



Title:

“Humanitarian financing towards aid effectiveness: Grand Bargain one year outcome, innovative funding and community engagement in humanitarian action”

Sponsors and Organizers:

UNOCHA AND NRC

**Time and Date: Thursday 22 June 2017, 13.15 – 14.45
Room XXVI, Palais des Nations, Geneva**

This is one of the side-events to be convened during the ECOSOC Humanitarian Affairs Segment, in keeping with this year's theme: *Restoring Humanity and Leaving No One Behind: Working together to reduce people's humanitarian need, risk and vulnerability.*

Background and objectives

At the World Humanitarian Summit, donors and humanitarian organisations agreed to work together to increase efficiencies in delivering humanitarian aid and reduce people's humanitarian need, risk and vulnerability by delivering on new commitments including the Grand Bargain. One year after the Summit, the first annual independent Grand Bargain report looks at progress on these commitments including harmonizing reporting templates, reducing overhead costs, improving joint and coordinated needs assessments, and earmarking less funding to specific projects. Some donors have also begun announcing more funds allocation for cash-based programming, and multi-year humanitarian grants for multi-year plans.

The purpose of the side event is to advocate for greater efficiency of the humanitarian system, defining better the actions to be taken under a transformed humanitarian financing strategy, and ensure that the traction and momentum already gained is maintained.

It will showcase achievements and best practices since the WHS including Grand Bargain implementation to support financially local and national responders on the frontline; promote participation of beneficiaries; improve the understanding of use of cash in emergency response; and to call for increases in system-wide transparency, flexible funding and harmonised reporting, as well as innovative financing.

Discussion points

Against this backdrop, the side-event will focus on the following suggested questions and discussion points:

- *1 Achievements of the Grand Bargain after one year of intense activities and presentation of the future benchmarks to accomplish the necessary humanitarian financing transformations*
- *2 A review and examples of innovative funding initiatives, and benefit in humanitarian operations*
- *3 How beneficiaries of humanitarian aid perceive the humanitarian financing benefits and transformations*

Intended outcomes/conclusions/recommendations

The Humanitarian Aid Effectiveness commitments can only be advanced with the active engagement of Member States, donor representatives and aid organizations. The implementation of Grand Bargain commitments and more broadly humanitarian financing transformations should be translated into concrete operational and contribute to improve the well-being of people affected by crises.

Format

(Co-)Chair(s):

- **ASG OCHA Ursula Muller (Chair)**

Moderator:

- **ASG OCHA Ursula Muller (Chair)**

Panel composition:

- *Ms. Julia Steets, Director, Global Public Policy Institute. <http://www.gppi.net/team/julia-steets/>*
- *Mr. Nick Van Praag, Groundtruth Solution director*
- *Ms. Monique Pariat, Director-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), European Commission. http://ec.europa.eu/civil_service/docs/directors_general/pariat_en.pdf*
- *Mr. Jan Egeland is Secretary General of the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). In September 2015, Egeland was appointed by the UN Secretary-General as Special Adviser to the UN Special Envoy for Syria with a focus on humanitarian access and protection of civilians. <https://www.nrc.no/who-we-are/secretary-general-jan-egeland/>*

Background Material

<https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/grand-bargain-hosted-iasc>

<http://www.oecd.org/development/humanitarian-donors/>

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