

## **Localisation Workstream Workplan - January 2020-June 2021** (version of 22 April 2020)

**Vision: a people-centred humanitarian ecosystem based on neutrality, impartiality and independence, that fosters local leadership, capacity and resilience, gender equality, sustainability and positive impact for affected populations**

**Goal: Signatories are supported in their implementation of the Grand Bargain's commitments related to localisation, including**

- (1) Increase and support multi-year investment in the institutional capacities of local and national responders, including preparedness, response and coordination capacities, especially in fragile contexts and where communities are vulnerable to armed conflicts, disasters, recurrent outbreaks and the effects of climate change. We should achieve this through collaboration with development partners and incorporate capacity strengthening in partnership agreements.
- (2) Understand better and work to remove or reduce barriers that prevent organisations and donors from partnering with local and national responders in order to lessen their administrative burden.
- (3) Support and complement national coordination mechanisms where they exist and include local and national responders in international coordination mechanisms as appropriate and in keeping with humanitarian principles.
- (4) Achieve by 2020 a global, aggregated target of at least 25 per cent of humanitarian funding to local and national responders as directly as possible to improve outcomes for affected people and reduce transactional costs.<sup>1</sup>
- (6) Make greater use of funding tools which increase and improve assistance delivered by local and national responders, such as UN-led country-based pooled funds (CBPF), IFRC Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) and NGO- led and other pooled funds.

**Specific Objectives of the 2020-21 period:**

1. **Promoting localisation in the context of COVID-19**
2. **Funding possibilities for local actors are improved**
3. **Partnerships through intermediary relationships are improved through better risk sharing**
4. **The operationalisation of localisation commitments is supported**
5. **Advocacy, collaboration and synergies on localisation are strengthened.**

**Success will be measured through**

- a) Progress on Grand Bargain indicators related to Workstream 2, as previously developed by workstream members
  - b) Implementation rate of the workplan, bearing in mind the unpredictable circumstances related to the COVID pandemic
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<sup>1</sup> In conjunction with the the IASC, a decision was made by the Workstream in 2017 to reconsider the fifth original provision in the text concern a localisation marker to measure funding. It was considered after further study that a marker would not be an effective tool for that purpose.

## Activity plan

Objectives (and link to GB commitment)	Activities	Coordinator or lead	Timeline
<p><b>1. Promoting localisation in the context of COVID-19</b></p> <p><i>Supports all commitments</i></p>	<p>While the response to the COVID pandemic, and the ways COVID affects other humanitarian responses, are likely to feature throughout the activities below, the following specific additional activities are planned:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the IASC to develop a guidance note for agencies on localisation in the COVID response</li> <li>• Organise at least one webinar on localisation in the context of COVID</li> <li>• Gather reports, information and practices related to localisation and COVID and post them on the inter-agency COVID page as well as the Workstream website</li> </ul>	<p>GB members to provide their input to IASC</p> <p>Co-conveners with dedicated sub-group</p> <p>IFRC to collect materials sent by workstream members, OCHA to post on inter-agency page</p>	<p>April 2020</p> <p>April 2020</p> <p>Q2-3 2020</p>
<p><b>2. Funding possibilities for local actors are improved</b></p> <p><i>Supports commitments 1, 4 and 6</i></p>	<p>While acknowledging the importance of direct funding, <b>promote the use of funding tools</b>, which increase and improve assistance delivered by local and national responders.</p> <p><b>The growing potential of pooled funds as a means of localisation is enhanced</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Desk review</b> consolidating recommendations for strengthening the localisation impact of pooled funds, including UNCBPFs/ other international funds such as START and the National Society Investment Alliance / local funds managed by local actor networks / women-led (WLO) and women’s rights organisations (WRO) / consortia. Recommendations to include how signatories can support innovative/alternative mechanisms, and how transparency and inclusivity of pooled fund management can be improved.</li> <li>• <b>Follow and accompany</b> the progress of UN CBPF, including in the Pooled Fund Work Groups. In particular, address the question of who, at the country level, can support organisational capacity strengthening for local actors willing to access CBPF.</li> </ul> <p><b>Synergies around the humanitarian-development-peace nexus as relates to localization are strengthened</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Desk review</b> consolidating existing research and good and challenging practice (potentially to be consolidated into further Workstream guidance notes) on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Leveraging <b>development and humanitarian funding to strengthen local response capacities</b> (including both government and civil society) to build resilient communities;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Dedicated sub-group, with Oxfam as penholder</p> <p>Co-conveners with sub-committee</p> <p>Dedicated sub-group, with IFRC, Oxfam and other pen holders</p>	<p>Q2-Q3 2020</p> <p>Q2 2020 – Q2 2021</p> <p>Q2-Q4 2020</p>

Objectives (and link to GB commitment)	Activities	Coordinator or lead	Timeline
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The <b>business case for localisation, particularly through capacity strengthening</b>, based on evidence and experience.</li> <li>• Elevate the conversation to a higher level by organising a <b>high-level dialogue</b> on this theme, including local and national actor’s messaging, and possibly engaging with the Eminent Person</li> </ul>	IFRC to coordinate as secretariat	Q4 2020
<p><b>3. Partnerships through intermediary relationships are improved through better risk sharing</b></p> <p><i>Supports commitment 2 (see above)</i></p>	<p>Given that <b>intermediaries</b> – UN agencies and INGOs in particular – receive, channel and manage a significant portion of humanitarian aid flows, identify good and unproductive practices for localising of principled humanitarian aid:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Identify good and non-effective practice for risk sharing across the humanitarian value chain as relates to localisation</b> (including effects of passing down risk and considering principled humanitarian aid) – in synergy with the ICRC/Netherlands risk project. Potential aspects for consideration include the cost of accountability and effects of counter-terrorism measures and sanctions. Attention will be ensured for any specific issues related to WLOs and WROs.</li> <li>• The following levels may be considered: (a) between donor and intermediary, (b) between intermediary and local actor, (c) when a national NGO is the intermediary.</li> </ul>	Co-conveners, linking up to ICRC/Netherlands and with support of workstream sub-committee / volunteer pen holders	Q2-Q4 2020
<p><b>4. The operationalisation of localisation commitments is supported</b></p> <p><i>Supports all GB commitments</i></p>	<p>The workstream strives to support signatory’s efforts in their own capacities to operationalise localisation at all levels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the sharing of each GB signatory’s <b>strategy/roadmap/plan</b> (as applicable) for its implementation of localisation goals, including through <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sharing relevant documents, as appropriate, within the Workstream</li> <li>○ Presentations in workstream teleconferences, including on challenges</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Develop <b>county-level dialogue resource/communications kit</b>, which might include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 1-pager introduction “what is people-centred and inclusive localisation?”</li> <li>○ Different practices of <b>international-local partnership based on humanitarian principles</b> most appropriate to the specificity of natural disaster (risk) versus conflict-affected contexts, and / or their combination, including on engagement with national and local authorities,;</li> <li>○ the Workstream guidance notes</li> <li>○ Guidance for a benchmarking survey on current practices related to localisation in-country, drawing on the NEAR Performance Measurement Framework, as appropriate</li> <li>○ draft TORs for a localisation working group / dialogue process</li> <li>○ Sample “localisation roadmaps”, etc.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Map existing national and regional localization discussions to help signatories connect, with</li> </ul>	<p>Co-Conveners</p> <p>Dedicated sub-group with volunteer editors/penholders</p>	<p>Q2-Q3 2020</p> <p>Q2 2020</p>

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	<p>particular attention to WLO/WRO-led discussions;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Workstream members, in their own capacity link</b>, promote and/or link up to discussions at country-level, including at Humanitarian Country Teams, Charter for Change, Regional fora, and others, making use of the resource/communications kit if relevant.</li> <li>• Promote learning between countries through <b>exchange of local actors</b> (and potentially of country-based representatives of GB signatories)</li> </ul>	<p>Co-conveners with help of workstream members</p> <p>Workstream members volunteering in their own capacity</p> <p>NEAR to coordinate (subject to funding)</p>	<p>Q2 2020</p> <p>Q2-Q3 2020</p> <p>Q2-Q4 2020</p>
<p><b>5. Advocacy, collaboration and synergies on localisation are strengthened</b></p> <p><i>Supports all GB commitments</i></p> <p><b>5.1 with Grand Bargain signatories and external actors</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Disseminate</b> and promote the Workstream’s guidance notes and other products through webinars and other presentation opportunities. Share meeting notes and update website with translated documents. Produce Grand Bargain Localisation newsletter.</li> <li>• Provide at least two annual webinar/<b>teleconference slots to actors advancing localisation who are not part of the workstream</b> to share projects and learning.</li> </ul> <p>Promote reporting of funding to local actors to OCHA FTS and support FTS in its efforts to categorise organizations. In this context, explore the possibility of integrating definitions of WROs and WLOs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Within the Grand Bargain, link with the Eminent Person, the Friends of Gender Group, and other relevant Grand Bargain Workstreams (in particular WS2 (Transparency) in, WS3 (Cash), WS5 (Joint Needs Assessments) WS 7&amp; 8 (Quality Funding)) through increased <u>communication</u> and support for the <u>involvement of local actors</u> in their discussions. Engage with relevant <b>IASC</b> RGs as appropriate, including support as needed on the issue of local actors in coordination.</li> <li>• Plan for <b>post-GB handover/exit strategy</b>, including identifying priority activities that should be sustained, and mapping and approaching relevant platforms/networks that can take them on.</li> </ul>	<p>Co-conveners in consultation with workstream</p> <p>Co-conveners in consultation with workstream</p> <p>All – WRO/WLO exploration led by UNW and OCHA</p> <p>Co-conveners and leads to bc</p> <p>Co-conveners with sub-group</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Starting Q1 2021</p>
<p><b>5.2. among workstream members</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Review membership</b> of the Workstream, in particular with the aim to expand participation of invited local actors</li> </ul>	<p>Co-conveners with sub-group</p>	<p>Q2 2020</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support each GB constituency to organise at least two <b>peers-only dialogues</b> for frank, off-the-record discussions about challenges and successes in implementing GB localisation commitments and practise listed above</li> <li>• Organize <b>bi-monthly</b> teleconferences of Grand Bargain signatories to share information and coordinate activities in the workstream.</li> </ul>	<p>Leads tbc for every constituency</p> <p>IFRC as secretariat</p>	<p>1 in 2020, 1 in 2021</p> <p>Ongoing</p>