

Invitation! VOICE Event

Tuesday 14 May 2019, 18:00 – 21:00
The Office, Rue d’Arlon 80 - 1000 Brussels

Panel discussion

Unpacking the localisation agenda: What do we mean by ‘as local as possible’?

Three years ago at the World Humanitarian Summit, the UN Secretary General called for humanitarian action to be ‘as local as possible, as international as necessary’. Since then, the localisation agenda has generated new initiatives and lively discussions within the humanitarian community and particularly within the Grand Bargain. Its second workstream commits its signatories to ‘provide more support and funding tools to local and national responders’ and is perceived as one of the most dynamic workstreams. However, as we head to the third annual meeting of the Grand Bargain, there’s limited evidence of the concrete impact those commitments have made in the humanitarian sector and our ways of responding to new and protracted crises.

Bringing together donors and implementing agencies, the event will seek to unpack what is meant by ‘as local as possible’ and hear different reflections on fundamental questions that continue to animate our sector:

How far has the localisation agenda progressed? What has enabled this shift?

How can localisation reinforce the role of civil society as a whole?

How to foster the role of local NGOs in the current aid architecture and strengthen the complementarity between the different actors responding to humanitarian crises?

How do donors’ conditionalities have an impact on the localisation agenda?

This event is organised in the framework of the VOICE Grand Bargain project and aims to bring a contribution from VOICE to the Grand Bargain annual meeting. It will be followed by a networking reception.

Join us on Tuesday 14 May 2019 (18:00 – 21:00) at The Office, Rue d’Arlon, 1000 Brussels.

Introductory remarks

Koen Van Acoleyen, acting Director of Humanitarian Aid and Transition, **Belgium Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

Panel discussion

Moderator: Walter Füllemann, Head of delegation, **ICRC Delegation to the EU, NATO and the Kingdom of Belgium**

- Nasra Ali Ismail, Acting Director, **Somalia NGO Consortium**
- Anita Bay Bundegaard, Head of the EU Office, **Save The Children**
- Sema Genel Karaosmanoglu, Executive Director, **Support to Life** and chair of the **NEAR Network**
- Kim Eling, Head of Unit, International and Interinstitutional Relations, Legal Framework, **DG ECHO**

Thank you for registering [here](#) by 08/05/2019!