

START | HUMANITARIAN
FUND | FINANCING SOLUTION

The Start Fund will be the go-to mechanism for non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and donors because it delivers practical solutions to the systemic challenges identified by the High Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing, and in particular on the Grand Bargain.

▶ **LOCALISING HUMANITARIAN FINANCING**

By 2017, at least two Start Network hubs will have been formed, and with one national Start Fund under development.

▶ **ANTICIPATING CRISES MORE PROACTIVELY**

By end of 2016 the Start Network will have launched the Start Fund Anticipation Window. This mechanism will share early warning information and collective risk analyses of forecasted events across the Network's member agencies. To the best of our knowledge, the Start Fund is the first to offer humanitarian funding for forecast-based interventions.

▶ **STRENGTHENING TRANSPARENCY AND COLLABORATION IN DECISION-MAKING**

During 2016, the Start Network membership's collaborative fund allocation and project selection decisions will be made transparent through the Start Network website, which will also enable live tracking of Start Fund decisions and learning. In the same year Start Network members will test an innovative pilot to enable more efficient, accountable and transparent decisions about funding for crisis response, using blockchain technology.

START NETWORK COMMITMENTS

WORLD HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT

Investing in Humanity

Start Network is an international network of humanitarian NGOs, working together to connect people in crisis to the best possible solutions.

START | TRANSFORMING **ENGAGE** | HUMANITARIAN ACTION

Start Engage will continue working with all parts of society to tackle the increasing scale of humanitarian crises.

▶ **INVESTING IN CAPACITY AT ALL LEVELS**

We commit to investing in both national and international systems to improve preparedness capacities at all levels of the humanitarian system.

We will continue working with others to identify core humanitarian skills, including sector specific skills, and to promote related capacity strengthening programmes, accreditation and certification, and platforms for national and international surge capacity.

▶ **COLLABORATING IN CAPACITY STRENGTHENING FOR EMERGENCIES**

We commit to working with others to develop cross-sector initiatives to enable a wide range of actors to participate in programme design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and feedback mechanisms for adaptive programming.

We commit to collaborating with governments to reinforce local and national minimum acceptable capacity for preparedness, early warning mechanisms, disaster risk reduction strategies, and local action plans, thereby embedding a culture of anticipation.

▶ **PROMOTING SOCIAL INNOVATION**

We recognise locally-led, sustainable, social innovation is strengthening capacities already, and commit to promoting and facilitating such initiatives across the Network and our partners.

START | EXPLORING AND DEVELOPING **LABS** | NEW FINANCIAL MECHANISMS

Start Labs will continue to support the development and piloting of new solutions to enable earlier, faster and more effective response to humanitarian crises.

▶ **BRINGING NEW INNOVATIONS TO HUMANITARIAN FINANCING**

Start Labs commits to continue exploring the benefits of alternative funding mechanisms, such as social impact investing, and their applications to humanitarianism.

▶ **LAUNCHING INSURANCE PRODUCTS FOR NGOS**

We pledge to launch insurance products that transfer risk for NGOs and protect the most vulnerable people from climate and health shocks.

▶ **SHIFTING THE HUMANITARIAN ECONOMY FROM RESPONSE TO ANTICIPATION**

We pledge to launch other advantageous financial mechanisms for civil society that plug the gaps in humanitarian response and shift the humanitarian economy from response to anticipation.

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