

## COVID-19 and THE GRAND BARGAIN

# Effective and efficient humanitarian response needed more than ever

## HOW IS THE HUMANITARIAN COMMUNITY ADAPTING AS A RESULT OF COVID-19?

Source: workstream Co-convenors and Facilitation Group

### Donors and humanitarian organisations:

**Scaling-up cash assistance, where appropriate**, with the aim to meet the needs of communities affected by COVID-19 and strengthening **links between humanitarian cash with social protection** in the context of COVID-19. As cash may not be appropriate in all situations, planning for in-kind assistance remains essential.

**Innovating and using virtual approaches** in collecting and analysing information on humanitarian needs by focusing more on methods for utilising secondary information, harnessing contextual expertise, and developing tools and methods to support joint analysis under remote, or disturbed situations.

**Increasing support for the leadership, delivery and capacity of local and national actors** for a principled humanitarian response to the pandemic, while also fulfilling, to the highest degree possible, the duty of care for the safety of their staff and volunteers.

Ensuring **effective risk communication and community engagement**, including coordinating the sharing of life-saving information, strengthening essential services and improving the uptake of people's protective behaviours against the COVID-19 outbreak.

Balancing the complexity of the response with a **decrease of administrative burden and the provision of quality funding** to ensure humanitarian organisations have the maximum flexibility to address priority needs based on the evolving context of COVID-19.

## ADDRESSING COVID-19 AND EXISTING CRISES BY ACCELERATING THE GRAND BARGAIN COMMITMENTS

The COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan and the messages from the humanitarian community, including IASC, demonstrate the need for donors and aid organisations to **continue to innovate, step up and accelerate their efforts to fully implement the Grand Bargain commitments** in the spirit of quid pro quo, as it will enable a **more efficient and effective response** to COVID-19 and existing humanitarian crises.



**Flexible and unearmarked funding**, coupled with the **harmonisation and simplification of administrative procedures** including reporting requirements, to enable a more agile and adaptable humanitarian response to rapidly evolving needs.



Response should be implemented through **partnerships based on mutual respect, where risk is shared and safety and security** of local actors considered a priority.



**Needs assessments and analysis** should be performed in a coordinated manner to mutualise available information without excessive exposure of staff, using innovative remote methods, and facilitating coordination and monitoring.



Adapt response through the timely elevation of **community voices** and social insights, inclusive of peoples' gender, age, disability and other diversities, into decision-making across the spectrum of health, development and humanitarian work.