

IASC Task Team on Strengthening the Humanitarian-Development Nexus (HDN TT) in Protracted Settings Progress Report

HDN TT's 2016/2017 work plan has four objectives:

1. Establishing a common understanding of what is required for humanitarian, development and peace actors to implement the New Way of Working
2. Review and assess current policy, guidance and operational tools to identify gaps and best practices
3. Jointly work with UNDG and its subsidiary bodies on refining and expanding on joint principles towards Collective Outcomes
4. Provide multi-agency technical support to country teams that express interest in implementing the New Way of Working.

General Achievements

- Organized a **joint IASC–UN Working Group on Transitions (UNWGT) workshop**, the first of its kind, to outline a roadmap for collective engagement and a plan of action for implementing the step changes required to advance the New Way of Working.
- Produced a number of **key documents to advance a common understanding**: including a mapping of existing operational and guidance documents on the HDN; what the New Way of Working means in practice, and the types of scenarios in which these could be applied.
- Worked as a forum providing technical inputs and advice on the organisation of **Regional and Global Policy Forums on the New Way of Working**
- Strengthened the **cooperation between IASC and related mechanisms** through effective information exchange, participation by co-chairs of HDN TT in annual retreats, meetings, and processes of those groups (IASC RG on MCHUA, IASC TT on Humanitarian Financing, Sphere Standards revision process, UN WGT Annual Retreat, GHD, ICVA Webinar on recent developments in the HDP Nexus discussions, Grand Bargain)

Establishing a Common Narrative

- Along with the support team of the co-chairs of the Working Group on Transitions, the HDN TT is in the process of developing a series of key messages on the New Way of Working. Building on bilateral meetings held with various agencies, this document presents a **shared view of the context, challenges and, opportunities** related to implementing the New Way of Working.
- The Task Team currently serves as a repository for tracking and compiling both agency-specific and inter-agency processes related to the New Way of Working. To this end, the TT keeps a **Mapping of Existing Operational and Guidance Documents** which has served as common reference point and background document for various meetings including the Grand Bargain Sherpas meeting.
- Acknowledging that the full extent of collaboration with development and government partners cannot be achieved in all settings, a draft **paper on typologies of response scenarios** was developed to frame the discussions during the joint IASC-UNWGT workshop on the humanitarian development Nexus.

Joint-work w/ UN Working Group on Transitions

- On 20-21 October 2016, in follow up to commitments made at the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS), the HDN TT and the UNDG Working Group on Transitions (WGT) held a joint workshop in New York to **increase collaboration among humanitarian, development and peace actors**.
- As a key outcome of the workshop, the participants developed a roadmap for the IASC HDN TT and WGT in order to **better support field operations** to conduct, as much as possible, joint analysis (including context/conflict, vulnerability and risk analysis) and strategic planning and agree on collective outcomes for the short-, medium- and long-term.
- Based on this Road Map, a joint workplan was established. This Plan outlines key joint deliverables that the WGT and the IASC HDN TT commit to moving forward collectively. Outputs include; Support for **country level implementation**; establishing a **community of practice** to develop new and/or refine existing tool that support country implementation; **promote financing incentives** for collaboration and address financial fragmentation; **develop shared communication narrative and collective key messages**.

Country and Field Support

- In 2017, the HDN TT will review and assess current policy, guidance and operational tools to identify gaps and good practices in field operations, collate good practice, provide **technical support and guidance on the implementation** of the New Way of Working. The overall objective with this activity and relevant country missions will be to facilitate a more collaborative approach and build on the ongoing efforts in-country to strengthen the effectiveness of work in the humanitarian, development and peace nexus and to agree on a roadmap, informed by operational considerations, good practices and field realities. **The first of these missions will be to Sudan, at the request of the RC/HC and in collaboration with WGT and the Global Cluster Coordinators.**

Linkages with Other Bodies & Mechanisms

- Strengthening the Humanitarian-Development Nexus, and promoting the New Way of Working amongst humanitarian, development, and peace (HDP) actors requires the concerted efforts of IASC, UNWGT, and other bodies who possess the technical know-how. To this end, the HDN TT has established, or is in the process of establishing, functional linkages with a number of other mechanisms:
 - **With the HFTT (sub-group on HDN)**, work together to Map financial flows and pooled fund mechanisms which support the HDP nexus; develop a concept note on addressing financial fragmentation; determine areas of engagement with donors following the WHS to reduce financial fragmentation. This work is also done in coordination with the WGT and the MPTFO as part of the joint workplan
 - **With Sphere Secretariat**, serve as thematic experts by providing subject brief on the issue of how humanitarian standards may need to be adapted in protracted crises; provide technical support to chapter authors.
 - **With RG on MCHUA**, strengthening cooperation around issues on area-based programming, localisation, and alternative coordination structures in urban settings.
 - **With GHD/Grand Bargain (sub-working group on HDN/ Workstream 10)**, strengthening donor engagement around the shift from financing to funding, and promoting donor engagement in financing collective outcomes.
 - **ICVA Webinars**: presented on the New Way of Working and provided information products for dissemination across NGO network to begin disseminating early thinking at global level.