Beyond Barriers

Overcoming Funding and Workforce Obstacles
to Achieve a Localized Humanitarian Response

USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE **CONCERN** worldwide

LOCALLY-LED FUNDING TRACKER

Note: This tool is in draft form. The tools developed by the Beyond Barrier's project will be validated and updated in the coming months by humanitarian practitioners in several contexts to ensure appropriateness and applicability.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Locally-Led Funding Tracker is to measure and report on the progress made towards advancing and achieving locally-led humanitarian responses. It allows various actors identify areas for improvement to advance locally-led responses.

WHO IS IT FOR?

Donors: This tool was designed primarily for donor agencies to track their own funding's effectiveness on localization targets or commitments. The quantitative data would be internally available, while the qualitative tools should be required to be used by funding recipients or conducted by independent data collection experts.

In-Country: The tool can also be used by in-country coordination forums, such as Localization Working Groups and NGO Coordination platforms. The quantitative data could be collected from various sources such as OCHA's Financial Tracking Service, The International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI), and directly from relevant stakeholders. The qualitative data would also be collected by independent data collection experts. The tool would be able to show which donors or funding mechanisms, were having the most effective impact on localization in the that context.

All Stakeholders: The two qualitative sub-tools are designed in such a way that they can be used by UN Agencies, INGOs and L/NNGOs to measure the quality of the funding they provide to partners and the extent to which their projects are locally-led.

HOW THE TOOL WORKS

Inspired by USAID's Locally-Led Development Spectrum, the Locally-Led Funding Tracker features quantitative and qualitative indicators to produce an overall score of localization. It is comprised of two sub-tools, which measure the **Quality of Funding** for L/NNGOs and the level of **Local Leadership** from the perspective of affected communities. The scores from these tools go into an overall "scorecard" that includes the quantity of funding that has gone to local actors. It should be used at the end of a given funding cycle, whether that is a particular emergency response or an annual basis.

The Quantity of Funding component measures the total funding given to different actors or stakeholders in a response. To provide the score, the indicators also measure the percentage granted to local actors.

The Quality of Funding component measures:
- Participation and involvement in program and budget design and decision making
- Whether the funds they receive are adequate, including ICR
- Flexibility of funding,
- Extent to which feedback and adaptations are possible
- Opportunities for capacity sharing

The Locally-Led Action component measures local communities' level of leadership and participation in the design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of a given humanitarian response. This Focus Group Discussion questionnaire is targeted toward local communities. The tool needs to be adapted to each context before use.