



# **Annual Report on World Humanitarian Summit Commitments - United States of America 2016**



## Stakeholder Information

**Organisation Name**

United States of America

**Organisational Type**

Member State

**City and Country where Headquartered**

Washington D.C., United States of  
America

**Focal Point Name**

Courtney Blake

**Region**

North America

**Twitter ID**

Nil

**Attachments**

[USA\\_statement\\_on\\_priorities.pdf](#)



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

### Individual Commitments

| Commitment   | Commitment Type | Core Responsibility                      |
|--|-----------------|--|
| The United States will work with other Member States, the UN, and humanitarian organizations in the coming months to identify concrete ways to address more systematically challenges to humanitarian access to populations in need, and commits to supporting improvements in humanitarian organizations' capabilities to conduct access negotiations with host governments and armed actors. | Partnership     | Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity |

### Core Commitments

| Commitment   | Core Responsibility                      |
|--|--|
| 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 |

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

The number of people affected by humanitarian crises has nearly doubled over the past decade, growing to an unprecedented scale. More than 65 million people are presently displaced, which is the largest number since World War II. Accessing displaced populations in need of humanitarian assistance has become increasingly difficult, as humanitarian workers and aid convoys are targeted by both state and non-state actors. Developing and advancing resources available to humanitarian organization for the purpose of access negotiation can reduce risk to personnel and accelerate delivery of assistance to those most in need.

### Achievements at a glance

Through the sign-on statement presented in 2016 at the WHS, the United States reaffirmed the critical role of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) compliance and the importance of humanitarian access. Working with Member States, UN agencies, and other partners, the United States has continued to support global resources that will increase humanitarian access. The United States has funded organizations building their access and negotiation skills to align with global standards and the delivery of aid. It is working with implementing partners to reinforce this work. The United States has been a strong supporter of the intergovernmental process on strengthening respect for IHL. This initiative to strengthen compliance with IHL presents an important opportunity to create a new, voluntary forum that would be dedicated to the exchange between States of good practices related to their implementation of existing IHL principles and rules.

### How is your organization assessing progress

Progress against this commitment is being measured both on an individual basis, in terms of the funding that is being provided, as well as globally through feedback from our partners on the access issues they are continuing to face. Training of staff and coordination in the field among UN agencies and NGOs remains a key metric for progress. We will also measure progress through multilateral engagement in the intergovernmental process to strengthen IHL.

### Challenges faced in implementation

Gaining access to populations in need and respect for IHL remains among the more challenging obstacles to providing effective humanitarian assistance. Systematically addressing these challenges will take a coordinated and continued effort.

### Next step to advance implementation in 2017

The United States is working to better enable operational agencies to reach populations in need of humanitarian assistance and advancing respect for the core humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality, and independence as the foundation for effective and professional humanitarian assistance.



**Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives**

**Keywords**

Humanitarian principles

**Agenda for Humanity**

2D - Take concrete steps to improve compliance and accountability

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



## 2D Take concrete steps to improve compliance and accountability

### Individual Commitments

| Commitment  | Commitment Type | Core Responsibility                      |
|---|-----------------|--|
| The United States intends to make funding available for gender-based violence (GBV) interventions, GBV coordination, protection mainstreaming, and programming to reduce the risk of GBV, and is committed to advocating for greater prioritization of GBV programming and risk reduction efforts with international organization, NGO, and state partners. The United States announced its intention to make a new funding pledge of \$12.5 million in FY2016 in support of the Safe from the Start initiative. Safe from the Start is one of the ways in which the United States is implementing the commitments it has made to the Call to Action. | Financial       | Uphold the Norms that Safeguard Humanity |
| As an active member of the Call to Action and its donor/states stakeholder working group, the United States is committed to working to improve coordination among donors, international organizations, and NGO partners and aims to increase membership through the recruitment of at least 12 new Call to Action partners by the end of 2017, with a particular focus on the global south.   | Policy          | 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                     |
| 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 |

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

The United States' 2016 Global Strategy on Prevention and Response to Gender-based Violence and the U.S. National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security, demonstrate its commitment to strengthen gender equality, and to prevent and respond to GBV. The strategy is complemented by the Safe from the Start initiative, which aims to ensure the United States meets its commitments to the Call to Action and contributes to improving the way in which the humanitarian community responds to GBV in emergencies. The United States directed funding to programs and initiatives with a proven alignment with objectives of Safe from the Start.

### Achievements at a glance

The United States is a member of the Call to Action (CtA) and supported outreach efforts to new donors and governments. Safe from the Start funding was channeled to organizations such as ICRC, UNRWA, IOM, UNHCR, and UNICEF to improve capacity, institutional accountability, and emergency response quality. Funding has been provided for the deployment of GBV coordinators, regional advisors, and experts; training for non-GBV sector leads on GBV risk reduction; and ongoing support for the CtA rollout.

The United States is funding the Real Time Accountability Partnership (RTAP), a global, multi-agency initiative which aims to



harness the collective power of the humanitarian community to ensure that all individuals, particularly women and girls, are free from the threat of GBV. RTAP's goal is that all actors prioritize and coordinate GBV response services and integrate GBV prevention across sectors from the outset of an emergency through improved funding, better coordination, and effective programming.

### **How is your organization assessing progress**

The United States monitors projects through country-based staff and deployments to assess the overall GBV landscape, consult with partners, and monitor existing programs through regular visits to the field. The final phase of the RTAP is designed to measure the performance of the partnership and its application in 2-3 contexts. Finally, Safe from the Start allows the United States to hold UN agencies and other IO's directly accountable to their responsibilities around GBV coordination. The United States also reports progress through various mechanisms, including the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security annual report, and in the Call to Action annual report.

### **Challenges faced in implementation**

We are at a critical point in time where partners to the Call to Action and GBV Area of Responsibility need to increasingly show and justify the results of their efforts. Yet, coordination and leadership on GBV in emergencies remains weak and there is significant room to maximize our investments globally. The GBV community must continue the discussion about key ways to improve joint efforts and ensure strategic movement forward.

### **Next step to advance implementation in 2017**

Globally, the United States is making specialized funding available for GBV interventions. It is implementing its Safe from the Start programs, prioritizing GBV-focused funding, supporting the workstreams and efforts of the GBV Area of Responsibility, engaging with the Call to Action through the Donor and States working group, and supporting the Global Protection Cluster. The United States is also implementing Phase II of the RTAP in two crises, after which the endline performance evaluation will be conducted (Phase III).

### **If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Take concrete steps to improve compliance and accountability , what would it be**

We know from years of experience in both conflict and natural disaster and conflict that women and girls are disproportionately affected and impacted. During disasters, they are especially vulnerable to violence, abuse, exploitation, and trafficking. We have an obligation to ensure that women and girls are safe from violence, even in the face of crises. GBV programming is life-saving, not optional.

### **Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives**

#### **Keywords**

- Gender  Humanitarian principles

#### **Agenda for Humanity**

- 3D - Empower and protect women and girls



## 3A Reduce and address displacement

### Individual Commitments

| Commitment  | Commitment Type | Core Responsibility                    |
|---|-----------------|--|
| The United States set three global targets for the September 20, 2016 Summit: increasing humanitarian assistance by 30 percent over 2015; doubling the number of refugees resettled and admitted globally; and increasing the number of refugees with access to school and legal employment by one million each.  | Policy          | Leave No One Behind Invest in Humanity |
| The United States commits to work with the World Bank and other international financial institutions to develop a broader, global platform that will better support refugee-hosting countries, and eventually countries facing other exogenous shocks, as part of the Grand Bargain.  | Financial       | Leave No One Behind                    |
| The United States is committed to supporting greater World Bank engagement in protracted and recurrent crises and the World Bank's intent to establish a Global Crisis Response Platform. The Platform would support countries facing exogenous shocks, including large refugee populations. It would help countries in strengthening safety nets and improving livelihood opportunities for affected populations, and in alleviating strains on infrastructure and social services.  | Financial       | Leave No One Behind Invest in Humanity |
| The United States will help catalyze global efforts to address forced displacement through active participation in the preparations for and proceedings of the Secretary General's high-level meeting on large movements of refugees and migrants on September 19 and convening a Leaders Summit on Refugees on September 20 aimed at galvanizing new and significant commitments from governments related to humanitarian financing, refugee resettlement and admissions, and increasing refugees self-reliance and inclusion. | Policy          | 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 |



|   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| <p>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.</p>  | <p>Leave No One Behind</p> |
| <p>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.</p> | <p>Leave No One Behind</p> |
| <p>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.</p>  | <p>Leave No One Behind</p> |
| <p>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.</p>                | <p>Leave No One Behind</p> |

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

In recent years, prolonged conflict and natural disasters have forcibly displaced more people than ever previously recorded. Despite increasing levels of humanitarian funding, funding has not kept pace with escalating needs. In addition, there is a growing recognition that in protracted displacement situations, the requirements of both displaced populations and host communities are development objectives rather than traditional humanitarian needs. The World Bank has also acknowledged that globally pockets of extreme poverty are increasingly centered in communities affected by displacement.

### Achievements at a glance

In 2016, the United States contributed to the design and donor outreach of the World Bank's new financing mechanisms to support refugee-hosting countries: the Global Concessional Financing Facility (GCFF) for middle-income countries and the International Development Association (IDA) regional sub-window. The GCFF was launched at the Leaders' Summit in New York on September 20, 2016. To date, three GCFF projects in Jordan and one in Lebanon have been approved. In 2016, the USG worked closely with the World Bank in designing the Global Crisis Response Platform as an innovative mechanism to address the growing strains placed on low- and middle-income countries to absorb refugees and respond to pandemics.

The United States continues to engage in a range of processes focused on developing a cohesive approach to address migration and displacement. This includes the Global Compact on Migration process, Global Compact on Refugees process, and participation in the OECD Technical Working Group on Forced Displacement.

### Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives

#### Keywords

IDPs

Refugees

#### Specific Initiatives

Grand Bargain





## Agenda for Humanity

5C - Invest in stability

5E - Diversify the resource base and  
increase cost-efficiency



## 3D Empower and protect women and girls

### Individual Commitments

| Commitment  | Commitment Type | Core Responsibility |
|---|-----------------|---------------------|
| The United States commits to continue promoting the inclusion of the most vulnerable, especially women and girls, through the Call to Action on Protection of Women and Girls, including through strategic funding, targeted partnerships, public advocacy, and creative and effective diplomacy. | Policy          | Leave No One Behind |
| The United States commits to work to support all five of the WHS core commitments on 'Women and Girls: Catalyzing Action to Achieve Gender Equality' through strategic funding, targeted partnerships, public advocacy, and creative and effective diplomacy.                                     | Policy          | 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 |

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

The United States is supporting critical GBV services and programs that aim to prevent the causes of violence against women and girls. Through specialized funding, and by working with its institutional partners, the United States is supporting the provision of specialized GBV services during conflict and crises.

### Achievements at a glance

In 2016, the United States supported all five World Humanitarian Summit core commitments on Women and Girls.

In FY 2016, OFDA obligated over \$35 million and State/PRM obligated more than \$40 million for GBV preparedness and response. This included ongoing support for the United States' Safe from the Start initiative, including more than \$55 million has been obligated to Safe from the Start to implement the goals outlined in the Call to Action Roadmap.

The United States supports the WHS core commitments by requiring a gender and protection analysis for all humanitarian projects across all sectors of a response. It also seeks the inclusion of GBV prevention and response activities within multi-sectoral or protection-focused proposals when publishing funding opportunity announcements. In addition, the United States is holding partners accountable and promoting gender and protection mainstreaming and safe programming principles in all assessments, analysis, and planning processes.

### How is your organization assessing progress



The United States is currently working to strengthen a tracking and monitoring system for GBV funding and the performance of partners; and better assess overall progress and impact from year to year. The USG reviews every proposal submitted to the office to ensure that they meet gender and protection mainstreaming requirements, and that they include a PSEA policy before funding can be approved. The United States monitors projects through country-based staff and deployments to assess the overall GBV landscape, consult with partners, and monitor existing programs through regular visits to the field.

### **Challenges faced in implementation**

The United States is currently working to strengthen a tracking and monitoring system for GBV funding and the performance of partners; and better assess overall progress and impact from year to year. It reviews every proposal submitted to the office to ensure that they meet gender and protection mainstreaming requirements, and that they include a PSEA policy before funding can be approved. The United States monitors projects through country-based staff and deployments to assess the overall GBV landscape, consult with partners, and monitor existing programs through regular visits to the field.

### **Next step to advance implementation in 2017**

Globally, the United States is working to support GBV interventions. The Agency's various Safe from the Start programs will continue implementation in 2017 with ongoing prioritization of GBV-focused funding, support to the workstreams and efforts of the GBV Area of Responsibility, engagement with the Call to Action through the Donor and States working group, and support to the Global Protection Cluster.

### **If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Empower and protect women and girls , what would it be**

We know from years of experience in both conflict and natural disaster and conflict that women and girls are disproportionately affected and impacted. During disasters, they are especially vulnerable to violence, abuse, exploitation, and trafficking. We have an obligation to ensure that women and girls are safe from violence, even in the face of crises. GBV programming is life-saving, not optional.

### **Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives**

#### **Keywords**

Gender

#### **Agenda for Humanity**

2D - Take concrete steps to improve compliance and accountability



## 3E Eliminate gaps in education for children, adolescents and young people

### Individual Commitments

| Commitment  | Commitment Type | Core Responsibility |
|---|-----------------|---------------------|
| The United States is committed to supporting a new education crisis platform within UNICEF, known as Education Cannot Wait, to increase equitable access to education for children and youth in crisis and conflict environments. | Financial       | Leave No One Behind |

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

Most humanitarian funding in the education sector is provided through short-term appeals, making it impossible to strengthen countries' education systems. Education also provides important protection benefits. Education Cannot Wait aims to bridge the gap between humanitarian interventions during crises and long-term development afterwards, with predictable funding. US assistance for Education Cannot Wait helps expand the depth and reach of education programs in crisis and conflict contexts by leveraging additional political will and resources from global and national stakeholders. Improved coordination and efficiency will contribute to more sustainable and locally driven responses to education needs in some of the most complex environments globally.

### Achievements at a glance

In 2016, the United States strongly supported the launch of Education Cannot Wait – a fund for education in emergencies. The United States made an initial financial contribution in 2016 of \$21 million to the fund to support the establishment of its structure and incentivize new donors to invest in education in crisis and conflict, with \$1 million of it going to support the organizational development of the fund. The contribution included US funding through both USAID and Department of State (PRM), demonstrating our commitment to linking humanitarian and development resources to meet both immediate and longer term needs. The United States is engaged in the refinement of fund governance structures. With United States input through USAID, investments have already been made in Chad, Yemen, Ethiopia and the IASC Education Cluster.

### How is your organization assessing progress

The United States continues to assess and monitor progress against the Education Cannot Wait's 2017 indicative milestones. We will continue to engage in discussions around these Breakthrough and Acceleration Funds milestones and provide input and technical direction as required.

### Challenges faced in implementation

When the United States made its pledge in 2016 at the WHS, it was stressed that bringing in new, non-traditional donors and private sector actors to support and contribute to ECW was critical. It will be key that non-traditional donors and private sector actors contribute.

Fully staffing the Education Cannot Wait Secretariat will be important for it to successfully implement its programs.

### Next step to advance implementation in 2017

The commitment made in 2016 was a one-time investment. In 2017, the United States through USAID intends to continue to engage as an active member in the High Level Steering Group as well continuing to provide technical input at the working level to ensure that United States equities are represented.

### If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Eliminate gaps in education for children, adolescents and young people , what would it be

New, non-traditional donors and private sector actors need to be engaged to bridge the gap between humanitarian interventions during crises and long-term development afterwards.

### Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives

#### Specific Initiatives

Education Cannot Wait





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

### Individual Commitments

| Commitment  | Commitment Type | Core Responsibility   |
|---|-----------------|---|
| For more than 20 years, the United States has provided advanced training in disaster response to urban search-and-rescue (USAR) teams across Latin America, including teams that deployed to assist with the April 2016 Ecuador earthquake response. Consistent with such practices the United States is committed to build the capacity of local and national responders for disaster risk reduction and humanitarian response.              | Capacity        | Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need<br>Invest in Humanity |
| The United States anticipates increasing use of cash and it commits to working [with other donors and implementers] towards common coordination and delivery platforms, as part of the Grand Bargain.   | Operational     | Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need<br>Invest in Humanity |
| The United States is committed to continuing and expanding the work of building resilience in fragile communities so they can more effectively prevent or withstand shocks that trigger large-scale emergencies. As part of this effort, the United States is committed to support responsible national governments in reducing their risks of disaster and strengthen their capacity to lead disaster response efforts within their borders. | Operational     | Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need                       |
| The United States promotes accountability toward affected populations, and is committed to supporting partner organization efforts to incorporate accountability to affected populations into their programming.  | Advocacy        | 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 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 |

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

Building local humanitarian response capacity and investing in Country-Based Pooled Funds supports an approach to humanitarian response that is as local as possible and as international as necessary. The effective, efficient and appropriate use of cash can offer choice and dignity by supporting agency while increasing efficiencies, supporting local actors and stimulating local economies.

The United States is working towards durable and interim solutions that are facilitated through accessibility for populations of concern to existing national social protection programs labor rather than offering costly parallel services. The United States encourages humanitarian partner organizations to engage and plan with development counterparts in all refugee and IDP situations.

### Achievements at a glance

The United States continues support for training in disaster response to urban search-and-rescue teams, Disaster Risk Reduction funding, work to support National Disaster Management and local organization capacity-building in Africa and Asia and International Search and Rescue Advisory Group support and capacity-building. To facilitate more support to local responders the United States through USAID/OFDA has, on a pilot basis, contributed to humanitarian Country-Based Pooled Funds in Iraq and Ethiopia.

The United States continues to support cash programming, where appropriate, and support efforts to improve the coordination of cash programming.

Initial successes in United States assistance planning in Jordan and Lebanon have been seen as development assistance is encompassing refugee-hosting areas. State/PRM has supported multilateral initiatives such as the Transitional Solutions Initiative in Colombia, in partnership with UNDP and the World Bank, and the Solutions Alliance Zambia national group through a \$2.5 million earmark to the UNHCR Zambia Local Integration initiative.

### How is your organization assessing progress

In FY2017 to FY2018, the United States through USAID/OFDA will begin systematically tracking the proportion of funding that goes to local agencies, both directly and through sub-awards, in order to establish its baseline. The United States through USAID/FFP is working with WFP to ensure that 25 percent of funds go directly to local NGOs. Additionally the United States through USAID/FFP is working with WFP to prioritize local stakeholders in the design of new Country Strategic Plans.

The United States through both USAID/OFDA and State/PRM is developing guidance for multipurpose cash, and indicators to better track cash and voucher programming and ensure cash-based initiatives promote better self-reliance and align with relief and development coherence.

### Challenges faced in implementation

The landscape for cash coordination, and positions on common delivery platforms, continue to evolve. Cash-based initiatives vary from response to response and are still being developed and explored by humanitarian actors. The evolution of cash and technology's role in today's humanitarian response is still evolving and will require continued investments in capacity development and preparedness for humanitarian organizations, donors and host governments, along with a continued partnership focus with the private sector on necessary access to critical communications infrastructure and financial services.



### Next step to advance implementation in 2017

The United States through USAID is supporting responsible national government in reducing their risks of disaster and strengthen their capacity to lead response efforts when disasters strike. The revised cash guidance is expected to take effect in late 2017. Additional data on the United States' cash programming through USAID/OFDA will be available starting in 2018.

The United States intends to continue to engage robustly in the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework pilot process. The USG through State/PRM will continue to work with partners to promote financial and/or diplomatic support to international financial institutions' efforts to facilitate sustainable solutions for conflict-affected populations and their host communities.

### Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives

#### Keywords

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accountability to affected people | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cash | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Country-based pooled funds |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disaster Risk Reduction           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IDPs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Refugees                   |

#### Specific Initiatives

- Grand Bargain

#### Agenda for Humanity

- 3A - Reduce and address displacement    4B - Anticipate, do not wait, for crises    5A - Invest in local capacities





## 4C Deliver collective outcomes: transcend humanitarian-development divides

### Individual Commitments

| Commitment   | Commitment Type | Core Responsibility   |
|--|-----------------|---|
| As part of the Grand Bargain, the United States supports joint needs analysis, and prioritized, comprehensive humanitarian appeals as well as planning mechanisms that promote the reduction of humanitarian need and more coherent programming between humanitarian and development assistance, particularly in situations of cyclical crises or protracted displacement and where resilience can be increased or protracted displacement addressed. The United States supports increased joint assessments, analysis and prioritization of needs, including by allocating some humanitarian assistance through humanitarian country-based pooled funding mechanisms. | Operational     | Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need<br>Invest in Humanity |
| The United States also commits to support joint humanitarian and development planning in its programming processes in appropriate situations, such as those where there are recurring or protracted crises, or in countries impacted by large refugee or IDP populations.  | Operational     | Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need                       |
| The United States commits to continue to support the distinct requirements and modalities of humanitarian and development action.  | Policy          | Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need<br>Invest in Humanity |
| The United States is committed to establishing a crisis review mechanism to support better collaboration and planning between humanitarian and development actors in situations of protracted or recurrent crises.   | Policy          | 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 |



### **Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments**

The destruction caused by conflicts and natural disasters has eroded and in some cases reversed the hard-earned progress many communities had made toward long-term, sustainable development. While the international community is successfully able to respond to emergencies and save lives, the United States views that the system must also do a better job of ensuring that the people saved will have an opportunity to enjoy a productive future.

### **Achievements at a glance**

In December 2016, the United States through USAID held the first internal Crisis Programming Review Meeting (CPRM) to review USAID programming and engagement in two situations of chronic crisis. Based on the meeting, the United States through USAID is working to further refine the process and format for the CPRM for future iterations and include participation from relevant and interested interagency partners, as appropriate.

The United States through USAID/FFP is initiating a new graduation approach for refugees and other beneficiaries in Uganda, transitioning from humanitarian assistance to development programming with the objectives of self-reliance (ending the dependence on humanitarian assistance).

Other achievements against this commitment are detailed under Transformation 3A: Reduce and Address Displacement.

### **Next step to advance implementation in 2017**

In March 2016, the United States through USAID participated in OCHA and World Bank meetings on 'The New Way of Working,' to explore synergies in approach.

### **Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives**

#### **Keywords**

IDPs

Refugees

#### **Specific Initiatives**

New Way of Working

Grand Bargain

#### **Agenda for Humanity**

3A - Reduce and address displacement



## 5A Invest in local capacities

### Individual Commitments

| Commitment   | Commitment Type | Core Responsibility  |
|--|-----------------|--|
| For more than 20 years, the United States has provided advanced training in disaster response to urban search-and-rescue (USAR) teams across Latin America, including teams that deployed to assist with the April 2016 Ecuador earthquake response. Consistent with such practices the United States is committed to build the capacity of local and national responders for disaster risk reduction and humanitarian response. | Capacity        | Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need Invest in Humanity |
| To facilitate more funds to local responders, the United States is committed to, starting by 2017 on a pilot basis, contributing to at least three humanitarian country-based pooled funds (CBPFs), as part of the Grand Bargain.  | 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 |

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

Building local humanitarian response capacity and investing in Country-Based Pooled Funds supports an approach to humanitarian response that is as local as possible and as international as necessary. The effective, efficient and appropriate use of cash can offer choice and dignity by supporting agency while increasing efficiencies, supporting local actors and stimulating local economies.

The United States is working towards durable and interim solutions that are facilitated through accessibility for populations of concern to existing national social protection programs labor rather than offering costly parallel services. The United States encourages humanitarian partner organizations to engage and plan with development counterparts in all refugee and IDP situations.

### Achievements at a glance

The United States continues support for training in disaster response to urban search-and-rescue teams, Disaster Risk Reduction funding, work to support National Disaster Management and local organization capacity-building in Africa and Asia and International Search and Rescue Advisory Group support and capacity-building. To facilitate more support to local responders the United States through USAID/OFDA has, on a pilot basis, contributed to humanitarian Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPFs) in Iraq and Ethiopia.

The USG continues to support cash programming, where appropriate, and support efforts to improve the coordination of cash programming.

Initial successes in United States assistance planning in Jordan and Lebanon have been seen as development assistance is encompassing refugee-hosting areas. State/PRM has supported multilateral initiatives such as the Transitional Solutions Initiative (TSI) in Colombia, in partnership with UNDP and the World Bank, and the Solutions Alliance Zambia national group through a \$2.5 million earmark to the UNHCR Zambia Local Integration initiative.

### How is your organization assessing progress

In FY2017 through FY2018, the United States through USAID/OFDA will begin systematically tracking the proportion of funding that goes to local agencies, both directly and through sub-awards, in order to establish its baseline. The United States through USAID/FFP is working with WFP to ensure that 25 percent of funds go directly to local NGOs. Additionally the United States through



USAID/FFP is working with WFP to prioritize local stakeholders in the design of new Country Strategic Plans (CSPs).

The United States through both USAID/OFDA and State/PRM is developing guidance for multipurpose cash, and indicators to better track cash and voucher programming and ensure cash-based initiatives promote better self-reliance and align with relief and development coherence.

### **Challenges faced in implementation**

The landscape for cash coordination, and positions on common delivery platforms, continue to evolve. Cash-based initiatives vary from response to response and are still being developed and explored by humanitarian actors. The evolution of cash and technology's role in today's humanitarian response is still evolving and will require continued investments in capacity development and preparedness for humanitarian organizations, donors and host governments, along with a continued partnership focus with the private sector on necessary access to critical communications infrastructure and financial services.

### **Next step to advance implementation in 2017**

The United States through USAID is supporting responsible national government in reducing their risks of disaster and strengthen their capacity to lead response efforts when disasters strike. The revised cash guidance is expected to take effect in late 2017. Additional data on the United States' cash programming through USAID/OFDA will be available starting in 2018.

The United States intends to continue to engage robustly in the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework pilot process. The United States through State/PRM will continue to work with partners to promote financial and/or diplomatic support to international financial institutions' efforts to facilitate sustainable solutions for conflict-affected populations and their host communities.

### **Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives**

#### **Keywords**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cash | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Country-based pooled funds | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disaster Risk Reduction |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IDPs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Refugees                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social protection       |

#### **Specific Initiatives**

- Grand Bargain

#### **Agenda for Humanity**

- 3A - Reduce and address displacement     4A - Reinforce, do not replace, national and local systems     4B - Anticipate, do not wait, for crises



## 5B Invest according to risk

### Individual Commitments

| Commitment  | Commitment Type | Core Responsibility |
|---|-----------------|---------------------|
| In 2016, the United States commits to funding early warning, resilience, preparedness, mitigation and prevention, stabilization, peacebuilding and other efforts to mitigate the risk of humanitarian suffering from conflict and vulnerability to natural hazards. | Financial       | Invest in Humanity  |

### Core Commitments

| Commitment   | Core Responsibility  |
|--|--|
| 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 invest in risk management, preparedness and crisis prevention capacity to build the resilience of vulnerable and affected people.  | Invest in Humanity   |

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

Over the past 25 years, disasters such as floods, flash floods, cyclones, tsunamis, mudslides El Nino and droughts resulted in approximately 600,000 deaths, affected more than 3 billion people, and caused an estimated \$2 trillion in economic damages.

The United States through USAID/OFDA supports an end-to-end multi hazard early warning approach to save lives and reduce disaster losses. The basic components are: 1) monitoring and collection of hydrometeorological data, 2) meteorological and hydrological forecasting, 3) dissemination and communication of the forecasts/warnings to emergency managers, people at risk and other users; and 4) early actions that are taken by users and communities.

### Achievements at a glance

The United States through USAID/OFDA uses a strategic approach to DRR to guide programming and prioritizes developing and strengthening early warning, preparedness, mitigation and prevention. USAID/OFDA supports activities to improve early warning lead times and enabling rapid response mechanism. USAID/OFDA's programs focus on developing and strengthening capacities in countries to monitor and forecast events in order to take early action. USAID/OFDA has invested in innovation of locally sustainable technology to improve monitoring in many countries. In addition, USAID/OFDA implemented community based DRR activities to advance capacities at local level to take early action to warnings and prepared for these hazards.

### How is your organization assessing progress

The United States through USAID/OFDA tracks the implementation of DRR and early warning systems activities through indicators outlined in its Grant Guidelines. USAID/OFDA also supports independent evaluation of DRR activities in partnership with the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the UN World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in the implementation of early warning systems. In addition, we are in the process of working with partner NGOs to develop an assessment of community based early warning systems to understand gaps and challenges, including local sustainability of these systems.

### Challenges faced in implementation

Early Warning systems require continuous resources to operate and maintain. The main challenges include lack of capacity to locally sustain these systems. Therefore, the United States through USAID/OFDA emphasizes building capacity and buy in from local and national entities and communities, and promotes locally sustainable systems instead of highly advanced and technical solutions. Scaling of community based early warning systems continues to be a challenge as replication requires external resources.



Another issue is vertically linking these systems from community to national level to leverage information and make warning flows timely and widely.

### **Next step to advance implementation in 2017**

In 2017, the United States through USAID/OFDA intends to implement a pilot program to replicate successes from the US program, “Weather Ready Nation,” in the face of increasing vulnerability to extreme weather to build communities that are ready, responsive and resilient. The United States and its partners will focus on improving the understanding of societal impacts and make information more relevant to decision makers. In addition, the United States is working with NGO partners to understand the challenges in sustaining community based DRR and early warning to improve sustainability and replication at the local level.

### **If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Invest according to risk , what would it be**

We need to be “ready, responsive and resilient” to hydrometeorological hazards. This requires an inclusive approach and innovative partnerships across all segments of society: national government, the private sector, local government, and the public.

### **Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives**

#### **Keywords**

Disaster Risk Reduction

#### **Agenda for Humanity**

4B - Anticipate, do not wait, for crises



## 5C Invest in stability

### Individual Commitments

| Commitment   | Commitment Type | Core Responsibility                    |
|--|-----------------|--|
| The United States is committed to supporting greater World Bank engagement in protracted and recurrent crises and the World Bank's intent to establish a Global Crisis Response Platform. The Platform would support countries facing exogenous shocks, including large refugee populations. It would help countries in strengthening safety nets and improving livelihood opportunities for affected populations, and in alleviating strains on infrastructure and social services. | Financial       | Leave No One Behind Invest in Humanity |

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

In 2016 the United States agreed to support the World Bank (WB) in joining international calls for greater coherence between global development and humanitarian actors, and efforts to increase its capacity on crisis risk management, based on three global trends: (1) climate-caused and related natural disasters; (2) fragility, conflict, and climate-caused displacement; and (3) threats of future pandemics. The main mechanism for this is the Global Crisis Response Platform (GCRP), which was launched in September 2016. The GCRP focuses on systemic and scaled-up support for a range of crisis, bringing together multiple existing World Bank resources and financial mechanisms under a single, crisis-focused platform.

### Achievements at a glance

The United States through USAID is focusing engagement with the World Bank in two ways to support this commitment: by establishing a USAID-World Bank Technical Dialogue on humanitarian crises to exchange views on the nexus between humanitarian and development actors; and supporting the Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction which helps high-risk, low income developing countries better understand and reduce their vulnerabilities to natural hazards.

### How is your organization assessing progress

Progress will be assessed against the Bank's ability to provide systemic and scaled-up support for a range of crises, and bring together multiple existing resources and financial mechanisms under a single, crisis-focused platform.

### Next step to advance implementation in 2017

The United States through USAID is continuing to work with the World Bank, through the Global Crisis Response Platform, the Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction, and technical dialogues.

### If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Invest in stability , what would it be

One of the outcomes of the 2016 Summit was agreement on the need for relief and development coherence in addressing forced displacement, chronic conflicts and natural disasters. Continued attention on these new modalities of responding to emergencies will be critical to meet the current level of global humanitarian need.

### Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives

#### Keywords

- IDPs  Refugees

#### Agenda for Humanity

- 3A - Reduce and address displacement  4B - Anticipate, do not wait, for crises



## 5D Finance outcomes, not fragmentation: shift from funding to financing

### Individual Commitments

| Commitment  | Commitment Type | Core Responsibility                    |
|---|-----------------|--|
| In FY 2015 a total of 14% of United States' overseas humanitarian funding was "softly earmarked" in the sense that this term is used in the Grand Bargain. The United States commits to working to increase the percentage of its funding that is "softly earmarked" and actively working to decrease the percentage of its funding that significantly limits partners' flexibility. U.S. efforts on this issue are largely dependent on fulfillment of other commitments in the Grand Bargain. | Financial       | Invest in Humanity                     |
| The United States set three global targets for the September 20, 2016 Summit: increasing humanitarian assistance by 30 percent over 2015; doubling the number of refugees resettled and admitted globally; and increasing the number of refugees with access to school and legal employment by one million each.  | Policy          | Leave No One Behind Invest in Humanity |
| The United States funds its partners reliably and in a timely manner, including through multi-year agreements. An estimated 34% of FY 2015 US humanitarian awards to NGO partners were in multiyear awards, and it commits to increasingly solicit and fund multi-year proposals, and collaborate with partners to increase the effectiveness and flexibility of multiyear mechanisms as part of the Grand Bargain.   | Policy          | Invest in Humanity                     |

### Core Commitments

| Commitment   | Core Responsibility  |
|--|--|
| Commit to enable coherent financing that avoids fragmentation by supporting collective outcomes over multiple years, supporting those with demonstrated comparative advantage to deliver in context.   | 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   |
| Commit to broaden and adapt the global instruments and approaches to meet urgent needs, reduce risk and vulnerability and increase resilience, without adverse impact on humanitarian principles and overall action (as also proposed in Round Table on "Changing Lives"). | Invest in Humanity   |

### Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

The United States has funded our partners reliably and in a timely manner, including through multi-year agreements. In 2016, the United States joined with other donor governments and humanitarian in the Grand Bargain in order to strengthen how humanitarian response is designed, funded, implemented and evaluated so as to maximize impact and efficiency, and increase accountability to affected populations.

### Achievements at a glance





An estimated 34% of Fiscal Year 2015 humanitarian awards to NGO partners were in multi-year awards. We anticipate increasing the solicitation and funding of multi-year proposals, and collaborate with our partners to increase the effectiveness and flexibility of our multiyear mechanisms.

The United States uses various humanitarian funding practices. Contingent upon the development of rigorous strategic planning, transparency, and increased accountability, the United States is piloting approaches that would allow greater flexibility for partners to direct funds to the most urgent needs in each crisis, consistent with existing statutory requirements.

### **How is your organization assessing progress**

Progress will be established over the next three years, against the baseline developed in 2016.

### **Challenges faced in implementation**

Any shift towards increased flexibility will need to be balanced carefully against calls for greater accountability and scrutiny on use of funds, particularly in non-permissive operating environments. There will also be limitations on the data around localization, as we do not require international organizations to provide details on sub-awards provided to local partners. Thus, the true extent of financial supporting flowing to local organizations will likely remain under-reported until UN Agencies start reporting on this, per their commitments in the Grand Bargain.

### **Next step to advance implementation in 2017**

The United States is exploring ways to facilitate multi-year planning and programming and we plan to collaborate with our partners to increase the effectiveness and flexibility of our multi-year mechanisms. For example, the United States through USAID/FFP has been heavily engaged with WFP's move toward 5-year Country Strategic Plans (CSPs).

### **Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives**

#### **Specific Initiatives**

Grand Bargain

#### **Agenda for Humanity**

4A - Reinforce, do not replace, national and local systems  5E - Diversify the resource base and increase cost-efficiency



## 5E Diversify the resource base and increase cost-efficiency

### Individual Commitments

| Commitment   | Commitment Type | Core Responsibility   |
|--|-----------------|---|
| As part of the Grand Bargain, the United States commits to tracking the proportion of its humanitarian funding that is ultimately programmed through local NGOs.   | Financial       | Invest in Humanity  |
| As part of the Grand Bargain, the United States is willing to support improvements to the UN Financing Tracking Service that will allow it to improve timeliness, interoperability and completeness as a platform for tracking funding for humanitarian assistance in a manner that utilizes the IATI standard.  | Operational     | Invest in Humanity  |
| As part of the Grand Bargain, the United States supports joint needs analysis, and prioritized, comprehensive humanitarian appeals as well as planning mechanisms that promote the reduction of humanitarian need and more coherent programming between humanitarian and development assistance, particularly in situations of cyclical crises or protracted displacement and where resilience can be increased or protracted displacement addressed. The United States supports increased joint assessments, analysis and prioritization of needs, including by allocating some humanitarian assistance through humanitarian country-based pooled funding mechanisms. | Operational     | Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need<br>Invest in Humanity |
| As part of the Grand Bargain, the United States supports use of the IATI standard, and it commits to continuing to improve reporting to that standard.   | Operational     | Invest in Humanity  |
| In FY 2015 a total of 14% of United States' overseas humanitarian funding was "softly earmarked" in the sense that this term is used in the Grand Bargain. The United States commits to working to increase the percentage of its funding that is "softly earmarked" and actively working to decrease the percentage of its funding that significantly limits partners' flexibility. U.S. efforts on this issue are largely dependent on fulfillment of other commitments in the Grand Bargain.  | Financial       | Invest in Humanity  |
| The United States anticipates increasing use of cash and it commits to working [with other donors and implementers] towards common coordination and delivery platforms, as part of the Grand Bargain.  | Operational     | Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need<br>Invest in Humanity |
| The United States commits to continue to support the distinct requirements and modalities of humanitarian and development action.  | Policy          | Change People's Lives: From Delivering Aid to Ending Need<br>Invest in Humanity |



|  |                    |                           |
|--|--------------------|---------------------------|
| <p>The United States generally provides implementing agencies significant flexibility to determine the most effective, empowering methods of delivering humanitarian aid. As part of the Grand Bargain, it commits to tracking cash-based programming, such as for shelter, health services, or other assistance, supporting efforts to further the analysis and evidence base for a typology of when cash assistance is most appropriate and when in-kind assistance is most appropriate, and promoting appropriate standards for cash programming.</p> | <p>Policy</p>      | <p>Invest in Humanity</p> |
| <p>The United States is committed to continuing its support for Digital Identity platforms, as part of the Grand Bargain.</p>  | <p>Policy</p>      | <p>Invest in Humanity</p> |
| <p>The United States is committed to joint regular functional monitoring and performance reviews and increasing joint evaluations with other donors, as part of the Grand Bargain.</p>   | <p>Operational</p> | <p>Invest in Humanity</p> |
| <p>The United States is committed to working with donor and agency colleagues to harmonize, as appropriate, programmatic reporting requirements, and it is working to reduce some programmatic reporting requirements for NGO partners, as part of the Grand Bargain.</p>  | <p>Operational</p> | <p>Invest in Humanity</p> |

## Core Commitments

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

## Where did your organization stand on these issues prior to making these commitments

In 2016, the United States joined with other donor governments and humanitarian in the Grand Bargain in order to strengthen how humanitarian response is designed, funded, implemented and evaluated so as to maximize impact and efficiency, and increase accountability to affected populations.

## Achievements at a glance

The United States currently reports all humanitarian funding through the its website [www.foreignassistance.gov](http://www.foreignassistance.gov), the OECD Creditor Reporting System, the UN Financial Tracking Service (FTS), and publishes to the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI). United States agencies regularly report to FTS and we are improving our reporting to that standard. In order to increase the interoperability between FTS and IATI, the United States through USAID/OFDA funded OCHA to strengthen FTS and bring it in line with IATI.

The United States through USAID/FFP is working with WFP on new reporting templates that remove any superfluous reporting. The United States through USAID/OFDA reduced NGO reporting requirements to twice annually effective October 1, 2016. State/PRM is currently considering how it, too, can streamline reporting requirements.

## How is your organization assessing progress



Progress is being assessed against the baseline developed in 2016.

### **Challenges faced in implementation**

The United States will ensure that any changes to reporting requirements will not adversely impact the quality of information received from our partners and provided to Congress and the American public.

### **Next step to advance implementation in 2017**

We continue to work with OCHA to ensure that FTS reporting accommodates and appropriately reflects United States funding contributions.

This year the United States is the co-lead of the Good Humanitarian Donorship Initiative work stream on harmonized reporting where efforts will be focused on identifying what reporting practices can be harmonized across a larger number of humanitarian donors. The United States, through State/PRM, USAID/OFDA, and USAID/FFP, is working internally to identify ways to harmonize program reporting.

### **If you had one message for the annual report on what is most needed to advance the transformation Diversify the resource base and increase cost-efficiency , what would it be**

Keeping focus and attention on ensuring the humanitarian system is transparent, efficient and fit-for-purpose, in order to build confidence in the system and attract additional funding remains a critical priority.

### **Tag with other relevant transformations, keywords, initiatives**

#### **Specific Initiatives**

Grand Bargain