**GHD 2016 – 2018**

**LOCALIZATION WORK STREAM**

**CONCEPT NOTE**

***Current state of play and key issues to be addressed***

Calls to support more locally-led preparedness and response to crises emerged as a core demand during consultations in the lead-up to the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS). Although there is currently no systematic tracking, some estimates suggest that only 1.6% of humanitarian funding is channelled directly through local and national actors.[[1]](#footnote-1) Channelling more resources to local responders was seen as critical to ensure humanitarian assistance becomes more tailored to needs in specific contexts; builds, rather than displaces, local capacities; promotes dignity; and enhances resilience.

The Secretary-General’s report for the WHS, *One humanity: shared responsibility*, calls on the humanitarian community to commit to “as local as possible, as international as necessary” when preparing for, and responding to, crises. A number of initiatives have been launched to help achieve this objective, including the Charter for Change, which commits international NGOs to pass 20 per cent of their funds to national NGOs by 2020, and a set of commitments made by humanitarian agencies and donors under the Grand Bargain to provide “more support and funding tools for local and national responders”.

This work stream will explore the current state of play of efforts to promote more locally-led responses, and the implications for humanitarian donors. Links with other GHD work streams, in particular on the humanitarian – development nexus, reporting and multi-year planning and financing, will be pursued.

***Evidence available and / or needed to support action***

* IFRC World Disasters Report 2015: Focus on local actors, the key to humanitarian effectiveness (available at: <http://ifrc-media.org/interactive/world-disasters-report-2015/>
* Local2Global briefing note: Transfers to local/national responders: funding vs in-kind - an analysis of CERF sub-grants (available at: <http://www.local2global.info/area-studies/local-funding>)
* IRIN and Local2Global analysis: “Where is all the money going: The Humanitarian Economy” (available at: <http://newirin.irinnews.org/the-humanitarian-economy/>)
* Development Initiatives position paper: The World Humanitarian Summit: Making financing work for crisis-affected people (available at: <http://devinit.org/post/the-world-humanitarian-summit-making-financing-work-for-crisis-affected-people/>)
* IFRC / Humanitarian Outcomes mapping of plans and perceptions of different key actors in the humanitarian sector on localization (forthcoming)

***Planned outcomes for this work stream***

June 2017

* Facilitate GHD donor engagement with efforts to develop a localization marker to track funding and support to local and national actors
* Expert roundtable to discuss opportunities, challenges and evidence related to supporting and funding local and national responders, including presentation of IFRC mapping exercise
* Compile good practice examples / resources for GHD members to strengthen their support and funding for local and national responders, to include support via:
  + Pooled funds
  + Capacity investment options
  + Ways to facilitate direct funding of local organizations

June 2018

* Based on GHD Principle 8, develop and agree Operational Best Practice on supporting and funding local and national responders

1. Development Initiatives, The World Humanitarian Summit: Making financing work for crisis-affected people [↑](#footnote-ref-1)