

**CLUSTER WORKING GROUP ON  
CAMP COORDINATION/MANAGEMENT**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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The Cluster Working Group (CWG) on Camp Coordination & Management counted on the participation of the IASC Secretariat, OCHA-IDD, IFRC, InterAction, IOM, NRC, UNHCR, UNICEF, OCHA and WFP, and was chaired by UNHCR.

The CWG defined together 3 basic questions

1. What is camp coordination
2. What is camp management and
3. What is meant by a 'camp'

Also, working assumptions were made by the CWG, including that cluster members would assist the lead agency as equal partners in performing camp coordination/management functions, and that the Cluster lead responsibility would start from the preparedness stage and continue until durable solutions are found or responsibilities are handed over to national NGOs or authorities. The proposed Cluster lead (UNHCR) would apply to camps for displaced persons due to conflict and not natural disasters. A Cluster lead for the latter would need to be addressed.

Cluster Responsibility

Together, the cluster members will identify the overall requirements in responding to camp and camp-like situations and augment their capacity to meet this threshold. The cluster will identify (and establish when necessary) standards and guidelines that facilitate interoperability to ensure that activities are carried out quickly and effectively. In general, under the leadership of the chosen agency, the cluster will ensure that those displaced are quickly assisted and protected. The cluster members will endeavour to increase capacity within their own organization/agency in area(s) of appropriate expertise.

Lead Agency Responsibility

As the focal point for the cluster, the lead agency is accountable for the response to the humanitarian crisis. However, it is recognized that given the sheer amount of work required the lead simply cannot implement in all crises and therefore must work closely with the cluster and the cluster members. The creation of a secretariat will improve the overall coordination of the cluster and support the daily work required for maintaining and developing standards, guidelines and for updating and improving capacity mechanisms through training and advocacy strategies. Given the lead's expertise and capacity in the area of camp coordination, it will manage and co-ordinate and develop existing camp management capacity and expertise.

Global and Country Specific Response

Both the global and country levels need to be examined when dealing with a camp crisis. The CWG has largely focused on the global response at this time; however, the country level response is critical, as specific issues in camp management for preparedness must be addressed. As mentioned in the working assumptions, the lead agency would be called upon by the HC/RC, in an event where camp coordination is required and when there is no existing capacity in-country.

The cluster and lead agency responsibilities, at both the global and national levels, are set out in the matrices to this report. The responsibilities at the national level are not exhaustive but indicative, and will be further refined in the next phase of the process.