



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



Stakeholder Information

Organisation Name
IMPACT Initiatives

Organisational Type
NGO - International

City and Country where Headquartered
Geneva, Switzerland

Focal Point Name
Emilie Poisson

Region
Global

Twitter ID
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1C Remain engaged and invest in stability

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
Commit to address root causes of conflict and work to reduce fragility by investing in the development of inclusive, peaceful societies.	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.

The work IMPACT does to invest in stability can be divided into two tracks: firstly, the work IMPACT does through its initiative AGORA and secondly, the holistic approach of IMPACT across its activities, mainly through its initiative REACH. Since 2017, IMPACT, in partnership with ACTED, has worked through its inter-agency initiative AGORA in order to support local and municipal level actors in taking a stronger role in creating sustainable and inclusive action for refugee and humanitarian response. Furthermore, the work of AGORA aims to promote efficient, inclusive and integrated local planning and service delivery and deepen linkages between humanitarian and development interventions. These linkages are vital in addressing the root causes of instability and reduce fragility in the long term.

AGORA projects were piloted in, for example in, Kabul (Afghanistan), Saida (Lebanon), Kampala (Uganda) and Diffa (Nigeria) in 2018.

In addition to AGORA, the information produced by IMPACT's data initiative REACH provides humanitarian decision-makers and stakeholders with open and available information on humanitarian needs and conditions from the 20+ countries REACH is present in. This data is used, for example, for programme planning, prioritisation and the efficient targeting of aid and designing of development projects. This means that IMPACT participates in providing quality information to guide decision-making for the humanitarian community as a whole. As most of the information is openly available, the stakeholders using the information vary from international organisations to civil society actors to national governments. Quality information is key in investing in stability and designing programmes that uphold and lead to stability.

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

- Centre for Humanitarian Data
- Global Alliance for Urban Crises
- Grand Bargain

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

As a data-driven actor, IMPACT sees the lack of data and the lack of the use of data as key factors defining and guiding progress towards work done to invest and support stability. Lifting data and up to date information to the centre of decision-making is key in realising this transformation. This calls for institutional buy-in across sectors and the mainstreaming of assessment and data analysis in humanitarian contexts.

Keywords

Displacement, Humanitarian-development nexus, Local action



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
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

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.

IDPs (due to conflict, violence, and disaster)

IMPACT, through its initiative REACH, influences policies and supports aid decision-making through information, partnerships and capacity-building programmes. IMPACT's teams are present in over 20 countries across the Middle East, Latin America, Africa, Europe and Asia, and work in contexts ranging from conflict and disasters to regions affected by displacement and migration. The work is focused on producing granular data that supports the understanding of humanitarian conditions and the priorities of conflict and disaster-affected people.

A key area of focus for REACH is in providing information on displacement. REACH focuses on the topic in its work conducted in, for example, Italy, Libya, South Sudan, Syria and Tunisia. In 2018, REACH continued to work together with, for example, the Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster to monitor population movement patterns in Iraq and Syria. The information gathered consisted of, for example, the reasons behind displacement and the intentions of the displaced.

The information made available by REACH has been integral in providing humanitarian and development actors needed information to reduce and address displacement in various contexts. This information has also enabled humanitarian actors to address the needs of displaced populations.

Refugees

IMPACT actively informs refugee response through its humanitarian data initiative REACH. This work has been implemented, for example, in Uganda, where REACH has monitored the conditions across refugee settlements in the country. In 2018, REACH, for example, was part of conducting a joint multi-sector needs assessment that identified humanitarian needs among refugee and host community populations. The information gathered and published from Uganda resulted in 35 references in the Refugee Response Plan for 2019, signalling that the information succeeded in serving the needs of response actors. In total, eight multi-sector needs assessments were conducted in 2018.

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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



- Joined-up humanitarian-development analysis, planning, funding and/or response

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

Challenges related to access directly impact the ability of REACH to collect and analyse information and data on the needs of displaced populations. Further challenges often encountered in the efficient coordination of assessment activities across response actors.

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

Data and information need to be placed at the forefront of humanitarian decision-making and made a priority in order to facilitate informed programming to address displacement.

Keywords

Displacement



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

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 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 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.

Strengthening national/local leadership and systems

In 2017, IMPACT together with ACTED, launched a new initiative, AGORA, aimed at promoting more localised aid action, by strengthening linkages and cooperation between international and local actors. In 2018 this work was furthered deepened with pilots in, for example, Uganda (Kampala), Kabul (Afghanistan) and Saida (Lebanon). The work succeeded in producing up to date information for both international and local actors to design their response and activities and share joint situation overviews and data on timely gaps and needs. Among the most impactful pilots was a project implemented together with the Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) providing the KCCA with information on the needs of both refugee and host communities.

Cash-based programming

In 2018, IMPACT, through its humanitarian data and information initiative REACH, increased its activities regarding joint market monitoring implemented in order to inform humanitarian and development actors with cash-based response activities. Market monitoring was completed in the framework of national Cash Working Groups and various partnerships and continue to be implemented in, for example, Libya, Syria, Somalia and Yemen.

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- Centre for Humanitarian Data
- Global Alliance for Urban Crises



Grand Bargain

Keywords

Cash, Displacement, Local action, Strengthening local systems



4B Anticipate, do not wait, for crises

Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
<p>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.</p>	<p>Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need</p>

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 data collection/analysis

IMPACT, through its humanitarian data and information initiative REACH, informs aid actors and decision-makers both of ongoing situations and conditions in contexts seeing the effects of crises, disaster and migration, as well as the anticipated risks in volatile contexts. Examples of work done to provide information for disaster risk reduction includes maps visualizing areas seeing flood hazards and the risk of landslides in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, and the anticipated movement patterns in Idlib, Syria, dependent on the developments in conflict.

The information gathered and disseminated by REACH through all its activities provides humanitarian data that can be used to design response that reflects timely developments and dynamics. The information made available through REACH is vital in providing a baseline understanding from various contexts to support prevention and preparedness efforts.

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- Grand Bargain

Keywords

Disaster Risk Reduction



4C Deliver collective outcomes: transcend humanitarian-development divides

Joint Commitments

Commitment	Joint Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
<p>Commit to taking concrete steps to ensure that humanitarian action is based on high quality evidence. We will do this by investing in research and the collection, synthesis and analysis of data, by improving the quality and accessibility of this evidence, and by adopting better practices and systems to use and value evidence. We commit to developing this more evidence-based humanitarian sector through collaborations that are multi-national, multi-organisational and multi-sectoral.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance (ALNAP) ✓ World Vision International ⌘ Oxfam International ⌘ International Rescue Committee ⌘ Feinstein International Center, Tufts University ⌘ Sphere ⌘ United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute (HCRI) - University of Manchester, Public Health in Humanitarian Crises Group - London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), Centre for Education and Research in Humanitarian Action (CERAH), International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), Wiley, Centre for Development and Emergency Practice (CENDEP), School of Architecture, Oxford Brookes University, Cochrane, Queen's University Belfast, REACH Initiatives, ELRHA, Georgetown University, The Assessment Capacities Project (ACAPS), Groupe URD, Center for Refugee and Disaster Response - Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health 	Policy	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need

Individual Commitments

Commitment	Commitment Type	Core Responsibility
<p>IMPACT Initiatives commits to develop and operationalise settlement-based approaches for more efficient humanitarian responses in urban areas.</p>	Operational	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need
<p>IMPACT Initiatives, through its REACH initiative, commits to continue promoting innovation among humanitarian actors, and providing support to mainstream innovative approaches among humanitarian responders for a more efficient response.</p>	Operational	Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need



<p>IMPACT Initiatives, UNOSAT and ACTED, through their joint REACH initiative, commit to continue generating evidence and contextual understanding as a basis for decision-making, aid planning and delivery, in both protracted and sudden onset crisis, including in hard-to-reach areas.</p>	<p>Operational</p>	<p>Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need</p>
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Core Commitments

Commitment	Core Responsibility
<p>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.</p>	<p>Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need</p>

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Joined-up humanitarian-development analysis and planning towards collective outcomes

IMPACT has been promoting area-based approaches for response planning and coordination, mainly through the AGORA initiative. Within this framework, IMPACT supported local/national authorities, clusters, United Nations (UN) agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) as well as donors in developing area-based response plans, inclusive of immediate/humanitarian and long-term priorities, transcending the humanitarian-development divides.

Furthermore, the data gathered by IMPACT's initiative REACH and openly available and widely disseminated to humanitarian and development actors continues to provide a joint tool for building situation overviews from humanitarian and development contexts. This, in turn, supports joint coordination and prioritisation across sectors, actors and programmes.

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- Grand Bargain

Keywords

Humanitarian-development nexus



5A Invest in local capacities

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.

Capacity building of national/local actors

IMPACT has been working on developing peer-to-peer capacity building for local and national actors through its and ACTED's joint initiative AGORA. The work of AGORA has focused on building partnerships with local/national actors across countries and regions. This approach was first piloted in 2017 in Jeremie (Haiti) and has since been piloted further in Kampala (Uganda), Saida (Lebanon), and Kabul (Afghanistan).

The work done through AGORA aims to make information and data available for the use of local and national stakeholders in order to support these actors in playing an elevated role in crisis response and coordination.

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

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- Grand Bargain

Keywords

Local action