Individual Self Reflection 2020 on World Humanitarian Summit Commitments and Initiatives - Oxfam International

Stakeholder Information

Organisation Name
Oxfam International

Organisational Type
NGO - International

City and Country where Headquartered
Oxford, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Focal Point Name
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Region
Global

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@Oxfam

Attachments
OXFAM_note.pdf

1D Develop solutions with and for people

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
Oxfam commits to partner closely with women's rights organizations on peace and security, including support for their strategic engagement in peace talks, mediation and resolution.	Partnership	Political Leadership to Prevent and End Conflicts

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

Oxfam recognizes Women's Rights Organizations (WRO) as key actors in ensuring that gender equality is integrated into the peace and security agenda. Specifically, in 2018, Oxfam partnered with WROs on the issue of women, peace and security in the following 10 countries: Colombia, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Iraq, Mali, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Vietnam and Yemen. Oxfam worked with Yemeni, Iraqi and Palestinian activists and partners, enabled them to attend the UN Human Rights Council and meet special procedures and the special rapporteur's office to bear witness and give evidence of breaches of international humanitarian law. Also, to support this agenda, Oxfam worked with WROs in 32 countries on these connected topics:

- Gender-based violence,
- Women's empowerment and participation,
- Humanitarian preparedness and response,
- Disaster risk reduction.

B. Please select if your report relates to any initiatives launched at World Humanitarian summit

☑ Charter for Change
☑ Grand Bargain

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

☑ Data and analysis
☑ Field conditions, including insecurity and access
☑ Joined-up humanitarian-development analysis, planning, funding and/or response

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

Limited internal cross-sharing of learning between contexts; increased restricted civil society space in many of these contexts; siloed funding limits how Oxfam can support Women Rights Organisations who want to bridge the development-humanitarian peace nexus in some countries.

3. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

Oxfam needs more evidence to build the case for the value-add of Women Rights Organisations (WROs) on this issue. WROs need to be involved in peace processes from the start and supported throughout with appropriate funding and technical support. WROs continue to face challenges in getting direct funding for their work.

Keywords

Gender

2B Ensure full access to and protection of the humanitarian and medical missions

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
Oxfam commits that all evaluations of Oxfam's humanitarian responses in conflict-affected situations assess their impact on civilian protection and its learning are publicly shared with other humanitarian actors.	Policy	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity
Oxfam will reiterate the centrality of protection in all its humanitarian action and proactively act to reduce violence, coercion and abuse against civilian populations, including all forms of GBV and ensure respect for IHL.	Advocacy	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity
Oxfam will train all Oxfam humanitarian staff to understand protection - including knowledge of IHL and the IASC Guidelines on GBV - and to possess the basic skills, capacities and tools necessary to help increase the protection of civilians, and continue to increase investment in community-based protection programmes.	Training	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to ensure all populations in need receive rapid and unimpeded humanitarian assistance.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity
Commit to promote and enhance efforts to respect and protect medical personnel, transports and facilities, as well as humanitarian relief personnel and assets against attacks, threats or other violent acts.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

Seven real-time reviews were conducted in 2018, all of which measured compliance with safe programming and proactive measures taken to avoid causing harm, conflict sensitivity, and compliance with humanitarian principles. 11 out of 46 countries reported to have evaluated the impact on civilian protection, an increase of four on 2017. Oxfam has protection programmes in 18 countries, implemented by dedicated protection staff and partner organizations. Activities include protection analysis, facilitating safe timely referrals to emergency and protection services for survivors of violence and abuse including gender-based violence survivors, information dissemination on key protection issues, safety kit distributions, local advocacy, cash for protection, capacity-building of partners and local authorities. Oxfam shares its learning widely, through events and reports posted on ALNAP or its own Policy & Practice website. In 2018 Oxfam published Now it is for us to continue: an evaluation of community-based protection work in the Central African Republic. Oxfam also carried out a Global Review of its protection work which identified good practice and successful protection interventions as well as challenges and areas where Oxfam will seek to improve its impact.

B. Please select if your report relates to any initiatives launched at World Humanitarian summit

☑ Charter for Change

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this

transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

☑ Adherence to standards and/or humanitarian principles
☑ IHL and IHRL compliance and accountability

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

Whilst Oxfam promotes the Centrality of Protection, the political nature of many conflict settings has a negative impact on efforts to ensure greater compliance with IHL, and humanitarian agencies face significant challenges from the politicization of aid and upholding humanitarian principles in their responses.

3. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

Oxfam continues to campaign and support collective advocacy by humanitarian actors on key issues relating to the protection of civilians. This includes calling on States to uphold their obligations under the Arms Trade Treaty and their obligations to protection civilians in conflict situations; for example - through high level advocacy and public campaigning on the impact of conflict on civilians in Yemen.

Keywords

Gender, IHL compliance and accountability, Protection

2D Take concrete steps to improve compliance and accountability

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
Oxfam commits to ensure all humanitarian responses are informed by an ongoing protection analysis, including analysis of GBV, and that all relevant strategies include actions to prevent and respond to all forms of violence and abuse including GBV (for example through facilitating survivor referrals to specialist and emergency services).	Operational	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity
Oxfam commits to provide policy staff in each crisis to help influence national governments and others, including on protection.	Advocacy	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to promote and enhance respect for international humanitarian law, international human rights law, and refugee law, where applicable.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity
Commit to speak out and systematically condemn serious violations of international humanitarian law and serious violations and abuses of international human rights law and to take concrete steps to ensure accountability of perpetrators when these acts amount to crimes under international law.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity
Implement a coordinated global approach to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in crisis contexts, including through the Call to Action on Protection from Gender-based Violence in Emergencies.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity
Fully comply with humanitarian policies, frameworks and legally binding documents related to gender equality, women's empowerment, and women's rights.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity Leave No One Behind

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

Gender-based violence prevention and response

The majority of Oxfam's large (Category 1 and 2) humanitarian responses carry out an ongoing protection analysis which informs the initial response strategy and is used to identify adaptations to the response in terms of a range of protection threats facing civilians, with a focus on gender based violence (GBV). A 2018 review of Oxfam's protection work found that most of large humanitarian responses include a component of facilitating referrals to specialist and emergency services and that this component has become a norm in Oxfam humanitarian responses.

IHL and IHRL compliance and accountability

Oxfam carries out its influencing agenda, including ensuring protection/safe programming in responses, with support from offices across the globe. Current policy staff include 11 at country level, while 28 staff members are supporting different crisis teams at the regional or global level. Oxfam carries out its influencing work through a coordinated plan for each national Government or influencing target, focusing on agencies and actors with significant interests and engagement in a particular crisis. Oxfam policy staff are housed under our various affiliates, and support is provided in a decentralized manner from a distance.

B. Please select if your report relates to any initiatives launched at World Humanitarian summit

☑ Charter for Change
☑ Grand Bargain

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

☑ Funding amounts
☑ Human resources/capacity
☑ IHL and IHRL compliance and accountability

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

Funding constraints do not allow Oxfam to engage policy staff on a continuing basis within a crisis, which affects coverage by policy staff members. Influencing governments and others requires long-term engagement. Lack of adherence to international humanitarian law is also an increasing challenge in humanitarian crises, as is insufficient civil society space.

3. What steps or actions are needed to make <u>collective progress</u> to achieve this transformation?

Influencing and protection work should include more national staff and local actors. Decentralized operations with more engagement of local leaders could reduce burden on resources. Other organizations need to recognize that networked influencing is powerful and effective. International, national and local networks of humanitarian actors need to coordinate on calling for greater compliance on IHL, with political actors holding states to account.

Keywords

Gender, IHL compliance and accountability

2E **Uphold the rules: a global campaign to affirm the norms that safeguard humanity**

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
Oxfam commits to campaign for better monitoring and improved compliance with international humanitarian law in all relevant crises	Advocacy	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity
Oxfam commits to increase its engagement with national human rights organizations as its partners and contribute to specific campaigns to uphold international humanitarian law.	Partnership	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to promote and enhance respect for international humanitarian law, international human rights law, and refugee law, where applicable.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

Oxfam effectively highlighted irresponsible arms transfers and lack of respect for international humanitarian law (IHL) in a number of crises such as Syria, Yemen and Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories. Through Oxfam's advocacy offices in Addis Ababa, Brussels, New York and Geneva, Oxfam supported national human rights organizations to access the UN Security Council, the African Union and the European Union. Oxfam believes that responsibility for the protection of civilians lies with States and in internal conflicts, non-state actors must abide by IHL. Oxfam worked with Yemeni, Iraqi and Palestinian activists and partners, enabled them to attend the UN Human Rights Council and meet special procedures and the Special Rapporteur's office to bear witness and give evidence of breaches of IHL. Oxfam has hosted a number of lobby tours in capitals in the EU, bringing partners such as BITCOM from Israel and Gisha which monitors the imports to Gaza through the Erez crossing. Oxfam is increasingly bringing its national partners to the forefront of our work and supporting them to access platforms and policy fora.

Oxfam established supportive networks through interaction with relevant international organizations, diplomatic missions and NGOs in Bangladesh, Geneva, Syria and Yemen. These networks were useful in building an evidence base to inform the undertaking of joint lobbying where required.
Oxfam was an early and substantial contributor to, and advocator for, the development of the Global Compact on Refugees and Migrants. Through campaigns on ensuring the adherence to refugee law through the various compacts (EU-Turkey deal, Jordan and Lebanon Compacts delivered with and through partners, and accompanying papers) wherein Oxfam contributed to addressing the erosion of international norms.

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☑ Charter for Change
☑ Grand Bargain

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

☑ Field conditions, including insecurity and access
☑ IHL and IHRL compliance and accountability
☑ Multi-stakeholder coordination

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

These challenges led to reduced coordination and less-informed IHL campaigns. Volatile security contexts and difficulties of access

also reduced engagement with local human rights actors, limiting inclusive and participatory campaigns.

3. What steps or actions are needed to make <u>collective progress</u> to achieve this transformation?

Oxfam is investing in strengthening relationships at country, regional and global level with local human rights organizations (HROs) and local humanitarian leaders; this needs to be strengthened further and resources need to be allocated to ensure that this is the modus operandi. Organizations should increase engagements with local HROs who can do more by directly challenging the accountability of state actors than many humanitarian organizations.

Keywords

Displacement, IHL compliance and accountability

(3A) Reduce and address displacement

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
Oxfam commits to substantially increase its investment in campaigning, along with other civil society organizations, to uphold the rights of displaced people, refugees and migrants, and for all countries to take a fair share of global responsibility for supporting and hosting them. This includes to campaign for concrete commitments by governments on access to livelihoods, work and education and for rich countries to welcome significantly more refugees than they have done to date, in the run up to the UN Summit on Addressing Large Movements of Refugees and Migrants in September 2016 and beyond.	Advocacy	Leave No One Behind
Oxfam will advocate for the integration of protracted displacement and durable solutions in national development plans, including in poverty reduction strategies and UN Development Action Frameworks in line with Agenda 2030, as well as in peace negotiations and agreements.	Advocacy	Leave No One Behind

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to a new approach to addressing forced displacement that not only meets immediate humanitarian needs but reduces vulnerability and improves the resilience, self-reliance and protection of refugees and IDPs. Commit to implementing this new approach through coherent international, regional and national efforts that recognize both the humanitarian and development challenges of displacement. Commit to take the necessary political, policy, legal and financial steps required to address these challenges for the specific context.	Leave No One Behind
Commit to promote and support safe, dignified and durable solutions for internally displaced persons and refugees. Commit to do so in a coherent and measurable manner through international, regional and national programs and by taking the necessary policy, legal and financial steps required for the specific contexts and in order to work towards a target of 50 percent reduction in internal displacement by 2030.	Leave No One Behind
Acknowledge the global public good provided by countries and communities which are hosting large numbers of refugees. Commit to providing communities with large numbers of displaced population or receiving large numbers of returnees with the necessary political, policy and financial, support to address the humanitarian and socio-economic impact. To this end, commit to strengthen multilateral financing instruments. Commit to foster host communities' self-reliance and resilience, as part of the comprehensive and integrated approach outlined in core commitment 1.	Leave No One Behind

Commit to collectively work towards a Global Compact on responsibility-sharing for refugees to safeguard the rights of refugees, while also effectively and predictably supporting States affected by such movements.	Leave No One Behind
Commit to actively work to uphold the institution of asylum and the principle of non-refoulement. Commit to support further accession to and strengthened implementation of national, regional and international laws and policy frameworks that ensure and improve the protection of refugees and IDPs, such as the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol or the AU Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala convention) or the Guiding Principles on internal displacement.	Leave No One Behind

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

Refugees

Oxfam is working advocating and campaigning on forced displacement and migration across many different contexts, whether it is:

- Working to improve the situation of refugees in Italy, Greece, Macedonia and Serbia.
- Oxfam's EU Migration Campaign campaigning in domestic markets in Ireland, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain and the United Kingdom to shift the narrative on refugees, challenge racism and xenophobia.
- In Jordan, the team worked hard to advocate for refugees to gain access to employment market
- Oxfam Australia has also been campaigning for many years on the treatment of refugees in the off-shore reception centres as well as running a large refugees welcome campaign.
- The migrant crisis in central America has also been a focus, as has how refugees have been received by the US and the threats to the asylum system.
- Oxfam was also engaged in the UNHCR-led process to produce a Global Compact on Refugees. This included leading an influencing network, and hosting a grounding-breaking Refugee Congress in Turkey bringing together host governments, refugees and refugee led organizations. The policy asks that were developed were successfully integrated into the final text of the compacts and refugee participation has become more accepted.

IDPs (due to conflict, violence, and disaster)

Oxfam's humanitarian mandate means that we deliver humanitarian response to internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees in many fragile and conflict-affected states. Oxfam's One Programme Approach ensures that advocacy is at the heart of any response:

- In Myanmar, Oxfam advocated for access so internally displaced Rohingya can access their rights; a more gender responsive response in Bangladesh and that refugees will not be forcibly returned.
- In protracted crises, we have campaigned in partnership with women's rights organizations, such as the paper that was developed with Somali partners on durable solutions in Somaliland,
- In Iraq, Oxfam produced and delivered a 'perceptions' paper called 'We are determined to realize our dreams' which highlighted the views of IDPs who had fled Mosul and their perception of the humanitarian response.
- In Uganda, Oxfam worked with the Government of Uganda to improve the refugee response and with refugee organizations to campaign to ensure that South Sudanese refugees were able to influence the peace process, have their views are amplified, and Oxfam have also been working closely with UNHCR to ensure refugees voices are heard in the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework (CRRF).

B. Please select if your report relates to any initiatives launched at World Humanitarian summit

☑ Grand Bargain

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

☑ Buy-in
☑ Gender and/or vulnerable group inclusion
☑ Joined-up humanitarian-development analysis, planning, funding and/or response

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

The 'moral panic' about migration which has been created by certain Governments has made it much more difficult to campaign for refugee rights. This behavior is being replicated by some host Governments who question why they should accept refugees if higher-income countries will not.

3. What steps or actions are needed to make <u>collective progress</u> to achieve this transformation?

Many Governments are often not coming close to taking their fair share of responsibility. There is a high need to continue campaigning for refugee rights in the Global North to shift the narrative. Countries extending shelter for refugees are not investing enough in upholding rights of refugees and IDPs. Oxfam believes in loudly campaigning for this and fighting xenophobia. Moreover, increased investment in understanding 'nexus' and how to effectively programme and advocate for better programming in protracted crisis is required

Keywords

Displacement

3D Empower and protect women and girls

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
Oxfam commits to seek to ensure that at least 30 percent of its staff in each crisis are women.	Policy	Leave No One Behind
Oxfam will ensure all humanitarian responses are informed by gender and GBV analysis and include targets and indicators to measure improvements in the situation of women and girls, including adequate training on the Oxfam Gender in Emergencies Minimums Standards and the IASC GBV Guidelines.	Operational	Leave No One Behind
Oxfam will increase financial support and level of engagement with women's rights organizations to engage in humanitarian preparedness, response and influencing - beginning with an analysis of Oxfam's current support for women's rights organisations to establish specific markers.	Financial	Leave No One Behind
Oxfam will support women and men in ways that contribute to the transformation of gendered power relations in humanitarian settings.	Operational	Leave No One Behind

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Empower Women and Girls as change agents and leaders, including by increasing support for local women's groups to participate meaningfully in humanitarian action.	Leave No One Behind
Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the Outcome documents of their review conferences for all women and adolescent girls in crisis settings.	Leave No One Behind
Ensure that humanitarian programming is gender responsive.	Leave No One Behind
Fully comply with humanitarian policies, frameworks and legally binding documents related to gender equality, women's empowerment, and women's rights.	Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity Leave No One Behind

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

Empowerment of women and girls

Tracking gender parity in individual responses continues to be a challenge given existing data collection systems in Oxfam's Confederation. Oxfam GB (the largest affiliate) made a regular diversity report that shows gender disaggregated figures for overseas-based staff. Last year Oxfam GB reached a target of 40% women; and this year the total is 38%. However, these figures are by no means the total picture across the Confederation or in Oxfam's responses. Short-term contracts and high turnover in response teams further contribute to this being very hard to measure.

In 2018, Oxfam's Global Humanitarian Team updated its priorities and structure to better integrate gender transformation in

responses, by: prioritizing an increase of gender expertise; improving internal culture; promoting training and adapting standards; strengthening partnerships, specifically with Women's Rights Organizations/Women Civil Society Actors; and support feminist and women's leadership.

Gender equality programming

Gender equality and women's empowerment in humanitarian responses is a central objective in Oxfam's strategic priorities. In 2018, Oxfam became co-chair of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Gender Reference Group (IASC-GRG), along with UN Women, and supported the finalization and roll-out of the IASC Gender Handbook. Oxfam is also an active member of the gender-based violence (GBV) Area of Responsibility and the IASC gender-based violence Guidelines Implementation Group. Oxfam conducted 11 gender analyses in 8 countries (an increase from 7 conducted in 2017) and provided gender in emergencies and GBV trainings for staff and partners in 19 countries.

Country teams calculated transfers of approximately EUR 1.7 million to support engagement with Women Rights Organizations, specifically on peace and security, GBV, empowerment and response preparedness, as well as disaster risk reduction (DRR). This was at consistent levels with 2017.

B. Please select if your report relates to any initiatives launched at World Humanitarian summit

☑ Charter for Change

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

☑ Data and analysis
☑ Human resources/capacity
☑ Information management/tools

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

Delays in data collection and a lack of common sources complicates how Oxfam monitors progress. Siloed sector-specific gender and GBV initiatives also risk causing poorly resourced and disjointed efforts. More work needs to be done on integration of emergency and development activities into a more cohesive approach

3. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

Roll out of the GBV Guidelines, revised IASC Gender Handbook, and the IASC gender policy and its accountability framework needs to take place to ensure humanitarian interventions further gender equality by addressing the strategic and practical needs of men, women, boys and girls. Continued support for the Grand Bargain and the Charter for Change is also needed; as is core funding streams for Women Rights Organizations and grassroots women's networks.

Keywords

Gender

4A Reinforce, do not replace, national and local systems

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
By 2017, Oxfam will adopt, use and monitor the Core Humanitarian Standard to make humanitarian action more appropriate, effective, and responsive to the needs of people and communities affected by crises.	Policy	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
By May 2018, Oxfam will promote the role of local actors and acknowledge the work they carry out in communications to the international and national media and to the public.	Advocacy	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Oxfam commits to endorse and sign on to the Principles of Partnership introduced by the Global Humanitarian Platform in 2007.	Policy	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Oxfam commits to further involve local partners in the design of programmes from the outset and enable them to participate in decisions and monitoring of Oxfam's programmes and partnership policies.	Operational	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Oxfam commits to increase cash-based programming, using cash as a preferred option in humanitarian programming, unless it is not appropriate in a specific case. Cash-based programming will include hosting the Cash Learning Partnership, cash-transfer programming and investing in the capacities of national governments to develop cash programming and preparedness, such as safety nets and social protection systems.	Operational	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Oxfam commits to raise the alarm bell on emerging crises and ensure that voices of affected people and local civil society are brought to centres of power and decision makers.	Advocacy	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Oxfam commits to use cash as a preferred option in humanitarian programming, unless it is not appropriate in a specific case, including ensuring its increase in cash-transfer programming (CTP) contributes to positive outcomes for women and girls and the advancement of women's rights, including through the use of on-going gender assessments to identify the benefits and potential risks of CTP.	Operational	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Oxfam endorses the Charter for Change through which it will commit to working with others to enable greater local leadership in humanitarian action.	Partnership	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility

Commit to a new way of working that meets people's immediate humanitarian needs, while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability over multiple years through the achievement of collective outcomes. To achieve this, commit to the following: a) Anticipate, Do Not Wait: to invest in risk analysis and to incentivize early action in order to minimize the impact and frequency of known risks and hazards on people. b) Reinforce, Do Not Replace: to support and invest in local, national and regional leadership, capacity strengthening and response systems, avoiding duplicative international mechanisms wherever possible. c) Preserve and retain emergency capacity: to deliver predictable and flexible urgent and life-saving assistance and protection in accordance with humanitarian principles. d) Transcend Humanitarian-Development Divides: work together, toward collective outcomes that ensure humanitarian needs are met, while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability over multiple years and based on the comparative advantage of a diverse range of actors. The primacy of humanitarian principles will continue to underpin humanitarian action.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Commit to reinforce national and local leadership and capacities in managing disaster and climate-related risks through strengthened preparedness and predictable response and recovery arrangements.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Commit to increase investment in building community resilience as a critical first line of response, with the full and effective participation of women.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Commit to ensure regional and global humanitarian assistance for natural disasters complements national and local efforts.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Commit to increase substantially and diversify global support and share of resources for humanitarian assistance aimed to address the differentiated needs of populations affected by humanitarian crises in fragile situations and complex emergencies, including increasing cash-based programming in situations where relevant.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity
Commit to empower national and local humanitarian action by increasing the share of financing accessible to local and national humanitarian actors and supporting the enhancement of their national delivery systems, capacities and preparedness planning.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity

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Strengthening national/local leadership and systems

In promoting local actors' work to the media and public, Oxfam developed internal guidelines in 2018 which led to press releases which now, more frequently, include partner mentions. Stories on Oxfam-supported humanitarian programming, when implemented in partnership with local actors, consistently mention partners by name and often quote partner representatives. For Oxfam, localization represents a fundamental transformation of the humanitarian system in which decisions made around aid responses are taken by actors who are closest to the people affected by crises, and Oxfam is supporting local actors to define their strategies for response and measuring progress. Oxfam is publishing analysis on funding flows, building evidence base for greater commitment to ensuring progress of funding. We are campaigning for stronger government-led crisis coordination, greater national resource mobilization for crises management and implementation of disaster risk reduction (DRR) policies. At the outset of a crisis, Oxfam highlighted the worsening of situation in the Sahel region, Ebola recurrence in Democratic Republic of the Congo and difficulties of Syrian refugees in camps in Greece and Jordan. Increase in investment in resilience, and an improvement in existing systems of crisis management were asked at the beginning of crisis to enable sustainable improvement in these crisis.

Cash-based programming

In 2018, 80% of countries implementing humanitarian programs using cash transfer programming (CTP, 34 countries) reported considering CTPs as a preferred modality. The estimated total proportion of humanitarian programs delivered through CTPs accounted for 20% of Oxfam's humanitarian work. Oxfam maintained strategic investment in the Cash Learning Partnerhisp (CaLP), the Cash Delivery Network (CCD), Global Cluster Working Groups on markets and cash and leadership in cash working groups at the country level. Oxfam is an active member of the Grand Bargain cash sub-workstreams on gender and social protection. Oxfam's cash strategy is centred on ensuring CTPs build local response capacity. Actions taken in 2018 include: advocating for alignment between localisation workstream and the cash workstream and advocacy on cash coordination; technical support to innovative programs using cash to reinforce local response capacity (e.g. Philippines, Bangladesh, Uganda, Somalia and West Africa); and internal review on cash and localization (to be used to draft a Tip Sheet on using cash to build local response capacity in 2019). Development of a social protection strategy and draft tool to map existing social protection systems at the onset of a crisis (assessment and response analysis phases).

Adherence to quality and accountability standards (e.g. CHS, SPHERE)

As a member of the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) Alliance, Oxfam is committed to promoting quality humanitarian responses. Oxfam received CHS certification in 2018 via an audit carried out by the Humanitarian Quality Assurance Initiative (HQAI) (external auditing body).
2018 saw continued support to Oxfam country offices and affiliates towards meeting the Charter for Change (C4C) commitments. The C4C commitments were again one of the three overarching priorities guiding planning and investment for Oxfam programs, and progress formed a structural part of the internal governance structures and meetings, resulting in further prioritisation and support where progress is lacking. In 2018, Oxfam also facilitated participation of national women leaders to participate in international conferences during UN Women, Peace and Security week, the Yemen Pledging Conference and the UN Human Rights Council. Thirteen Oxfam country programmes have set the localisation agenda as a priority, e.g. needs assessments, responses, coordination, and influencing. In these countries, Oxfam saw a shift in the role of partners in designing and making decisions on humanitarian programming and joint activities. For example, the management platform established by Oxfam and its Humanitarian Partnership Network (JMK) to respond to the Sulawesi earthquake and tsunami, which included three local actors and Oxfam as equal members who decide on critical matters.

B. Please select if your report relates to any initiatives launched at World Humanitarian summit

☑ Charter for Change
☑ Grand Bargain

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

☑ Buy-in
☑ Human resources/capacity
☑ Joined-up humanitarian-development analysis, planning, funding and/or response

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

The localization agenda needs to be embedded as partnerships still reflect traditional power dynamics, and siloed funding undermines equitable engagements. Integrating CHS into responses and capturing learning is challenging with varied humanitarian capacities in countries and regions. With work spanning humanitarian, development and advocacy, Oxfam has many systems and processes that do not always align.

3. What steps or actions are needed to make <u>collective progress</u> to achieve this transformation?

Better coordination and commitment to meaningful community engagement throughout humanitarian responses is needed to advance compliance with the CHS. 2019 should focus on bringing separate initiatives together with a focus on effectiveness and accountability, as opposed to efficiency. Donors, UN and INGOs need to make working with local actors a requirement for accessing funding, including structural provision of adequate administrative support and funding for capacity strengthening.

Keywords

Cash, Local action, Quality and accountability standards, Strengthening local systems

4B Anticipate, do not wait, for crises

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
In countries particularly vulnerable to recurrent natural hazards, Oxfam ensures that programmes are developed which are informed by hazard risk, and enable a flexible response.	Operational	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Oxfam commits to prepare now for the potential La Niña event in late 2016.	Operational	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Oxfam commits to undertake an internal review of its response to the El Niño-exacerbated drought, looking for blocks and incentives for improved response, including a greater use of drought cycle management.	Operational	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to a new way of working that meets people's immediate humanitarian needs, while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability over multiple years through the achievement of collective outcomes. To achieve this, commit to the following: a) Anticipate, Do Not Wait: to invest in risk analysis and to incentivize early action in order to minimize the impact and frequency of known risks and hazards on people. b) Reinforce, Do Not Replace: to support and invest in local, national and regional leadership, capacity strengthening and response systems, avoiding duplicative international mechanisms wherever possible. c) Preserve and retain emergency capacity: to deliver predictable and flexible urgent and life-saving assistance and protection in accordance with humanitarian principles. d) Transcend Humanitarian-Development Divides: work together, toward collective outcomes that ensure humanitarian needs are met, while at the same time reducing risk and vulnerability over multiple years and based on the comparative advantage of a diverse range of actors. The primacy of humanitarian principles will continue to underpin humanitarian action.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
Commit to accelerate the reduction of disaster and climate-related risks through the coherent implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, as well as other relevant strategies and programs of action, including the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity
Commit to improve the understanding, anticipation and preparedness for disaster and climate-related risks by investing in data, analysis and early warning, and developing evidence-based decision-making processes that result in early action.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

Disaster risk reduction and disaster risk management (including resilience)

To ensure that programs are informed by hazard risk, and enable flexible response, Oxfam has:

- Developed and socialized in regional and country teams a disaster risk reduction (DRR) Essentials Toolkit, providing guidance on how to embed essential DRR actions in programmes, for each phase of the response cycle;
- Continued using Oxfam's Vulnerability and Risks Assessment (VRA) methodology in humanitarian contexts (staff and partners were trained in seven countries where the VRA has been successfully implemented);
- Conducted Rapid Impact Assessments (RIA) in five countries to assess how DRR work contributed to the reduction of humanitarian needs and helped communities to better prepare, respond and cope with disasters. The assessments provided evidence that further confirmed the findings of more in-depth evaluations of the impact of DRR work.
- In addition to implementing Grant Facility mechanisms for partners, in 2018 Oxfam also explored how to support communities to better prepare for and implement their own self-help initiatives and early-responses.
- Oxfam is involved in the Participatory Action Learning in Crisis (PALC) working group that will develop guidance for community cash grants mechanisms and is also piloting pre-emptive cash for vulnerable households in DRR programmes e.g. Building Resilient, Adaptive and Disaster Ready Communities (B-READY) programme in the Philippines.

B. Please select if your report relates to any initiatives launched at World Humanitarian summit

☑ Charter for Change

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

☑ Funding amounts
☑ Funding modalities (earmarking, priorities, yearly agreements, risk aversion measures)
☑ Joined-up humanitarian-development analysis, planning, funding and/or response

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

Despite evidence of DRR cost-effectiveness and added value in reducing vulnerabilities and needs, it is still underfunded (accounting for 0.4% of total spent on global aid). Beside some progress in Oxfam DRR work linking humanitarian-development programs, more structural funding is needed to achieve substantial change.

3. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation?

Donors need to allocate structural investment in DRR to achieve substantial change. Dedicated funding mechanisms for early-action and no regrets actions are needed, as is the use of global Standard Operating Procedures for early action. Relevant stakeholders should have an integrated approach to disaster risk management and climate change adaptation in their plans, policies, laws and actions and should advocate for locally-led DRR where decision-making, action and funding is achieved.

Keywords

Cash, Community resilience, Disaster Risk Reduction

5A Invest in local capacities

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
By May 2018 Oxfam commits to address the negative impact of recruiting national NGO staff and develop a fair compensation policy for local organizations for the loss of skilled staff if and when it contracts a local organization's staff.	Financial	Invest in Humanity
Oxfam commits to pay local NGOs an adequate amount for their core administrative as well as direct programme costs and publish the percentage of Oxfam's humanitarian funding to local NGOs for capacity building by May 2018.	Financial	Invest in Humanity
Oxfam will pass at least 30 percent of its humanitarian funding directly to local NGOs by May 2018 and introduce its partners to donors so they can directly access funding.	Financial	Invest in Humanity

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to empower national and local humanitarian action by increasing the share of financing accessible to local and national humanitarian actors and supporting the enhancement of their national delivery systems, capacities and preparedness planning.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

Direct funding to national/local actors

In 2018, Oxfam continued its internal push for meeting Charter for Change (C4C) commitments as a means to structurally partner with, and invest in, local capacities. Oxfam saw a slight positive trend in the percentage of total humanitarian spend that was transferred to local and national NGO partners. The current (Financial Year 2017-18) global average is 15% of Oxfam's humanitarian spend transferred to local and national NGOs. Oxfam remains significantly below the C4C and Commitment to Change targets (being 20% and 30%, respectively).

Capacity building of national/local actors

In 2018, Oxfam is not yet meeting its global targets on funding transferred to local and national NGOs and continues its efforts to address the gap. Oxfam is implementing a number of sector-leading flagship programs designed to strengthen national and sub-national disaster management systems' capacities. In 2018, Oxfam was implementing such targeted multi-annual capacity strengthening projects in Bangladesh, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Lebanon, Philippines, Tanzania and Uganda. These system strengthening projects enhance national and local actors' capacity to deliver high quality responses and shape the humanitarian policies and system in their contexts. The total approximate value of such targeted projects in 2018 amounted to approximately EUR 4.7 million, which generated proven modalities that have since been adopted and replicated elsewhere. These initiatives have resulted in standardized but flexible approaches that enable local actors to be better prepared to take the lead in humanitarian action, through fostering (i) increased organizational and collective capacity; (ii) enhanced collaboration and complementarity and (iii) mproved representation and space for local actors and a more inclusive humanitarian system building on local realities. These approaches have gained widespread recognition and have been taken up by leading actors external to Oxfam including BioForce and UNOCHA (e.g. in Lebanon).

Other

Publishing the amount of funding going to capacity-building and admin costs:
With disparate information systems across the members of the Oxfam confederation, Oxfam's systems are not yet able to generate sufficiently disaggregated data to report on the percentage of Oxfam's humanitarian funding going to local actors for capacity building and administrative cost as part of regular humanitarian response projects and associated grants. In 2019, Oxfam will begin the acquisition of a common information system across the confederation for which this capability has been forwarded as a core design requirement.
Interim internal data on Oxfam grants to local and national partners indicates that the amounts included in budgets for core administrative costs vary greatly from country to country, as well as project to project. C4C and localization staff in Oxfam continued to raise awareness and advocate for a harmonized policy on structural contributions to partners' core costs. The issue will now be included in a larger Oxfam-wide funding review in 2019.

B. Please select if your report relates to any initiatives launched at World Humanitarian summit

☑ Charter for Change

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

☑ Buy-in
☑ Institutional/Internal constraints

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

Key challenge for Oxfam's ability to progress against these commitments is internal priority-setting as many priorities and commitments compete for restricted resources to implement changes. This has been exacerbated by the 2018 media crisis on safeguarding that significantly impacted Oxfam's income.

3. What steps or actions are needed to make <u>collective progress</u> to achieve this transformation?

Donors, UN and International NGOs all need to make working equitably with local actors a mandatory requirement and default way of working for accessing funding - unless there are good reasons not to - including structural provision of adequate administrative support and funding for organizational capacity strengthening. This will reinforce prioritization of the internal systems changes required to support the transformation.

Keywords

Local action, Preparedness, Strengthening local systems

5E Diversify the resource base and increase cost-efficiency

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
By May 2018 Oxfam commits to streamline and harmonize across NGOs its requirements for partners, namely capacity assessments, funding proposals and reporting requirements, and to commit not to ask of its partners more than its donors ask of Oxfam.	Financial	Invest in Humanity
Oxfam commits by 2017 to publish the types of organizations it works with in humanitarian response using a recognized categorization such as the Global Humanitarian Assistance Report's classifications in real-time, or the International Aid Transparency Initiative standard.	Operational	Invest in Humanity

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to increase substantially and diversify global support and share of resources for humanitarian assistance aimed to address the differentiated needs of populations affected by humanitarian crises in fragile situations and complex emergencies, including increasing cash-based programming in situations where relevant.	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity
Commit to promote and increase predictable, multi-year, unearmarked, collaborative and flexible humanitarian funding toward greater efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability of humanitarian action for affected people.	Invest in Humanity

1. A. Highlight concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2019 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures as well as any good practices and examples of innovation.

Oxfam made further progress in adapting information systems to be able to report structurally to the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) standard – in 2018 Oxfam Solidarite (Belgium), Oxfam Intermon (Spain) and Oxfam America made their first IATI publications. Oxfam Great Britain, Oxfam Novib (Netherlands) and Oxfam Ibis (Denmark) improved and enhanced their published data sets, and the total number of published activities increased from 5,900 to over 7,700. Oxfam Novib was elected as member of the IATI Governing Board. The quality of Oxfam's IATI data sets improved by including more humanitarian specific details as humanitarian flag, DAC 5 sector codes and more granular organization types. Women's rights organizations are now also specifically identified in data sets and analysis. Two Oxfam' affiliates are capable of providing gender specific information in IATI, at least one also against the ECHO result framework.

Despite of the progress shown above, Oxfam fails (more or less) to meet donor requirements and expectations in IATI. Two aspects are particularly challenging: (i) providing insight in delivery chain across all Oxfams and other coalition members, and (ii) providing timely and relevant humanitarian information. More work on streamlining Oxfam's reporting requirements for partners will form part of Oxfam's Common Approach to Partnership work across the Oxfam confederation. This will benefit from collaboration with donors and other INGOs to ensure that benefits to local organizations cut across multiple INGOs and donors.

B. Please select if your report relates to any initiatives launched at World Humanitarian summit

☑ Charter for Change

2. A. Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing the commitments related to this transformation. Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

☑ Funding amounts

☑ Information management/tools

B. How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation?

Key challenge for further progress is internal priority setting and competition for limited resources, resulting in the restricted usability of Oxfam project data due to insufficient timeliness, comprehensiveness and overall limited coverage.

3. What steps or actions are needed to make <u>collective progress</u> to achieve this transformation?

Donors need to continue to raise the bar and take data validation to the next level (such as the Dutch/British launched dataworkbench.io) and support NGOs, particularly local NGOs, with organizational investment funds. This increases the pressure on different departments within INGOs to attribute importance and endorse tighter targets/timelines for more and better data sets. These improvements are crucial to meet current and future donor requirements, and live up to Oxfam's Grand Bargain and C4C commitment on transparency.

Keywords

Transparency / IATI