

INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE

Transformation Code: 3A

Commitment ID: 202007

- 1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January and December 31 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures. (Maximum 150 words)**

IRC helped establish the coordinating structures of the Global Alliance on Urban Crises. As a founding member of the Steering Group, we convened two all members meetings in March and October and established four working groups to advance the key objectives of the Alliance with respect to 1) improving coordination in urban crises; 2) strengthening the deployment of appropriately skilled personnel to urban crises; 3) building the evidence base on protracted displacement in urban crises; 4) promoting multi-stakeholder resilience building strategies and approaches in urban crises. IRC was instrumental in establishing a Secretariat to the SG, securing new funding for the Alliance for 2018, and in raising the voice of the Alliance in the Global Compacts for refugees and migrants. This resulted in an increase Alliance membership, including from the World Bank and non-traditional actors such as local authorities and built environment professionals.

- A) How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? Please check one or more boxes below.**

By reporting to donors who support the Alliance, including DFID and ECHO.

- B) How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation? (50 words)**

The Alliance Secretariat is monitoring progress against agreed objectives. Though too early to assess operational impact, multi-stakeholder consultations, local authorities, and other actors track changes on the ground. Progress is easier to monitor at the global policy level, where we see a significant increase in the reference to urban displacement.

- 2.**

- A) Please select no more than 3 key challenges faced in implementing commitments related to this transformation.**

B) How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation? (50 words)

The slow pace of multi-stakeholder engagement has limited the ability to challenge ways of working in urban crises, along with the limited capacity of local authorities to participate in global fora. The investment of time in institutional formation on the ground, has further presented an obstacle to greater buy-in.

3. Highlight actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation. (75 words)

The four Alliance working groups will each produce and disseminate a knowledge product drawing together analysis and best practice from across the multi-stakeholder platform. The Alliance will launch a new ‘competency framework’ for urban crises and support the development of a Humanitarian Practice Review from the Overseas Development Institute.

4. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation? (75 words)

Strengthen and expand the multi-stakeholder platform. Link up and build on existing institutional and operational reform around urban crises. Ensure urban crises are recognized in the Global Compacts for refugees and migrants and link these to Agenda 2030 and the Urban Charter. Secure sustainable funding for the Alliance Secretariat.

5. List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation. (50 words)

IRC is part of the Stronger Cities Consortium of NGOs and 100 Resilient Cities (partnering with Amman and Kampala), pursuing best practices in urban crises. IRC supported a coalition of Mayors writing to the UNHCR High Commissioner to raise the profile of city municipalities in the Global Compact of Refugees.

Transformation Code: 3A

Commitment ID: 202017

- 1. Highlight the concrete actions taken between 1 January and December 31 2017 to implement the commitments which contribute to achieving this transformation. Be as specific as possible and include any relevant data/figures. (Maximum 150 words)**

IRC has made significant investments in generating evidence to inform internal practice and wider humanitarian policies. In 2017, IRC launched research agendas around four priorities: education in emergencies, reduction of family violence, cash in emergencies and reduction of under-five mortality. In 2017, we had 17 ongoing impact evaluations, including evaluations of teacher professional development and integration of social emotional learning into reading and math instruction in Lebanon, Niger and Sierra Leone. IRC is working with the World Bank to synthesize studies on the effectiveness of interventions to improve outcomes for forcibly displaced populations.

Since 2006, the IRC has conducted 98 research studies across 28 countries. As of 2017, the results of our evidence generation and wider research have been shared in 94 peer-reviewed publications. To date, IRC has conducted 20 of the approximately 120 impact evaluations completed in conflict-affected contexts.

- B) How are you measuring progress toward achieving your commitments? Please check one or more boxes below.**

IRC uses the evidence we generate in industry-wide practice groups (e.g. CaLP) and advocacy campaigns (e.g. Education Cannot Wait).

- B) How are you assessing whether progress on your commitments is leading toward change in the direction of the transformation? (50 words)**

The Program Quality team has established metrics that record our technical influence. For instance, we track the number and types of policy targets/institutions with whom we engage and whether our research-based recommendations have been taken up.

- 2.**

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

B) How are these challenges impacting achievement of this transformation? (50 words)

More resources are needed to address gaps in knowledge and practice. The lack of cohesion among joint research agendas across organizations, low investment in systems, and tools to increase the translation of research cause duplication of effort, barriers to shared knowledge, and slow/low uptake of research by policymakers.

3. Highlight actions planned for 2018 to advance implementation of your commitments in order to achieve this transformation. (75 words)

IRC is brokering relationships with other actors who are also committed to identifying the most impactful ways to address the needs of forcibly displaced populations. In 2018, IRC will broker relationships with key actors such as UNICEF and ACF to participate in setting global research agendas around issues such as education in emergencies, social protection and reduction of malnutrition.

4. What steps or actions are needed to make collective progress to achieve this transformation? (75 words)

Collective progress requires shared global research agendas, collaboration in identifying research opportunities, dedicated funding (not necessarily linked to programming) and more systematic involvement of policymakers and practitioners in research from conceptualization through completion in order to improve evidence translation and uptake.

5. List any good practice or examples of innovation undertaken individually or in cooperation with others to advance this transformation. (50 words)

From 2017, IRC has worked with the World Bank to synthesize a compendium of studies examining the effectiveness of interventions to improve outcomes for forcibly displaced populations, with a focused lens of gender in intervention operations. This review will inform a framework for effective WB operations targeting forcibly displaced populations.