

# IASC Priority/Task Team Progress Report January 2014-April 2015: IASC Humanitarian Financing Task Team (HFTT)

## OBJECTIVES:

Reimagining Humanitarian Funding: review the potential of the current funding architecture to respond to the evolving nature of humanitarian action and analyse how we can improve our ability to provide aid to those who most need it.

The Task Team's work plan has four objectives:

1. Adequate humanitarian financing that is context appropriate and accessible to operational organizations on the ground
2. Re-negotiate burdensome donor requirements
3. Contribute to aid effectiveness by reducing the humanitarian/development divide
4. Improve transparency through strengthening empirical knowledge base on funding flows

## TOP ACHIEVEMENTS SINCE EARLY 2014:

### Adequate, appropriate, accessible humanitarian financing

- **Led global consultations on the future of humanitarian financing:** During consultations with innovative thinkers inside and outside the humanitarian sector in London, Bangkok, Amman, Dakar, and Geneva, issues were identified and solutions recommended. The 'Future Humanitarian Financing' report, to be launched in June, is used as input for the Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing and the World Humanitarian Summit.
- **Identified the top challenges to access country-based pooled funds (CBPFs)** by completing a desk review of relevant studies. These findings will be tracked over time to see how the December 2014 launch of Global Guidelines on CBPFs reduces impediments over time.
- **Identified good practices to accelerate CERF implementation:** Compiled good practices to accelerate the disbursement of CERF sub-grants from UN agencies to NGOs and thereby speed up CERF implementation. This was presented to the CERF Advisory Group in October 2014 and is available for UN agencies to consider adopting in their own practice.
- Maintained a **system-wide inventory** of finance-related initiatives, including the creation of new funds, and determine how to engage in preparations for the **High-Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing** and **WHS**.
- **Improved CERF visibility:** CERF developed a resource mobilization and communications strategy, and an improved website to highlight the fund's added value for the humanitarian system.
- The HFTT serves as a forum to prepare for **Pooled Fund Working Group** meetings, and its co-chairs represent the Task Team in the Working Group.

## ONGOING ACTIVITIES UNTIL THE END OF 2015:

- Develop key recommendations to address the **top-5 most challenging donor conditions** and design an advocacy strategy targeting the Good Humanitarian Donorship initiative (GHD) and other donors.
- Create indicators and systems to track improvements over time in **NGO access to country-based pooled funds (CBPFs)**.
- Align CERF and CBPF **reporting templates**.
- Consider ways to address risk while improving access to funding and ensure value for money by reviewing **capacity assessments of implementing partners**.
- Explore the possibility of establishing a **global preparedness fund** and work on theory of change.
- Further explore synergies with the International Aid Transparency Initiative (**IATI**).
- Identify concrete steps to **improve IASC reporting to FTS**, the Financial Tracking Service.
- Create **online repository** of humanitarian financing studies.

### Less burdensome donor requirements

**Identified main donor conditions hindering agencies.** Further research into contractual agreements is underway. These will inform advocacy strategies targeting donors, including the Good Humanitarian Donorship Initiative.

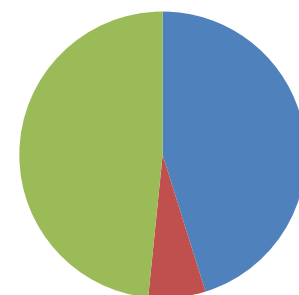
### Reducing the humanitarian/development divide

IASC/ODI "**Dare to Prepare**" study launched and findings/recommendations used for World Humanitarian Summit consultations

### Improving the transparency of funding flows

Based on HFTT advice with regard to the proposed INTOSAI Integrated Financial Accountability Framework (IFAF), the UN Secretary-General decided to continue improving **funding transparency** via FTS and IATI.

## COMPOSITION:



■ NGOs: 14\*

■ Red Cross/Red Crescent: 2

■ UN Agencies: 15

\* Four NGO consortia are members of the Task Team: ICVA, InterAction, SCHR, and the Start Network. Together, they represent hundreds of NGOs around the world.

**Co-Chairs:** Lisa Doughten, OCHA (Darla Silva, UNICEF, starting May 2015) and Cecilia Roselli, ICVA (Melissa Pitotti, ICVA, until March 2015; Marzia Montemurro, ICVA, until July 2014)

**WG Sponsors:** Nan Buzard, ICVA, and Brian Lander, WFP (Darlene Tymo, WFP, until December 2014)

**Secretariat Support:** Nicolas Rost, OCHA