



**GROUND TRUTH  
SOLUTIONS**

# **FIELD SURVEY AND ANALYSIS**

SURVEY OF LOCAL PARTNER ORGANISATIONS PROVIDING  
HUMANITARIAN AID IN UGANDA

– 31 JANUARY 2018 –





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# OVERVIEW

## Introduction

This report analyses how local partner organisations in Uganda view their relationship with United Nations agencies and international non-governmental organisations (INGOs). It is based on survey instruments sent to the local counterparts of four UN agencies and three INGOS working in Uganda. The surveys are designed to shed light on moves towards the localisation of humanitarian assistance, which is the second of the 10 goals set out in the Grand Bargain.

The online survey was shared by the international agencies with the designated focal points in their partner organisations. Twenty-one local organisations participated in the survey and their responses went directly to Ground Truth Solutions for analysis. The data is an aggregate of all responses from participating organisations. When drawing conclusions from the findings, it is important to bear in mind that responses differ significantly from one organisation to another.

## Summary of local partners' views

### Relationship quality

- Very satisfied with the respect accorded to them by their international partners (Q6) and their understanding of the local context in which they operate (Q5).
- Appreciative of the efforts made by their international counterparts to listen and respond to their questions and concerns (Q3).

### Capacity building

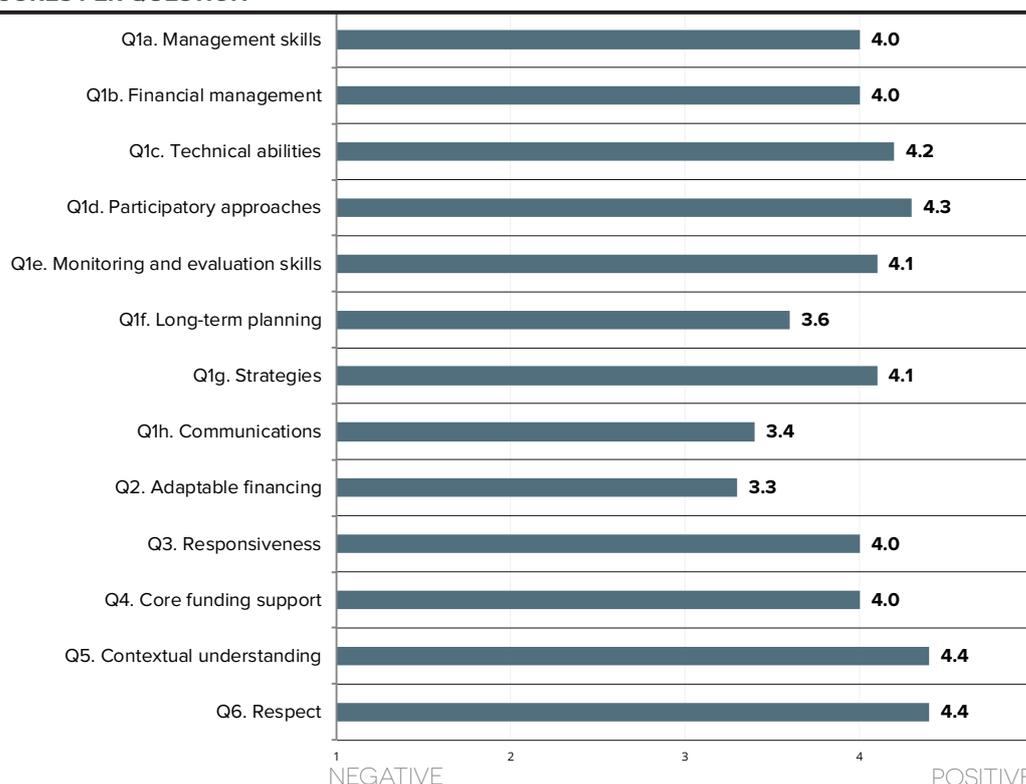
- Positive about the help provided to improve their technical abilities (Q1c), monitoring and evaluation skills

- (Q1e), participatory approaches (Q1d), strategic planning (Q1g), management (Q1a) and financial skills (Q1b).
- Least satisfied with the support they receive to strengthen their communication strategies (Q1h) and improve long-term planning (Q1f).

### Financial support

- Positive about the contributions international organisations make to their core costs (Q4).
- Least satisfied with the flexibility of the funding (Q2) received from international partners when confronted with changing circumstances.

### OVERVIEW OF MEAN SCORES PER QUESTION





## Reading this report

This report uses bar charts to show the percentage of responses on a five-point Likert scale. Colours range from dark red for negative answers to dark green for positive ones. The mean score is also shown for each question. The breakdown of responses by INGO and UN agencies is included for each question to allow for comparison of how INGOs and UN agencies are seen by their local partners.

For each question, we indicate the main conclusions drawn from the data. We also suggest issues that may require further exploration or inquiry. This can be done by comparing the perceptual data with other data sets or by clarifying things directly with focal points through interviews or other forms of dialogue.



# SURVEY QUESTIONS

1 = Strongly disagree
2 = Disagree
3 = Neutral
4 = Agree
5 = Strongly agree

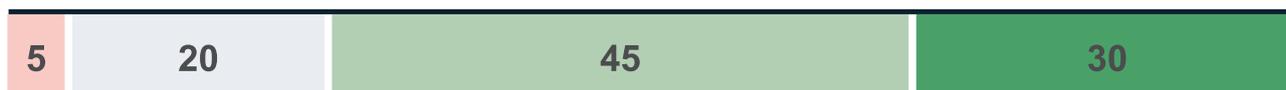
## Q1. Non-financial support

Please rate the different types of non-financial support you have received from your international partner(s):

### a. Strengthening our management and leadership skills

(values in %, n = 20)

Mean: 4.0



Most respondents are satisfied with the support they receive from their international partners to strengthen management and leadership skills.

Partners of INGOs are more satisfied with the support they receive than the local partners of UN agencies.

Type of organisation	Mean
INGOs	4.3
UN agencies	3.8

### b. Strengthening our financial management skills

(values in %, n = 20)

Mean: 4.0



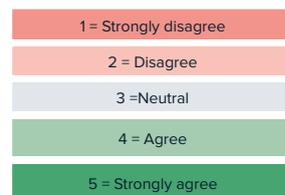
Well over half of the respondents rate positively the support to strengthen their financial management skills.

Satisfaction is slightly higher among INGO local partners than UN local partners, particularly when looking at the percentage of respondents giving the highest scores.

Type of organisation	Mean
INGOs	4.3
UN agencies	3.9



### c. Strengthening our technical abilities to deliver services



(values in %, n = 21)

Mean: 4.2



Respondents are satisfied with the support they receive in strengthening their technical abilities to deliver services, with 86% responding positively.

Our findings suggest that local partners of INGOs are more positive about the support they receive than partners of UN agencies, as INGO partners received only positive responses.

Type of organisation	Mean
INGOs	4.7
UN agencies	3.9

### d. Strengthening our participatory approaches

(values in %, n = 21)

Mean: 4.3



Over two-thirds of respondents are positive about the support they receive from their partners to strengthen their participatory approaches.

Local partners of both INGOs and UN agencies are satisfied with the support they receive.

Type of organisation	Mean
INGOs	4.4
UN agencies	4.2

### e. Strengthening our monitoring and evaluation skills

(values in %, n = 21)

Mean: 4.1



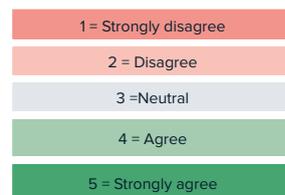
The majority of respondents are satisfied with the support provided to strengthen their monitoring and evaluation skills.

Local partners of both INGOs and UN agencies indicate receiving sufficient support to strengthen their monitoring and evaluation skills.

Type of organisation	Mean
INGOs	4.1
UN agencies	4.1



## f. Strengthening our long-term planning



(values in %, n = 20)

Mean: 3.6



Responses are mixed regarding support available for long-term planning. Some 40% of respondents are not satisfied with the help they currently receive.

Satisfaction is slightly higher among INGO local partners than UN local partners, particularly when looking at the percentage of respondents giving the highest scores.

Type of organisation	Mean
INGOs	3.7
UN agencies	3.5

## g. Improving our strategies and practical approaches

(values in %, n = 21)

Mean: 4.1



Most respondents are satisfied with the support they receive to improve their strategic planning.

INGO local partners share overwhelmingly positive perceptions about the support they receive, with 100% responding positively.

Type of organisation	Mean
INGOs	4.6
UN agencies	3.9

## h. Communicating and publicising our work

(values in %, n = 21)

Mean: 3.4



Responses are mixed regarding international partners' efforts to communicate and publicise local partners' work, although half of the responses are positive.

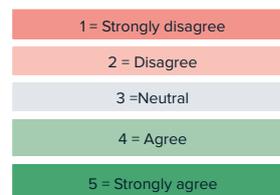
Local partners of INGOs appear to be more satisfied than those who work with UN agencies. UN agencies received negative responses from 29% of respondents.

Type of organisation	Mean
INGOs	3.7
UN agencies	3.3



### Q2. Adaptable financing

**Flexibility in adapting the terms of financial support so we can adjust our programmes to changing needs.**



(values in %, n = 20)

**Mean: 3.3**



Responses are mixed regarding flexibility in adapting the terms of financial support.

Local partners of INGOs are slightly more positive than those of UN agencies.

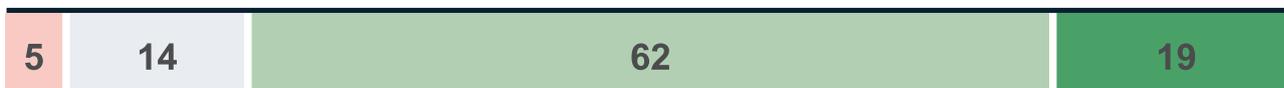
Type of organisation	Mean
INGOs	3.6
UN agencies	3.2

### Q3. Responsiveness

**Our international partner(s) listen(s) and respond(s) appropriately to our questions and concerns.**

(values in %, n = 20)

**Mean: 4.0**



Most respondents feel that their partners listen to and respond appropriately to their questions and concerns.

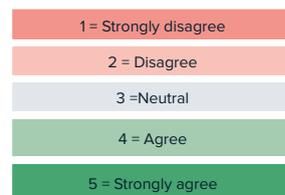
INGO local partners share positive perceptions about the responsiveness of their international counterparts, with 100% responding positively.

Type of organisation	Mean
INGOs	3.9
UN agencies	4.0



### Q4. Core funding support

The funding we receive from our international partner(s) makes an appropriate contribution to my organisation's core costs.



(values in %, n = 21)

Mean: 4.0



Respondents are generally positive, with 80% indicating that the funding they receive is appropriate.

Overall, both local partners of INGOs and UN agencies feel mostly positive about the funding they receive.

Type of organisation	Mean
INGOs	4.1
UN agencies	3.9

### Q5. Contextual understanding

Our international partner(s) understand(s) the context in which we work.

(values in %, n = 21)

Mean: 4.4



Respondents are overwhelmingly positive about the contextual knowledge of their international partners.

All respondents from local organisations believe their counterparts understand the local context in which they work.

Type of organisation	Mean
INGOs	4.4
UN agencies	4.4

### Q6. Respect

Our international partner(s) treat(s) us with respect.

(values in %, n = 21)

Mean: 4.4



Respondents from local organisations feel that their partner organisation(s) treat(s) them with respect.

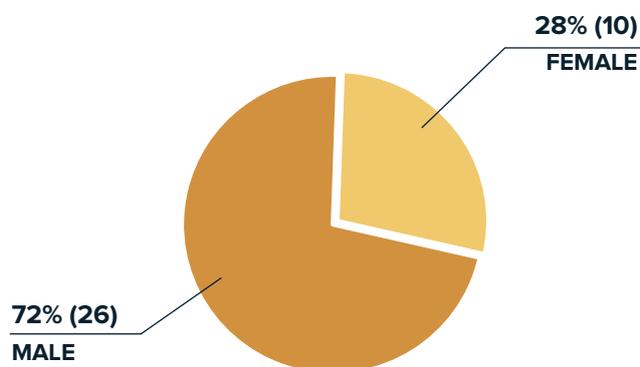
Both INGOs and UN agencies' local partners say they are treated with respect by their international counterparts.

Type of organisation	Mean
INGOs	4.4
UN agencies	4.4

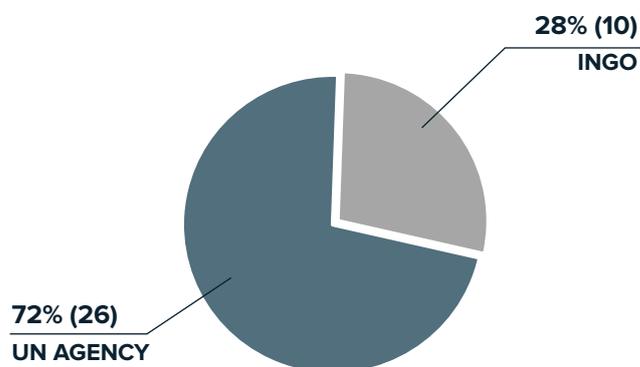


# DEMOGRAPHICS

## Gender\*

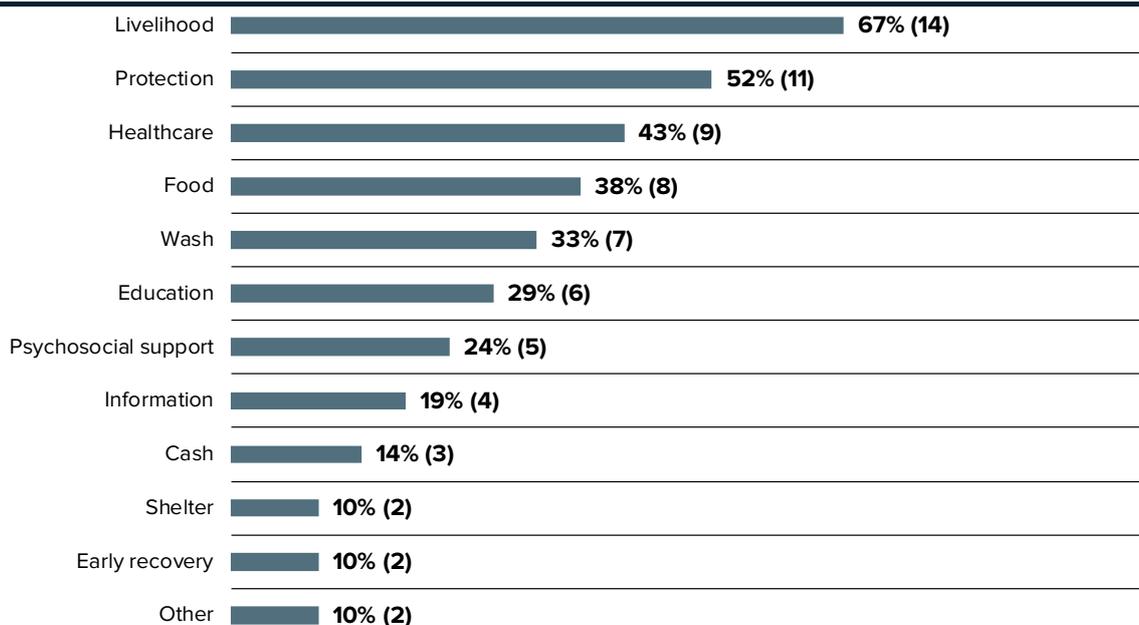


## International Partner\*



\*The total number of responses to demographic questions (36) is higher than the total number of organisations (21) as some local partner organisations had multiple focal points responding to the survey on their behalf. These responses were then averaged so as to give each local partner a single score.

## Services provided by local partners\*\*



\*\* Respondents were given the option to select multiple services.



# NOTES ON METHODOLOGY

## Background

OECD donors and humanitarian actors made a series of commitments at the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of humanitarian aid. The OECD secretariat seeks to assess the policy changes in the global humanitarian landscape as well as whether the commitments made in the Grand Bargain are having the intended impact. As part of this exercise, Ground Truth Solutions has been commissioned to track the way people affected by humanitarian crises and field staff experience these reforms. The partner survey investigates the second commitment under the Grand Bargain that calls for “more support and funding tools for local and national responders.”

## Survey development

Ground Truth developed a survey to gauge the experiences of local and national responders who administer humanitarian assistance in collaboration with INGOs and UN agencies. Closed questions use a five-point Likert scale to quantify answers which have been analysed by comparing means and response patterns.

## Sample size

Participation was voluntary, and the sample consisted of local partners contacted to participate in the survey.

Feedback was provided by 21 local and national partner organisations of three international organisations and four UN agencies in Uganda.

## Sampling methodology

The partner survey was commissioned by the OECD and managed by Ground Truth Solutions. The questionnaire was built on an online platform and was shared by the INGOs and UN agencies via email with local partners in Uganda. Focal points were chosen to complete the survey on behalf of local partner organisations. Focal points are those who regularly manage donor relations on behalf of the organisation. Data was collected between 3 and 14 December 2017.

## Language of the survey

This survey was conducted in English.

**For more information about Ground Truth surveys in Uganda, please contact: Michael Sarnitz (Programme Manager – [michael@groundtruthsolutions.org](mailto:michael@groundtruthsolutions.org)) or Valentina Shafina (Programme Analyst – [valentina@groundtruthsolutions.org](mailto:valentina@groundtruthsolutions.org)).**