Endorsed IASC Products, Tools and Statements
Overview of 2023

Overview of products, tools and statements endorsed by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee in 2023:

Statement by Principals of the IASC: Humanitarian chiefs will not take part in unilateral proposals to create "safe zones" in Gaza, 16 November 2023.

Statement by Principals of the IASC: on the situation in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory, "We need an immediate humanitarian ceasefire", 5 November 2023.

Statement by Principals of the IASC: After 4 Months of War, Humanitarian Leaders Urge Action to End the Tragedy in Sudan, 15 August 2023.

IASC Top Line Messaging on the Climate Crisis for COP28 and the more detailed **IASC Key Messages on the Climate Crisis for COP28** served as resources for humanitarian organizations to strengthen coordinated advocacy efforts at COP28. The messages stemmed from the **IASC Action Plan for Engagement in COP28**.

IASC Key Messages on Averting, Minimizing and Addressing Loss and Damage from a Humanitarian Perspective were crafted for IASC members use, to serve as the basis of their external advocacy around loss and damage from climate change.

IASC Guidance on Environmental Responsibility in Humanitarian Operations provides guidance and shares lessons learned to enhance environmental responsibility in humanitarian operations, delivering against a request from the Executive Committee of the UN Secretary-General from 29 May 2020.

IASC Guidance Note on Inter-Agency Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Referral Procedures (IA SEA RP) provides guidance on a standardised model of procedures for the inter-agency referral of SEA complaints. It is for senior leadership (e.g. Humanitarian Country Teams) and technical PSEA actors in country.

IASC Definition & Principles of a Victim/Survivor Centered Approach stems from the objective laid out in commitment 1 of the IASC Strategy, "to adopt a shared definition and understanding of the elements of a VCA and related responsibilities". This definition and principles will enable the IASC to deliver on the recommendation from the 2021 External Review to "commit to the application of a victim-centered approach in all aspects of PSEAH activity" and will provide the basis for the work of the Expert Panel on Standards for SEA and Sexual Harassment Investigations to meet a victim and survivor-centered approach.

IASC Policy Paper, Considerations on Screening/Vetting Persons in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Counter-Terrorism/Sanctions Contexts provides key messages in support of IASC Principals in undertaking targeted advocacy with donors and Members States to mitigate the impact of counter-terrorism legislation and sanctions on humanitarian action in select humanitarian operations.

IASC Policy on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls in Humanitarian Action (updated) *(to be released 7 January 2024)* is based on the [Policy on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls in Humanitarian Action](#) and its [Accountability Framework](#), which were is endorsed in 2017 by IASC Principals, to make gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls a core principle of its humanitarian action. The updated policy builds on the findings of four rounds of monitoring of the initial IASC Gender Accountability Framework as well as on the IAHE Gender Evaluation of 2021 and its management response plan. It aims to renew and refine IASC standards, commitments and designated roles and responsibilities vis-à-vis the integration of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls into the planning and implementation of the global IASC humanitarian response.

[**IASC Gender Accountability Framework Report for 2022**](#) provides a snapshot of the IASC gender outputs. This report benefited from inputs provided by UN Women and OCHA offices operating in 29 crisis contexts, the highest response rate to date. The improvement in quantity and quality of responses suggests that there is stronger prioritization of gender by the humanitarian sector. The report marks the fifth monitoring cycle of the IASC Policy on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls in Humanitarian Action (2017). The **IASC Gender Accountability Framework Report for 2021** was also published this year.

[**IASC Operational Guidance on Data Responsibility in Humanitarian Action**](#) - data responsibility in humanitarian action is the safe, ethical and effective management of personal and non-personal data for operational response, in accordance with established frameworks for personal data protection. It is a critical issue for the sector to address and the stakes are high. The implementation of data responsibility in practice is often inconsistent within and across humanitarian response contexts. The IASC endorsed the first version of this Operational Guidance in February 2021. Over the past two years, this guidance has been used by humanitarian practitioners to inform actions for data responsibility and strengthen their application in at least 20 contexts.

[**IASC Guidance Note: Advancing the humanitarian-development-peace nexus approach through IASC global clusters**](#) supports cluster coordinators and facilitates the proactive design of responses that foster coherence and complementarity between lifesaving, development, and peace interventions towards collective outcomes. The guidance note builds on and complements existing frameworks, approaches and tools informing the respective areas of work in each cluster/sector, and unpacks implications for the work of coordinators.

[**IASC Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Minimum Service Package (MHPSS MSP)**](#) is an easy-to-follow intersectoral package, which spells out the activities and actions that all humanitarian actors should put in place in all emergencies for an effective MHPSS response.

[**IASC Handbook of MHPSS coordination**](#) provides standard guidance on how to best to support well-coordinated and multisectoral MHPSS responses that are predictable, accountable, equitable, efficient and effective.

[**IASC Guidance Note on Suicide Prevention in Humanitarian Emergencies**](#) aims to support programme implementers, coordinators and others in humanitarian settings in their actions to counter suicide and self-harm in humanitarian contexts.

[**IASC Technical Manual, Joint and Intersectoral Analysis Framework (JIAF) 2.0**](#) sets global standards for the estimation and analysis of humanitarian needs and protection risks. The JIAF's primary objective is to inform strategic decision-making, response analysis, and response planning through a rigorous, evidence based, and comprehensive joint and intersectoral analysis framework. JIAF 2.0 has

been developed by a partnership of donors, United Nations agencies, NGOs, global clusters and areas of responsibility, and specialized agencies under the auspices of the Grand Bargain.

IASC Collective AAP Framework lays out six outcomes and related actions to strengthen Collective AAP in humanitarian operations. It was provisionally endorsed by the OPAG for field testing in 2021 and has been revised based on its use in identifying actions and planning in multiple operations, including Syria (cross-border), Lebanon, Bangladesh (Dhaka and Cox's Bazar), Ethiopia, South Sudan and Afghanistan. The revised Framework has been widely consulted, including with the organisational leads on AAP in Taskforce 2, and includes a new section addressing Preparedness, stronger reference to data responsibility, engagement with local and national actors, and resourcing.

IASC Global AAP Landscape Mapping plots what is being done in terms of collective AAP in different humanitarian contexts around the world, thus serving as a baseline to inform strategic planning, orient operational support activities, support advocacy and fundraising efforts, give visibility to best practices, and strengthen inter-agency capacity.

IASC Centrality of Protection in Humanitarian Action report for 2022 provides an analysis of how the Centrality of Protection has been implemented across crisis contexts where the humanitarian cluster system is activated. It examines measures taken by the HCs/HCTs to address critical protection risks, with the support from the Protection Clusters/Sectors, OCHA and humanitarian partners. It also considers some of the challenges and gaps that operations face with the implementation of CoP, as revealed through consultations and surveys. Case studies from selected operations are used to illustrate both best practices and challenges that operations are encountering.

Inter-Agency Humanitarian Evaluation of the Northern Ethiopia Crisis is the collective action of IASC member organizations to meet the humanitarian needs of people affected by the conflict in northern Ethiopia. The evaluation primary focuses on the response in the northern Ethiopia, including Tigray and affected areas of Afar and Amhara, during the period of the Scale-Up Activation from 28 April 2021 until the time of the evaluation.

Inter-Agency Humanitarian Evaluation of the Response to the Humanitarian Crisis in Afghanistan is the collective action of IASC member organizations to meet the humanitarian needs of people in Afghanistan. The evaluation covers the collective response in the whole of Afghanistan, during the period from the Scale-Up Activation in September 2021 until the time of evaluation data collection.

Inter-Agency Humanitarian Evaluation COVID-19, Learning Paper on GHRP seeks to assess the collective preparedness and response of the IASC at the global, regional, and country level in meeting the humanitarian needs of people in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. It has three objectives: 1) Determine the extent to which the IASC member agencies' collective preparedness and response actions, including its existing and adapted special measures, were relevant to addressing humanitarian needs in the context of the pandemic; 2) Assess the results achieved from these actions at the global, regional and country level in support of people, and with governments and local actors; 3) Identify best practices, opportunities and lessons learnt that will help to improve ongoing and future humanitarian responses.

Inter-Agency Humanitarian Evaluation of the COVID-19 Humanitarian Response is the largest inter-agency humanitarian evaluation to date. The subject of the evaluation is the collective IASC preparedness and humanitarian response at the global, regional, and country levels to meet the humanitarian needs of people in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The evaluation is global and includes eight case studies (Bangladesh, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Philippines, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Syria, and Turkey).

Inter-Agency Humanitarian Evaluation, Learning Paper on Localization in the COVID-19 Response seeks to assess the collective preparedness and response of the IASC at the global, regional, and country level in meeting the humanitarian needs of people in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. It has three objectives: 1. Determine the extent to which the IASC member agencies' collective preparedness and response actions, including its existing and adapted special measures, were relevant to addressing humanitarian needs in the context of the pandemic; 2. Assess the results achieved from these actions at the global, regional and country level in support of people, and with governments and local actors; 3. Identify best practices, opportunities and lessons learnt that will help to improve ongoing and future humanitarian responses.

For more **IASC Products, Tools and Statements** please see **IASC website.**

In addition, sharing for information **recordings from the IASC Briefings that were held in 2023**:

IASC Briefing on Accountability to Affected People AAP in Action, 31 October 2023.

IASC Briefing on the Climate Crisis, 12 September 2023.

IASC Briefing on the Humanitarian Exemption to UN Sanctions Regimes, 20 July 2023.

IASC Briefing on Operational Support and Policy Guidance for MHPSS Responses, 15 June 2023.

IASC Briefing on Inter-Agency Humanitarian Evaluation (IAHE) on COVID-19 Response, 5 April 2023.

IASC Briefing on Strengthening Country Level PSEA Capacity with a Focus on the SEA Risk Overview, 4 April 2023.

IASC Briefing on Extreme Heat and the Road to COP28, 28 February 2023.

IASC Briefings and updates on Inter-Governmental Processes and Humanitarian Resolutions in **June**, **May**, **April**, **March**, **January**.

For more information see **IASC Briefings**.

We encourage you to follow **IASC on social media** for real-time information and updates about the important and collective IASC work.