



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



Stakeholder Information

Organisation Name

International Relief Foundation

Organisational Type

NGO - International

City and Country where Headquartered

London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Focal Point Name

Hamza Mohammed

Region

Global

Twitter ID

IRF_UK



3A Reduce and address displacement

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

1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

IDPs (due to conflict, violence, and disaster)

International Relief Foundation (IRF) responded to the needs of IDPs during the droughts in July 2017, by successfully providing water trucking and medicines for acute watery diarrhea/cholera and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in the Bay region of southern Somalia. Helping communities in need is our top priority and so far this year IRF has assisted 60,000 people to help access whatever water is available.

2. A. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Through existing, internal systems or frameworks for monitoring, reporting and/or evaluation.

B. How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

IRF directly implements its commitment through its own teams on the ground and emphasizes to reach deeper into the most affected areas. Our teams report to us via project reports with photos and any other evidence.

3. 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
 Funding amounts
 Human resources/capacity

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

Security concerns are the main potential threat to project implementation in Somalia, especially in the South West State of Somalia. The security situation impacts on delivery time. The magnitude of the drought was so severe that IRF could only help a very small area due to a lack of funding.

4. Highlight actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.

IRF is providing a proposal for funding to the United Kingdom (DFID) to initiate a program that will deliver education to marginalized women in Somalia.

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

We must all strengthen cooperation across the humanitarian, development and political sectors to achieve collective goals to build the resilience and reduce the vulnerability of IDPs. Given that governments bear the primary responsibility for addressing internal displacement, they should adopt legal frameworks on displacement; dedicate resources for the displaced; and integrate IDPs into their long-term development planning.



6. List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation.

- Having local knowledge and a team on the ground to monitor and evaluate the situation.
- Create a priority matrix that clearly identifies the most urgent need and action needed.

Keywords

Displacement



3D Empower and protect women and girls

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

1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

Through our existing school in Mogadishu, an initiative was launched by International Relief Foundation (IRF) to encourage families to attend evening classes to educate mothers on key issues relating to girls such as education and female genital mutilation (FGM). The aim was to share with the mothers the positive achievements of our previous students who are now in higher education and employment. The students have contributed to this program and shared their individual stories. The primary objective was to encourage families to enroll and increase girls enrollment.

2. A. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Through existing, internal systems or frameworks for monitoring, reporting and/or evaluation.

B. How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

We monitor our registration and ensure girls attendance. If attendance is below 95% we call in the parents and have a one-to-one discussion to identify any problems and assist them within our capacity.

3. 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
- Gender and/or vulnerable group inclusion

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

Restricts the number of student we can accommodate.

4. Highlight actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.

Enroll more girls.

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

Create awareness among local and international partners and donors.

6. List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation.

Collective community support and regular updates on progress, highlighting the positive impact.

Keywords

Education, Gender





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

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
International Relief Foundation supports the elimination of injustice and inequality in health, education and standard of living and encourages self reliance through partnership, advocacy and empowerment.	Operational	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
International Relief Foundation commits to adopt the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) and International Aid Transparency Initiative Standard, with clear benchmarks for achieving these through the CHS Alliance self-assessment tool.	Policy	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity

1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January – 31 December 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures.

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

As a humanitarian aid agency International Relief Foundation (IRF) strongly believes that our actions to support vulnerable people should be in line with international standards. Before the introduction of CHS, IRF always used and referred to Sphere standards for guidance purpose. The assessment of quality and accountability element of IRF operations were not very structured hence we wanted to adopt the Core Humanitarian Standard on Quality and Accountability. We have already started reviewing our current systems, policies and procedures. The review process will take a few more weeks before we start working on agreed proposed actions.

2. A. How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? Only the categories selected by the organisation will be seen below.

- Through existing, internal systems or frameworks for monitoring, reporting and/or evaluation.
- By reporting to, or using reports prepared for, UN principal organs, UN governing boards, or other international bodies

B. How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation?

We have introduced new tools to monitor activities at the field level. We are also investing in an information management system to capture more data for better analysis and for future programming purposes.

3. 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
- Preparedness
- Strengthening national/local systems

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

As IRF has grown in an organic way, the acceptance of following new procedure and policies sometime becomes challenging among field staff. We are encouraging our field team and colleagues at headquarters to develop a further understanding about CHS from current available resources and also by taking part in trainings /workshops.

4. Highlight actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation.

We are planning to arrange the self assessment process of IRF against CHS this year and hopefully by next year we will be ready to get external verification.



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

We must all strengthen cooperation across the humanitarian, development and political sectors to achieve collective goals to build the resilience and reduce the vulnerability of IDPs. And donors and investors should provide funding and financing options that are multi-year and more flexible to support durable solutions for IDPs.

Keywords

Local action, Quality and accountability standards



Initiative Reports

DEMAC – Diaspora Emergency Action & Coordination :

What concrete actions have you taken in support of the initiative.

International Relief Foundation (IRF) became a member of DEMAC. This gave us access to training on capacity building, drought best response, advocacy and operational implementation.