Community of Practice Network (CoPN) on the Humanitarian Development Nexus

Background
The IASC Humanitarian Development Nexus Task Team (HDN Task Team) is an interagency forum for convening, presenting, and formulating the collective views of the IASC TT membership around the issue of strengthening the humanitarian development nexus.

Guided by the workplan established under the guidance of the IASC WG, the HDN Task Team purpose is to i) coordinate information flows and share best practices that help shape a common understanding of elements around the New Way of Working (NWOW); ii) review and assess current humanitarian policy, guidance and operational tools against this understanding to identify policy gaps; iii) serve as a port of call to offer support where possible to country teams in their efforts to operationalize the mechanisms, processes, and structures required to strengthen the humanitarian development, and where applicable, peacebuilding nexus.

In line with these tasks, and as an outcome of the peer-to-peer workshop in Entebbe (28-29 November 2017), a Community of Practice Network (CoPN) on Humanitarian Development Nexus (HDN) and Humanitarian Development Peace Nexus (HDPN) is being established[i]. The CoPN comes in response to the requirements and suggestions of such a network, as expressed by peers in Entebbe. The CoPN will provide support and guidance on ways to implement the elements necessary to strengthen collaboration across humanitarian, development and peace actors who have agreed to work together to solve problems of common concern, share knowledge, and cultivate best practices. Through this CoPN, practitioners can share experiences and lessons learned.

Constituency
The CoPN will include field practitioners from UN, NGOs, ICRC, IFRC and, as relevant, be expanded to other constituencies (e.g. international financial institutions). The strength of this COPN is its non-UN centric representation. Cross-regional representation of actors - Africa, Asia-Pacific, Middle East, Americas, Europe - will also be encouraged.

Modus operandi
The HDN Task Team will be the facilitator and convener of the CoPN; the Task Team co-chairs will serve as the Secretariat for the HDN community of practice.

Tasks
The CoPN will serve as one-stop shop and repository of information on the NWOW, provide guidance and serve as a connector among practitioners.

The HDN Task Team will provide support to a) create the CoPN network; b) establish a web-based platform, password protected for practitioners' use and exchange of information (e.g. post papers, guidance, country snapshots); 3) convene a teleconference every month where latest developments could be discussed, and updates and sharing of experiences could be exchanged; 4) with support and financial contribution from member agencies and organisations organise workshops with field practitioners on the NWOW ; 5) keep CoPN practitioners informed of latest meetings on NWOW and the nexus; 6) share HCT/UNCTs requests for surge capacity through maintaining a light roster of deployable staff to support the NWOW.

Process for the teleconferences
In order to keep the number of participants in the teleconferences to a manageable total, the list of participants will include participants from the P2P workshops and, through a vetting system managed by the HDN co-chairs and the Manager of the CoPN, new members who can substantially contribute to the discussions on the NWOW, will be approved to be part of the CoPN.

Focal points:
Marie-Helene Kyprianou, WFP, M-Helene.Kyprianou@wfp.org
Kwame Poku, WHO, pokuk@who.int

---

[i] The IASC TT is guided by realities in the field and hence a need for an approach as comprehensive as possible. Please refer also to "Analysis Paper: On the Intersection between the New Way of Working and the Sustaining Peace Agenda" https://www.dropbox.com/s/c7eyucqfiw8ykyh/2.%20Analysis%20Paper_%20Intersection%20of%20NWOW%20and%20S2.%20P.pdf?dl=0