The Emergency Directors Group

*The EDG supports humanitarian operations by advising the IASC Principals on operational issues of strategic concern, and by mobilizing agency and Global Cluster resources to address operational challenges and gaps, in support of Humanitarian Coordinators (HCs) and Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs).*

##### EDG Objectives[[1]](#endnote-1)

**Objective 1:** Consider and advise on operational issues of immediate concern, including all operational issues placed on the agenda of the IASC Principals**.**

* EDG recommendations inform ad hoc Principals’ discussions.
* All decisions on L3 emergency activation, extensions and draw-down are informed by the EDG.
* Decisions on revising or strengthening humanitarian leadership structures in both L3 and non-L3 operations are informed by the EDG.

**Objective Two:** Consider future high-risk scenarios and determine appropriate early actions.

* Emerging and escalating crises are closely monitored, with additional operational support conjured, and advice to Principals, communication with donors made as appropriate.
* Engagement with the IASC Analysts Group is ongoing to strengthen the IASC early warning structure.

**Objective Three:** Assure the roll-out and operationalization of the Transformative Agenda at the country level.

* Direct support to country operations is provided through the STAIT, OPR and ED missions.
* IASC-wide progress on TA implementation is monitored quarterly.
* With normative work complete and implementation ongoing, the central focus is now on delivery.

**Objective Four:** Undertake the regular monitoring and review of emergency operations, with the aim of supporting HCs and HCTs, as well as enhancing mutual accountability.

* Operational requirements and appropriate support is determined through EDG review of country operations throughout the year, although currently most time is taken up by the L3 contexts.

##### EDG ‘Tools’

**Ad-Hoc Operational Discussions:** Called as required by context and to prepare for IASC Principals’ discussions.

**TA Discussions:** Held quarterly to monitor IASC Transformative Agenda (TA) implementation under the Global Level TA Action Plan.

**Meetings with Donors on the TA:** Held bi-annually, to update donors on progress and establish joint commitment to the way forward.

**Early Warning/Early Action ‘Horizon Scanning’ Discussions:** Held bi-annually for EDG to maintain a ‘Watching Brief’ on high risk operations, ideally informed by the EW/EA Report produced by the IASC Task Team on Preparedness and Resilience.

**Annual Operational Review:** Held annually to review selected country operations and identify priority countries for EDG missions, STAIT missions and other support (next review to be called for December 2015).

**HC Appraisal:** Held annually to review HC performance (next appraisal to be held in February 2016).

**EDG Field Missions:** The overall objective of EDG missions is to create a shared understanding of, and identify potential solutions to, challenges in the humanitarian situation and response in the given context.During the mission, the EDG aim to gain a better understanding of operational and institutional challenges faced by the HC and HCT and how they might best be addressed, including identifying issues that may benefit from HQ and/or IASC Principals’ attention and support. The EDG also draw on the TA to discuss best practices in leadership, coordination, accountability and delivery. Focus operations are tentatively decided in the context of the Annual Operational Review and amended in line with evolving context, with 1-3 missions (max.) conducted annually.

**Senior Transformative Agenda Implementation Team (STAIT):** Provides direct support to HCTs in TA rollout on behalf of the EDG through missions and remote support tools.

**Operational Peer Reviews:** Held within 90 days of an IASC L3 Response activation; overseen by the EDG in terms of team selection, ToR development and approval and monitoring of follow-up actions.

1. As per EDG Terms of Reference. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)