



ECOSOC HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS SEGMENT

UN HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK 19-21 June 2018

Title:

Making it real: Examples of localisation in humanitarian preparedness and response

Sponsors and Organizers:

Charter4Change and START Network

Date and Time: Wednesday, 20 June 2018, 8:30 – 9:45

Place: Conference Room 12, UN Secretariat, New York

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, respecting human dignity and leaving no one behind: working together to reduce people's humanitarian need, risk and vulnerability.*

Background and objectives

Humanitarian agencies, particularly those from disaster affected countries, are [calling out](#) for greater action on the Grand Bargain commitment to localisation, and there is a need in the sector to identify what the practical enablers of localisation are on the road to 2020.

As such, the main objective of this side event is to build international momentum and support for localisation initiatives, including the centrality of and interconnections between investing in preparedness and localisation, by providing examples that work and showcasing good practice. The tone of the event will be positive and constructive – promoting change within the sector from the perspective of 'leading the change, by doing the work'.

This side event is aligned to ECOSOC HAS 2018 theme: "Restoring humanity, respecting human dignity and leaving no one behind: working together to reduce people's humanitarian need, risk and vulnerability" by:

- Presenting ways in which donor governments are shaping their global policies and shifting their practices to support local actors, as demonstrated by the Government of Australia
- Highlighting efforts in Iraq and the Philippines, where local and national NGOs have been supported to lead on humanitarian preparedness and response, and build networks for coordination and collaboration in order to work more effectively and efficiently within their communities
- Discussing how the Government of Bangladesh has stepped up its efforts to strengthen state and non-state humanitarian work.
- Sharing positive examples of putting localisation into practice that have emerged from the DFID-funded Disasters and Emergencies Preparedness Programme and from members within the Charter for Change network.

Panellists, alongside the accompanying photo and poster exhibit, will highlight successes that illustrate the localisation agenda's synergy with other Grand Bargain priorities, including reducing duplication of compliance and assessments of local partners, and participation and leadership of survivors in humanitarian response work.

Discussion points

Each panellist will be given the opportunity to present for 5 minutes on:

- Their understanding of localisation and
- One successful initiative which they have delivered to meet localisation outcomes and the lessons for humanitarian stakeholders on how to progress Grand Bargain commitments to localisation.

The moderator will pose questions for debate on the panel, based on the following:

- Today, we are commemorating World Refugee Day – a day that's become more important as the number of refugees seeking asylum from complex and protracted conflicts grow daily. How is, if at all, the localisation agenda different in the refugee or more politically-driven emergency response context, as compared to climate-related emergencies? Drawing on the learning from the different initiatives shared and your own knowledge, what are the specific sensitivities that supporters of the localisation agenda need to address in the context of displacement? *(purpose: link to WRD, discussing localisation in different response contexts, and flagging enablers in refugee/IDP context)*
- Many of the successful initiatives C4C members and the START Network have on display around the room, and knowledge for many years within the sector, highlight the centrality of investing in local actors during 'peacetime' through capacity strengthening and other preparedness work. How has the localisation agenda changed the way we design capacity strengthening and preparedness work? Please share examples which illustrate good practice of new approaches that reflect changes in design. *(purpose: link to preparedness, showcasing good practice + enablers)*
- As we know from this year's Development Initiatives Annual Report, current direct funding to local actors is xx% (to be adapted based on the latest figures). Over the two years since the Grand Bargain has been signed there has been limited progress in meeting the 25% commitment. At the same time, we have heard from many local actors that the fixation on direct funding is detrimental to localisation outcomes. What is your opinion? How do you see greater direct funding being important? And finally, what are practical suggestions for signatories to the Grand Bargain to accelerate progress to reach the goal by 2020? *(purpose: discussing funding in context of Grand Bargain commitments and flagging enablers for greater direct funding)*

Intended outcomes/conclusions/recommendations

This panel will be livestreamed on Facebook via the Disaster Preparedness Learning community page.

Additionally, good and innovative examples of practices in localisation, shared during the session – by both panellists and audience members, will be compiled to develop an electronic compendium and made available on the Charter4Change [website](#).

Format

Opening by Moderator (C4C/DEPP successes) – 5 minutes

Panel presentations – 20 minutes

Panel discussion – 30 minutes

Town hall/Q&A – 15 minutes

[Video](#) and gallery walk – 5 minutes

Chair and moderator:

- Michael Mosselmans, Head of Humanitarian Policy and Practice, Christian Aid UK/ACT Alliance

Panel composition:

- Md Reaz Ahmed, Director General, Department of Disaster Management, Government of Bangladesh
- Steve Scott, Head of DFAT's Humanitarian and Refugee Policy Branch
- Nanette S. Antequisa, Executive Director, Ecosystems Works for Essential Benefits (EcoWEB), Philippines
- Hero Anwar, Executive Director, Rehabilitation, Education, and Community Health (REACH), Iraq

Background Material

Charter4Change learning and other resources on a range of topics within the localisation agenda can be found [here](#).

More on the Start Network's Disasters & Emergencies Preparedness Programme can be found [here](#).

Contact

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