

IASC RG2 meeting 09 September 2019
Summary Note
UNICEF, Avenue de la Paix, Geneva, 3:00-5:00 pm

Chair: Meritxell Relano (RG2 Co-Chair/UNICEF)

Participants: All members and associate members

AGENDA

- Introduction
- Update on 2019 reporting schedule
- Refresher on RG2 priority areas
- Discussion on progress against deliverables, challenges and areas for collaboration
- AOB

INTRODUCTION

- RG2 retreat to finalize workplan took place in June 2019
- RG2 workplan was endorsed by OPAG in August and work is ongoing

REPORTING

- RGs are required to report every quarter to OPAG
- Template for reporting and instructions will be shared after meeting
- OPAG would like to be informed on meetings, events related to the RG2's work

Reporting process

- Progress report to be sent by priority area/deliverable to Tanya Axisa by 1 October
- Report will be compiled and shared with RG2 members on 4 October
- RG2 meeting for priority area/deliverable leads to agree on and finalize report inputs in RG2 meeting for RG members and leads of deliverables on 7 October
- Report to be shared with OPAG by Secretariat by 11 October
- The reporting template includes: priority area of work, concrete deliverables, leads, progress status, partners, follow-up plans

Observations

- RG2 already planned activities for 2020 during the June 2019 Retreat

PRIORITY AREA PROGRESS TO DATE

Priority area 1 - Humanitarian responses informed and adapted by feedback from affected populations

- Ongoing initiatives from different organizations (e.g. CCEI, REACH, IFRC, IOM, CDAC Network) showing progress in this area (4 deliverables)

Discussion

- Relevant data collected through the 2019 HRP cycle and linked to DFID indicators
- Support from OCHA and other agencies will focus on the 8 countries whose 2019 didn't meet the DFID - PBR indicator; 'number of HRPs with a common AAP approach (other countries can be supported to strengthen the data collection process)
- Discussions ongoing to set-up an AAP Common Service with a dedicated coordinator sitting in RG2. Stewart (OCHA) and Justus (UNICEF) to develop a two-pager concept note outlining the TOR and working modalities of the common service.

- There are several examples of strong networks led by local organizations and partners in country level and their participation at the global level would support more concrete results. More advocacy is needed to ensure they are included in global conversations
- Technology and innovative solutions are needed to raise voices of local actors and overcome access barriers
- The localization agenda should be further supported to ensure there is ownership at the country level
- RG2 role should be to support humanitarian teams in-country to bring together local voices and raise them at the global level

Priority area 2 – Existing regional/national networks linked to global efforts on accountability and inclusion

- Ongoing work to bring regional and national voices to global debates, share good practices across regional contexts and support regional platforms for a more coherent global engagement

Discussion

- Work started around mapping existing regional initiatives/platforms/networks (e.g. women’s network in Asia that focus on PSEA, Inclusion and Disability). These organizations do grassroots work and have a lot of experience yet lack support. Women-led organizations are often less recognized. Important to raise the profile of organizations that are often overlooked and think about improving inclusion
- An issue raised by local actors in Bangkok and Nairobi is that affected people are consulted, and information is extracted from them, yet the feedback loop is never closed afterwards. Participation must be empowering and transformative, not merely nominal
- Examples and good practices, challenges, lessons learned from NGOs partners highlighted (CHS Alliance highlighted good experience in MENA)
- Important to consider existing gaps on RG2 areas and work with local actors to fill those gaps (e.g. engaging with marginalized populations)
- While supporting regional networks, it’s fundamental to consider not only local partners, but also affected populations’ voices
- It is paramount to ensure the sustainability of local networks
- Good example: U-Report used in North-East Nigeria to inform the response process (UNICEF). A guidance note will be circulated

PRIORITY 3 – Protection from SEA and SH improved

- As part of the work to address the culture, attitudes, behavior, working environment and power imbalances within the system, especially in relation to SEA, a number of guidance, TORs (e.g. SEA coordinator TOR), training have been developed (UNICEF, IOM, UNHCR, INTERACTION).

Discussion

- Progress needs to be made on encouraging survivors/victims to come forward and a speak-up culture
- UNHCR has developed a “Power, Gender, and Abuse of Power learning package to promote a change of culture
- UNHCR is promoting an initiative to develop locally contextualized materials about SEA, to be shared through culturally appropriated communication mediums, by setting up a fund. RG2 members are invited to join the Committee to assess proposals
- CHS Alliance is piloting a CHS self-assessment tool that focuses on PSEA
- IASC PSEA Principles have been translated in 98 languages by Translators without Borders

PRIORITY 4 – A Global platform developed

- Roadmap agreed last week upon to create a global platform for resources on AAP, PSEAH, equality, GBV, disability and MHPSS (ALNAP, CDAC, CHS Alliance, UNICEF leading)
- Help desk function on PSEA should be integrated into the global platform
- The Global Platform is expected to be launched by the end of the year

Discussion

- At a later stage, it is deemed necessary to incorporate and harmonize all areas to adopt a “quality programming” perspective, providing guidance that is not divided into silos and that brings resources together
- Importance to have context-specific tools (global materials “do not resonate”, “generic guidance does not have added value”)
- Resources and support provided should be categorized by regions, population of interest, etc.

PRIORITY 5- International standards on accountability and inclusion applied in full

- Work has progressed to bring together and disseminate global standards on AAP, PSEA, Persons with Disabilities, Gender, Young People, MHPSS
- RG2 as a forum that supports the dissemination of guidance on the above topics
- Ongoing conversations to create more coherence between standards and guidance

Discussion

- Strong coordination with Global Protection Cluster (GPC) to strengthen monitoring of accountability and inclusion at the country level
- IASC Gender with Age Marker is based on responses to questions about 12 key gender equality measures. Work is ongoing to ensure it is used in all countries
- Important to look at county-level implementation and learn from practice
- Study on accountability in 4 French NGOs to be shared
- Proposed case study: Ethiopia, with +200 actors at field level, AAP implemented independently with multiple tools and great effectivity.

AOB

- **7 October, 3-5pm (GVA):** RG2 meeting with members and leads of deliverables to finalize first report to OPAG
- **4 November, 3-5pm (GVA):** RG2 meeting for 2020 planning (participants TBD)
- **7/8 November:** OPAG meeting
- **2 December, 3-5pm (GVA):** General RG2 meeting for all members and associate members