLOs
- lack of demonstrated impact
- lack of national funding
- limited/ inaccessible donations

### CHANGE WE WANT TO ACHIEVE:

#### PARTNERSHIPS

- purpose: reach those affected, high and sustainable impact, self-reliance
- equal partnerships irrespective of resources
- relationships should continue after contracts end
- mutual learning & benefits
- respect for local capacities
- partnerships with other actors
- maximise number of contracts with locals

#### FINANCING

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## GROUP 1: Iraq / Palestine

### CHANGE WE WANT TO ACHIEVE:

#### FINANCING

- increase total pot of funding for humanitarian aid
- core funds & overheads
- not only financial but also technical resources
- pressure actors with conditional funding
- allocations to WOs/ WLOs
- less strict requirements for small funds
- explore national and donation-based funding

### IMPORTANT INITIATIVES:

#### PARTNERSHIPS

- partnerships should extend from identification/ call/ implementation / M&E to post-contract
- selection of partners & criteria should be clarified; feedback & consultation
- donor coordination
- criteria beyond well written proposals; implementation
- solid gender analysis
- problem-solving oriented approach: bring local actors together, based on strength to reduce competition and ensure self-sufficiency

#### FINANCING

- core funding & right to overhead
- innovative & flexible financing; enable shifting resources according to need
- funding consortia
- explore funding quote for WOs/WLOs
- simplify procedures for small funds
- address anti-terrorism regulation as obstacle to localisation
- mechanisms to enable donations to local projects

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## GROUP 2: Regional Group / Syria

### SITUATIONS, DYNAMICS & CHANGE REQUIRED:

- **Access (areas & funding):** local organisations have access to communities but not funding; INGOs have better access to funding but not to local communities; remote management creates trust issues;
- **Harmonisation of reporting:** multiplicity of donors, each with their own reporting standards;
- **Politicisation of aid,** including counter-terrorism clauses;
- **Funding availability:** multi-year responses required, but mostly short-term funding available
- **Capacity:** short-term funding has negative implications for capacity sharing;
- **Promising initiatives:** certain CBPFs, Partnership Working Group, DREF, etc.

### INITIATIVES THAT CAN CONTRIBUTE TO CHANGE:

- systematic **collection of lessons learnt** and analysis of evidence to inform others, including from other regions;
- link up **existing networks** of local actors;
- enhance **representation** in humanitarian coordination structures to create leverage;
- pooled funds mechanisms to include **funding for local actors**;
- pooled funds with **long-term windows**;
- explore windows to **combine / align sources of funding**, including from development and humanitarian budgets (such as the Regional Development Protection Programme);
- tap into **nexus considerations**;
- **National Society Investment Alliance**;
- explore **twinning programmes**

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## GROUP 3: Jordan

### PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED:

#### UNDERSTANDING

#### CAPACITY

- Shift methodology to locally-owned accompaniment
- collective capacity

#### FINANCING

- multi-year funding
- core / overhead funding
- flexible (even small) grants

### UNDERSTANDING OF LOCALISATION:

#### OBJECTIVES:

- greater / common understanding
- national level agreement on what localisation means (and what commitments)
- more core funding in donor policies

#### INITIATIVES:

- create spaces for dialogue (workshops)
- develop and share case studies
- map existing work on localisation

#### ASKS TO GLOBAL LEVEL:

- introduce localisation throughout project cycle (including RFP)
- training course on localisation
- more advocacy about funding for institutional capacity (including core funds)
- donors should ask INGOs if they really have to deliver directly