

IASC Emergency Directors Group

2017 Work Plan

Endorsed at 27 January 2017 in-person EDG meeting

RESPONSIBILITIES	MODALITIES AND PRODUCTS	ACTIONS PLANNED AND COMPLETED
OBJECTIVE ONE	CONSIDER AND ADVISE ON OPERATIONAL ISSUES OF IMMEDIATE CONCERN, INCLUDING ALL OPERATIONAL ISSUES PLACED ON THE AGENDA OF THE IASC PRINCIPALS.	
1.1 Provide strategic advice to the IASC Principals on operations and prepare options and recommendations as required.	<p><i>Modalities</i></p> <p>EDG ad hoc discussions on key humanitarian operations and on thematic operational issues; EDG Annual Review of Operations; EDG field missions; regular 'horizon scanning' discussions; EDG online discussion and document development.</p> <p><i>Products</i></p> <p>Recommendations papers and other inputs for IASC Principals meetings; EDG discussion papers and think pieces; key messages documents; EDG meeting summary notes; mission terms of reference, key issues papers, reports.</p>	<p><i>Actions Planned 2017</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Convene discussions on ongoing or deteriorating crisis operations as and when needed, and develop clear analysis, key messages and action-oriented recommendations to support decision-making by the IASC Principals. Identify issues requiring early action and engagement by the IASC Principals during horizon-scanning meetings and other early warning-related activities. Identify opportunities for engagement by the IASC Principals through other EDG activities, including the Annual Operational Review and EDG field missions, and develop well-articulated recommendations in this regard. <p><i>Actions Completed 2016</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 distinct meetings, consultations and missions carried out, covering 21 operations, each generating findings and recommendations on operational issues of direct interest to the IASC Principals. All ad hoc IASC Principals discussions on country operations in 2016 informed by analysis, findings and recommendations developed by the EDG.
1.2 Support the IASC Principals' deliberations on activation, review and deactivation of system-wide Level 3 surge responses.	<p><i>Modalities</i></p> <p>EDG ad hoc discussions in support of IASC Principals' decision-making on L3 surge response activation, extension and deactivation; oversight of OPRs; thematic discussions on optimisation of the L3</p>	<p><i>Actions Planned 2017</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise the IASC Principals on the extension or deactivation of ongoing IASC L3 surge responses, including with regard to "accompanying measures" and transition strategies (February 2017 for Syria, Iraq and Yemen). Provide recommendations to the IASC Principals on the activation of IASC L3 surge responses in new or newly escalating crises as required. Oversee Operational Peer Reviews (OPRs), should a new L3 surge response be activated.

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	<p>mechanism; EDG online discussion and document development.</p> <p><i>Products</i></p> <p>EDG review and recommendations papers on activation, extension and deactivation of L3 surge responses; OPR reports; review and lessons papers; recommendations paper on the L3 mechanism.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to optimize the L3 mechanism and to provide well-reasoned advice and recommendations to the IASC Principals in this regard. <p><i>Actions Completed 2016</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided recommendations to the IASC Principals on the extension and deactivation of ongoing L3 surge responses in 2016: extension of L3 surge responses in Iraq, Syria and Yemen (February and August 2016); deactivation of the L3 surge responses in South Sudan (May 2016). Developed, at the request of the IASC Principals, IASC L3 Activation Procedures for Infectious Disease Events, endorsed by the Principals in December 2016.
1.3 Support the Emergency Relief Coordinator in taking decisions on the strengthening of humanitarian leadership structures.	<p><i>Modalities</i></p> <p>EDG annual HC appraisal; ad-hoc consultations on humanitarian leadership.</p>	<p><i>Actions Planned 2017</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct annual HC appraisal in January 2017. Hold ad-hoc consultations on humanitarian leadership as required, to inform the ERC's decision-making and ensure optimal leadership configurations in support of a strengthened response. Continue efforts to expand the HC pool to strengthen the candidate base to draw on. <p><i>Actions Completed 2016</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual HC appraisal conducted in January 2016. ERC and Principals decision-making on crisis-specific leadership structures supported throughout 2016.
OBJECTIVE 2	UNDERTAKE THE REGULAR MONITORING AND REVIEW OF EMERGENCY OPERATIONS.	
2.1 Review country operations throughout the year, to identify operational support requirements.	<p><i>Modalities</i></p> <p>EDG ad hoc discussions on specific operations (including with involvement of field leadership); EDG Annual Operational Review; EDG field missions; EDG online</p>	<p><i>Actions Planned 2017</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Convene discussions on ongoing or deteriorating crisis operations in support of and with HCs and HCTs, as required, to ensure appropriate, system-wide support to field operations. Convene the Annual Operational Review to review progress, challenges and identify areas for HQ support (25 January).

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	<p>consultations and document reviews.</p> <p><i>Products</i></p> <p>Recommendations papers to the IASC Principals; EDG discussion papers and think pieces; key messages documents; EDG discussion summary notes; mission terms of reference, key issues papers, reports.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Undertake at least two joint EDG field missions to crisis operations for in-depth review of progress and challenges, and identify areas for HQ support, with mission dates and locations to be determined in line with emerging requirements, including during the Annual Operational Review. ▪ Continue to explore opportunities for “light-footprint” EDG missions as a modality for more flexible operational support. <p><i>Actions Completed 2016</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 20 distinct meetings, consultations and missions carried out, covering 21 different operations, to identify areas for support, and mobilize early action and resources. ▪ Five EDG field missions undertaken (CAR, Haiti, Nigeria, Syria/regional, Yemen), including a first joint EDG-Regional UNDG mission (CAR). Three missions involved smaller teams of EDG representatives, organized within tight timeframes.
<p>2.2 Mobilise humanitarian system resources to address operational challenges and gaps, in support of HCs and HCTs.</p>	<p><i>Modalities</i></p> <p>EDG operational support missions; STAIT support missions; bi-annual EDG-donor meetings; ad-hoc EDG-donor meetings on specific crises; media briefs; donor and Member State briefings and discussions; ad hoc discussions on specific operations; EDG Annual Review of Operations.</p> <p><i>Products</i></p> <p>EDG mission terms of reference, key issues papers, reports; STAIT mission reports; key messages for media and donors; recommendations papers to the IASC Principals; EDG discussion papers and think pieces; EDG discussion summary notes.</p>	<p><i>Actions Planned 2017</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Convene discussions on ongoing or deteriorating crisis operations in support of and with HCs and HCTs, as required, to ensure appropriate, system-wide support to field operations. ▪ Mobilize support for HCs and HCTs through the Senior Transformative Agenda Implementation Team (STAIT) and the Global Cluster Coordinators Group (GCCG), as required, ensuring clear and consistent engagement with both mechanisms. ▪ Review EDG-Donor engagement to determine optimal arrangements moving forward (to be discussed on 27 January). ▪ Based on the above, convene discussions with donors on critical operations and thematic/cross-cutting operational issues as appropriate, with the objective mobilizing additional resources and support. ▪ Maintain focus on support around operationalisation of gender, GBV and PSEA commitments, ensuring appropriate integration of these issues across EDG activities and mobilizing of support where and when required. ▪ Hold media, donor and Member State engagements in follow-up to joint EDG field missions. Media briefs and donor briefings and roundtables are held, as appropriate, in New York and Geneva as a standard follow-up to EDG field missions, to enable joint advocacy, targeted resource mobilisation, and to raise the international profiles of operations visited.

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		<p><i>Actions Completed 2016</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 20 distinct meetings, consultations and missions carried out, covering 21 different operations, to identify areas for support, and mobilize early action and resources. ▪ Support to HCs and HCTs through the STAIT continued in 2016, involving field support missions, remote support to HCTs, and regular open STAIT webinars. ▪ Two bi-annual in-person meetings convened with donors on (mainly) thematic operational issues (January and June), covering the L3 surge mechanism; delivery in protracted crises; humanitarian financing; operationalizing Grand Bargain and WHS commitments. ▪ Two ad-hoc discussion with donors convened on Nigeria (March, August) and Ethiopia (March). ▪ Media, donor and Member State engagement held in New York and Geneva, in follow-up to joint EDG field missions.
OBJECTIVE 3	CONSIDER FUTURE HIGH-RISK SCENARIOS AND DETERMINE APPROPRIATE EARLY ACTIONS	
3.1 Monitor high-risk scenarios and identify early actions required.	<p><i>Modalities</i></p> <p>EDG horizon scanning discussions; ‘early action’ field missions; EDG Annual Review of Operations; EDG online consultation and document reviews.</p> <p><i>Products</i></p> <p>EDG mission terms of reference, key issues papers, reports; EDG discussion papers and think pieces; EDG discussion summary notes.</p>	<p><i>Actions Planned 2017</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hold biannual EDG ‘horizon scanning’ discussions, covering ‘high risk’ contexts. ▪ Enhance process around the IASC Early Warning, Early Action and Readiness report. (Dedicated session to be held at the Annual Operation Review meeting on 25 – 27 January.) ▪ Reflect further on optimization of links between early warning, horizon scanning and focused early action at the inter-agency level, including in terms of IASC Principals engagement. Re-energise the EDG Watch List concept, with clearer accountability for early action. <p><i>Actions Completed 2016</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Two dedicated horizon scanning discussions convened (June, November), supported by analysis of the IASC Early Warning, Early Action and Readiness Report.
OBJECTIVE 4	CONTINUE OPTIMISING SYSTEMS FOR COLLECTIVE HUMANITARIAN DELIVERY TO PEOPLE IN NEED	
4.1 Oversee TA implementation at	<i>Modalities</i>	<i>Actions Planned 2017</i>

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<p>field level and support the evolution and optimisation of collective systems for delivery, including HC and HCT functions.</p>	<p>In-person EDG meetings; EDG-Donor meetings/engagement; operational support missions; STAIT support missions and webinars; EDG Annual Review of Operations; annual HC appraisal.</p> <p><i>Products</i></p> <p>EDG progress report on TA implementation; TA lessons and discussion papers; discussion summary notes; STAIT mission reports and TA materials; EDG mission terms of reference, key issues papers, reports.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintain efforts around refinement and enhancement of key TA-related response tools including L3 surge while ensuring the necessary support for operationalization of Grand Bargain and broader World Humanitarian Summit commitments, including through internal discussions and engagement with donors as appropriate. ▪ Finalise standardised HCT Terms of Reference as a tool to ensure clearer expectations and accountability around HCT collective performance, and ensure the necessary support to field level leadership in this regard. ▪ Continue to strengthen links and coherence across EDG and STAIT tools, to further improve support to HCs and HCTs, including through receiving regular updates on ongoing and planned STAIT activities. ▪ Continue progress under the TA's leadership pillar through dedicated meetings and discussions on strengthening humanitarian leadership. HC appraisal to be conducted in January; ad-hoc consultations on leadership to continue as required; efforts to expand HC pool to continue in 2017. <p><i>Actions Completed 2016</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Two EDG discussions convened on (cross-cutting) effectiveness including WHS implementation, leadership and optimization of EDG tools (April, October). ▪ Two biannual in-person meetings convened with donors on thematic operational issues (January and June), covering the L3 surge mechanism; delivery in protracted crises; humanitarian financing; operationalizing Grand Bargain and WHS commitments. ▪ Continued support provided to the IASC Principals on the activation, extension, deactivation of ongoing L3 surge responses in 2016. ▪ Annual HC appraisal conducted and ERC and Principals decision-making on crisis-specific leadership structures supported. ▪ Joint mission to CAR undertaken with representatives of Regional UNDG for West and Central Africa, to review opportunities and support requirements around the New Way of Working and the humanitarian-development nexus. ▪ Support to HCs and HCTs through the STAIT and GCCG continued in 2016, though field support missions, STAIT remote support to HCTs, and regular open STAIT webinars. ▪ Developed IASC L3 Activation Procedures for Infectious Disease Events, endorsed by the Principals in December 2016.