

IASC Task Team Progress Report - January 2014 until December 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

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2014 - 2015:

Adequate, appropriate, accessible humanitarian financing

- Published report "**Future Humanitarian Financing: Looking Beyond the Crisis**": During global consultations with innovative thinkers inside and outside the humanitarian sector in London, Bangkok, Amman, Dakar, and Geneva, issues were identified and solutions recommended. The report, launched in June 2015, is used as input for the Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing and the World Humanitarian Summit. <http://futurehumanitarianfinancing.org/>
- 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.
- Published report on **Partner Capacity Assessments**, which includes recommendations for greater transparency. <https://icvanetwork.org/resources/partner-capacity-assessments-humanitarian-ngos-fit-purpose>
- **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.
- Developed a theory of change for a possible **Global Preparedness Fund**.
- 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**.
- Reviewed **Pooled Fund Reporting Templates** and identified potential for greater alignment.
- **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.
- Served as a forum to prepare for **Pooled Fund Working Group** meetings and provided inputs on humanitarian financing to the Working Group.
- Served as a discussion and information exchange forum on humanitarian financing issues between UN Agencies, NGOs and Red Cross/Red Crescent.

Reducing the humanitarian/development divide

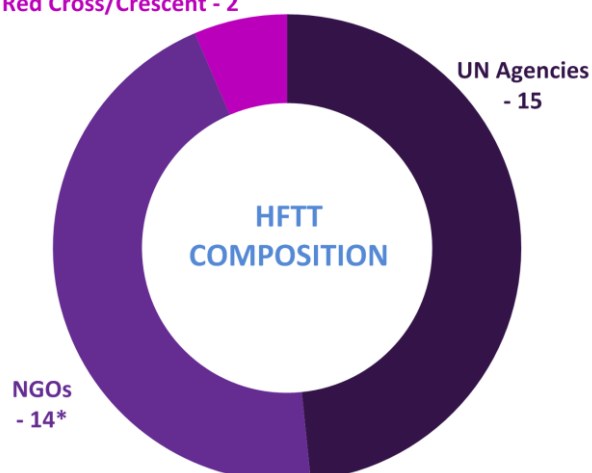
- IASC/ODI "**Dare to Prepare**" study **launched** and findings/recommendations used for World Humanitarian Summit consultations
- Contributed to the process of possibly setting up a dedicated **Global Fund for Preparedness** through developing a theory of change for this fund.

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.
- Worked with IATI secretariat on humanitarian reporting, which led to publishing of a new version of IATI standards that includes humanitarian parameters.

Red Cross/Crescent - 2

UN Agencies - 15



* Includes four NGO consortia: ICVA, InterAction, SCHR and Start Network; together representing hundreds of NGOs around the world.

Less burdensome donor requirements

- Identified main restrictive donor conditions, which pose the greatest challenges to humanitarian agencies through UNFPA/WFP-led **Donor Conditions and their Implications for Humanitarian Response** study.
- Launched ICVA-led **Less Paper More Aid** campaign, which is an NGO initiative aiming at identifying the impact of donor conditions on humanitarian action and on NGOs.

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