

## IASC Operational Policy and Advocacy Group (OPAG)

### Achievements of IASC Results Groups

The five Results Groups of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) are IASC structures under the Operational Policy and Advocacy Group (OPAG). They were created in 2019 to develop policy guidance, operational frameworks and tools on issues such as operational readiness, localization, the humanitarian–development–peace nexus, accountability and inclusion, common advocacy, and quality and flexible funding. The mandate of the IASC structures was extended until the end of 2021, due to the need to prioritize COVID-19 guidance and tools during 2020. This document maps the achievements of the IASC Results Groups against their respective workplans from their creation in 2019 until their conclusion in March 2022.

### RESULTS GROUP 1 – OPERATIONAL RESPONSE

**Co-Chairs:** InterAction, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

PRIORITY AREAS OF WORK	CONCRETE DELIVERABLES	ACHIEVEMENTS
Ensure <b>centrality of protection</b> throughout the humanitarian response.	Provide relevant <b>protection input</b> in advance of the IASC Principals horizon-scanning session and the Emergency Directors Group annual review of operations on critical protection concerns and required actions in selected countries.	Input on key country contexts (informing IASC Principals horizon-scanning discussion on <b>5 December 2019</b> .  Centrality of Protection Sub-Group <a href="#">background paper</a> and recommendations on stigmatization and protection risks (for OPAG reflections on protection in <b>June 2020</b> ).

<p><b>Address bureaucratic impediments imposed on non-governmental organizations (NGOs)</b> to curtail their access and ability to carry out humanitarian activities (in collaboration with Results Group 3 on Collective Advocacy).</p>	<p>Document and <b>map bureaucratic impediments</b> and restrictive NGO law provisions in major global humanitarian crises.</p> <p><a href="#">Develop normative guidance</a> in the form of a best practices and lessons learned document to inform Humanitarian Coordinators (HCs) and Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs) and contribute to mitigating the effects of bureaucratic impediments to humanitarian operations.</p>	<p>Mapping of <b>bureaucratic impediments</b> and restrictive NGO law provisions in major global humanitarian crises (shared within the IASC in <b>December 2019</b>) .</p> <p>IASC guidance <a href="#">Understanding and Addressing Bureaucratic and Administrative Impediments to Humanitarian Action: Framework for a System-Wide Approach</a> (endorsed by OPAG in <b>January 2022</b>).</p>
<p>Support efforts to <b>operationalize localization</b>, including representation of relevant national and local organizations in coordination structures.</p>	<p>Develop <a href="#">guidance for HCs/HCTs to engage local/national representation in HCTs</a>, based on an information repository, to bring together a range of information on the participation of national NGOs in leadership and coordination structures.</p>	<p><a href="#">IASC Guidance on Strengthening Participation, Representation and Leadership of Local and National Actors in IASC Humanitarian Coordination Mechanisms</a> (OPAG endorsed in <b>July 2021</b>).</p>
	<p>Identify <b>benchmarks to measure progress</b> in taking forward the localization agenda.</p>	<p>The <a href="#">IASC Guidance on Strengthening Participation, Representation and Leadership of Local and National Actors in IASC Humanitarian Coordination Mechanisms</a> identified benchmarks. An OCHA annual mapping exercise will be used to report on progress on localization in 2022.</p>
	<p>Develop <a href="#">IASC Interim Guidance on Localization and the COVID-19 Response</a>.</p>	<p><a href="#">IASC interim guidance</a> (endorsed by the IASC Principals in <b>May 2020</b>).</p>
<p><b>Finalize the revision of the Emergency Response Preparedness (ERP) guidance</b>; publish and disseminate the revised ERP guidance.</p>	<p>Develop <a href="#">IASC Interim Guidance: Emergency Response Preparedness (ERP) Approach to the COVID-19 Pandemic</a>.</p>	<p><a href="#">IASC interim guidance</a> (endorsed by the IASC Principals in <b>April 2020</b>).</p>
<p>Consolidate the current policies and practices of humanitarian partners in the area of <b>data responsibility</b>.</p>	<p>Facilitate the development of new <b>joint system-wide operational guidance on data responsibility</b> by the OCHA Centre for Humanitarian Data in The Hague.</p>	<p><a href="#">IASC Operational Guidance on Data Responsibility in Humanitarian Action</a> (endorsed by OPAG in <b>January 2021</b>). The endorsed version was widely circulated amongst the humanitarian community and followed by an IASC briefing in <b>February 2021</b>.</p>

Develop [FAQs on Data Responsibility in the COVID-19 Response](#) to support organizations and staff around the world who are working with data as part of the COVID-19 response.

Data Responsibility Sub-Group [FAQs on Data Responsibility in the COVID-19 Response](#) (finalized by the in **April 2020** and disseminated widely within the IASC).

## RESULTS GROUP 2 – ACCOUNTABILITY AND INCLUSION

**Co-Chairs: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)**

PRIORITY AREAS OF WORK	CONCRETE DELIVERABLES	ACHIEVEMENTS
Enable the humanitarian system to measure progress in terms of collective accountability and inclusion.	<p>Refine and socialize with the field the <b>Global Accountability and Inclusion Results Tracker</b>, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrating collective indicators on preventing and responding to racism and all kinds of discrimination against affected people;</li> <li>Integrating indicators and guidance on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment (PSEAH) (as developed below) for the country-level framework.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">Results tracker</a> (released by OPAG on a provisional basis in <b>November 2021</b>).</p> <p>All RG2 deliverables were socialized through several webinars during the time of existence of RG2, such as for example through a <a href="#">series of 4 webinars on strengthening accountability and inclusion</a> conducted in cooperation with PHAP from September to December 2021, which attracted several hundreds of participants.</p>
Enable field leaders to know <b>WHAT</b> to do to ensure collective responses are accountable and inclusive.	<p>Refine and socialize and support the field piloting of the <b>Collective Accountability and Inclusion Framework for HCs/HCTs</b>, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrating prevention and response to racism and all kinds of discrimination of affected people;</li> <li>Integrating the IASC PSEAH country-level framework (as developed below).</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">Collective Accountability and Inclusion Framework</a> (released by OPAG on a provisional basis in <b>November 2021</b>).</p> <p>All RG2 deliverables were socialized through several webinars during the time of existence of RG2, such as for example through a <a href="#">series of 4 webinars on strengthening accountability and inclusion</a> conducted in cooperation with PHAP from September to December 2021, which attracted several hundreds of participants.</p>
Enable practitioners to better understand <b>HOW</b> to ensure responses are accountable and inclusive and from	<p>Refine and socialize and support the field operationalization of the <b>Accountability and Inclusion Portal and Service Directory</b>, including:</p>	<p><a href="#">Accountability and Inclusion Portal and Service Directory</a> (the Portal was launched and maintenance continues, with refinements being made as needed).</p>

WHOM and WHERE they can get support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrating localization resources, learning from local/regional actors (case studies, etc.) and local services;</li> <li>Integrating resources and services on racism and all kinds of discrimination (in the workplace and against affected people);</li> <li>Integrating resources and services on PSEAH ; including linkages to the IASC PSEAH <a href="#">microsite</a>;</li> <li>Maintaining and updating the <a href="#">dedicated webpage</a> for resources related to COVID-19 accountability and inclusion.</li> </ul>	All RG2 deliverables were socialized through several webinars during the time of existence of RG2, such as for example through a <a href="#">series of 4 webinars on strengthening accountability and inclusion</a> conducted in cooperation with PHAP from September to December 2021, which attracted several hundreds of participants.
Support stakeholders to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse and harassment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain and update the <a href="#">Global Dashboard on the implementation of PSEA in humanitarian response</a>.</li> <li>Launch the second call for the <a href="#">PSEA Community Outreach and Communication Fund</a>.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">Global Dashboard on the implementation of PSEA in humanitarian response</a> (regularly updated and maintained).</p> <p>Second call for proposals for the <a href="#">PSEA Community Outreach and Communication Fund</a> (launched in October 2021).</p>

## RESULTS GROUP 3 - COLLECTIVE ADVOCACY

### Co-Chairs: Save the Children, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

PRIORITY AREAS OF WORK	CONCRETE DELIVERABLES	ACHIEVEMENTS
Determine how best to <b>address the impact of counter-terrorism measures</b> (COTER) and the growing trend for the criminalization of humanitarian action in specific contexts.	<p>Develop a document <b>capturing the critical impact of COTER measures on humanitarian action</b> to serve as an evidence base for advocacy efforts.</p> <p>At the request of the IASC Principals, prioritize the following deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for standing humanitarian exemptions in counter-terrorism measures;</li> <li>Provide guidance to and ensure leadership by HCs and HCTs;</li> <li>Deepen efforts to document negative effects and make an evidence-based case.</li> </ul>	<p>IASC Guidance on Impact of Sanctions and COTER measures (endorsed by OPAG in <b>September 2021</b>).</p> <p>Results Group 3 compiled an IASC Counterterrorism Database, a resource library on COTER and a compendium of recurrent counter-terrorism recommendations.</p> <p>OPAG endorsed a solutions proposal developed by Results Group 3 to address negative impacts of counter-terrorism and sanctions in 2021. The solutions proposal has been widely shared within the IASC.</p>

	Engage proactively in open and sustained dialogue with Member States to raise awareness on concerns and work towards practical solutions, including through Security Council resolutions, donor agreements and domestic legislation.	
Develop <b>common narratives on specific issues of concern</b> (such as enhancing respect for international humanitarian law, international human rights law, humanitarian principles and the core protection framework) to support the collective and/or bilateral advocacy efforts of IASC members, including during upcoming key anniversaries.	Develop <a href="#">Food Security Key Messages</a> .	<a href="#">Food Security Key Messages</a> (endorsed by OPAG in <b>December 2020</b> ).
	Develop <a href="#">IASC Key Protection Advocacy Messages on COVID-19</a> .	<a href="#">IASC Key Protection Advocacy Messages on COVID-19</a> (endorsed by the IASC Principals in <b>September 2020</b> ).
	Develop <a href="#">IASC Key Messages on Climate Change, Humanitarian Action and COVID-19</a> .	<a href="#">IASC Key Messages on Climate Change, Humanitarian Action and COVID-19</a> (endorsed by OPAG in <b>November 2020</b> ).
	Develop a <a href="#">common narrative on climate change</a> and humanitarian action and engage on the humanitarian dimension of the climate emergency.	<a href="#">IASC Key Messages: Common Narrative on the Climate Emergency and Humanitarian Action</a> (endorsed by OPAG in <b>April 2021</b> ).

## RESULTS GROUP 4 - HUMANITARIAN DEVELOPMENT COLLABORATION

**Co-Chairs:** Oxfam, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

PRIORITY AREAS OF WORK	CONCRETE DELIVERABLES	ACHIEVEMENTS
Provide inter-agency guidance on the <b>humanitarian—development nexus (HDN) and its linkages to peace</b> , while safeguarding humanitarian principles.	Develop <b>messaging about how to make nexus approaches compatible with humanitarian principles</b> , based on concrete challenges shared by IASC members and others.	This deliverable was implemented as part of a series of <a href="#">seven podcasts</a> , focusing on: what is the nexus, gender, local actors, financing, the peace dimension of the nexus and the operationalization of the nexus. (Released on the IASC website between 2 December 2021 through March 2022). RG4 furthermore completed <a href="#">A mapping and analysis of tools and guidance on the H-P linkages in the HDP-nexus</a> .
	Strengthen the <b>articulation of peace</b> in the nexus through the development of guidance specifically on the conditions under which the triple collaboration approaches are appropriate or inappropriate. Support its dissemination.	<a href="#">Issue Paper: Exploring Peace within the Humanitarian—Development—Peace Nexus (HDPN)</a> (endorsed by OPAG in <b>November 2020</b> ).

	Finalize <b>Key Messages on the Humanitarian-Development Nexus and Its Links to Peace</b> .	<a href="#">Key Messages on the Humanitarian-Development Nexus and Its Links to Peace</a> (incorporated in the Issue Paper on the HDPN).
Capture and <b>disseminate good practices on humanitarian, development and peace collaboration</b> within the IASC.	Work on better understanding of <b>financing across the nexus</b> , also to use as input to the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development/International Network on Conflict and Fragility (OECD DAC/INCAF) discussions on donors "walking the talk".	Results Group 4 members influenced the OECD DAC/INCAF report on financing across the nexus and engaged in relevant briefings and workshops.
	Based on criteria needed to create "good nexus approaches", map where the nexus is happening in the field, look at what is working and what models are being used, and highlight good practices.	<a href="#">IASC Synthesis Report – Mapping Good Practice in the Implementation of HDPN Approaches</a> and <a href="#">Country Reports</a> (endorsed by OPAG, widely advertised through social media., and an IASC briefing on <b>7 December 2021</b> ).
	Consult with local organizations on their experience with nexus approaches and determine where Results Group 4 can support these actors.	The <a href="#">IASC Synthesis Report – Mapping of Good Practice in the Implementation of HDPN Approaches</a> incorporated findings from consultations on local organizations in the nexus. One of the seven podcasts on humanitarian principles and the nexus focuses <a href="#">on the role of local actors in the nexus: real experience</a> and views from the ground. (The podcast was issued on <b>16 December 2021</b> ).
	Identify <b>key action areas to develop and implement a nexus approach around</b> collaboration and support the application of this approach in fragile contexts.	<a href="#">Commitments into Action</a> (completed in <b>Q2 2020</b> , with follow-up undertaken in collaboration with OECD DAC/INCAF).
	Leverage <b>OECD DAC/INCAF/Results Group 4 workshop on building a common understanding of “what success looks like” in implementation of nexus approaches</b> and help strengthen collaboration and complementarity between bilateral and multilateral approaches in taking forward nexus approaches.	The workshop took place on <b>8 November 2019</b> on the margins of the OECD DAC/INCAF meeting. As a follow-up, Results Group 4 and OECD DAC/INCAF identified knowledge management around nexus implementation (planned) and better defining and understanding the peace pillar of the nexus (ongoing) as key collaboration areas.
Upon request, provide <b>support to country operations</b> through a system	Provide information regarding <b>IASC member capacities that can be pooled to respond to requests for technical support</b>	Matrix mapping information on HDPN capacity deployed for country support (developed in <b>December 2019</b> ).

of <b>pooling or coordinating capacities</b> , including by working with the humanitarian-development nexus community of practitioners and the Joint Steering Committee, among others.	from the field. (The purpose is to maintain information on HDPN support capacity, to reduce overlaps and cover gaps where required, and to facilitate contact between agencies and organizations in respective regions/countries.)	
	Institute a <b>nexus mentor system</b> .	Results Group 4 supported the creation and roll-out of the <a href="#">Nexus Academy</a> , and its members were part of the pilot programme. The academy was piloted in <b>Q3 2021</b> and launched in <b>February 2022</b> .
Strengthen the <b>sharing of data and analysis</b> and enable the adaptation of planning tools to support better alignment between country-based humanitarian and development plans.	Review and suggest adaptation of planning tools to support <b>better alignment between country-based humanitarian and development plans</b> through input provided to the companion documents on the HDPN, the United Nations Common Country Analysis (CCA), and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF).	Results Group 4 members provided substantial input to the companion documents on the HDPN, CCA and UNSDCF (finalized <b>August 2019</b> ).
Disseminate <b>guidance on collective outcomes</b> to ensure a common understanding of analysis, funding and financial strategies, and effective coordination initiatives.	Develop the <a href="#">UN-IASC Light Guidance on Collective Outcomes</a> .	<a href="#">UN-IASC Light Guidance on Collective Outcomes</a> (finalized in <b>Q2 2020</b> ).
	Plan and support the dissemination and socialization of the <a href="#">UN-IASC Light Guidance on Collective Outcomes</a> .	Dissemination efforts continue, including through a Peer-2-Peer webinar, UNHCR and Global Protection Cluster channels.
Support the system-wide <b>response to COVID-19</b> , notably the decisions of the IASC Principals, from the nexus perspective.	Develop a shared set of <b>indicators to support the complementary of work around the Global Humanitarian Response Plan (GHRP), Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan (SPRP) and the United Nations framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19</b> .	This deliverable was developed as per the IASC Principals request on <b>28 April 2020</b> . Indicators were shared with OPAG for review. As the SPRP was revised and the GHRP was folded into the Global Humanitarian Overview, this work was overtaken by events.
	Contribute to reinforce <b>socio-economic and nexus considerations in the GHRP</b> .	Based on a request from the IASC Principals, Results Group 4 provided input to ensure the GHRP included a good reading of socio-economic frameworks and nexus considerations.



## RESULTS GROUP 5 - RESULTS HUMANITARIAN FINANCING

**Co-Chairs:** OCHA, International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA)

PRIORITY AREAS OF WORK	CONCRETE DELIVERABLES	ACHIEVEMENTS
Produce a business case showing the <b>contribution of multi-year humanitarian planning and unearmarked funding to more cost-effective humanitarian assistance</b> . In this regard, strengthen <b>engagement with donor countries</b> , including the OECD, Good Humanitarian Donorship, (GHD) and the Grand Bargain (Work Streams 7 and 8 on Quality Funding), including on issues of predictable financing.	<p>Map <b>donor funding practices with respect to multi-year and unearmarked financing</b> in order to shape subsequent donor advocacy.</p> <p>Develop <b>collective advocacy messages to donors</b> on how they can better support the pandemic response against <b>COVID-19</b> and ongoing operations, especially in terms of flexible funding.</p>	<p><a href="#">Quality funding practices catalogue</a> (issued in July 2020). The catalogue was then presented to the GHD, and the focus shifted to advocating for contributions of quality funding and informing Grand Bargain work on quality funding.</p> <p><a href="#">IASC key messages on flexible funding</a> (endorsed by the IASC Principals in April 2020).</p> <p>Guidance on <a href="#">unlocking funds to NGOs</a>.</p> <p><a href="#">Annotated bibliography of reports enhancing the visibility of flexible funding</a>.</p> <p>Results Group 5 proactively advocated for strengthening efficient and effective quality financing with GHD and through the Grand Bargain.</p>
<b>Map and promote financing instruments</b> supporting humanitarian interventions with <b>development co-benefits</b> .	Contribute to the <b>financing element</b> of the light <b>guidance on collective outcomes</b> led by Results Group 4.	Results Group 5 supported Results Group 4 efforts on the development of <a href="#">UN-IASC Light Guidance on Collective Outcomes</a> .
Facilitate the ongoing process of <b>simplification and harmonization of United Nations systems</b> to reduce burdens and free additional resources for humanitarian operations.	Take stock of <b>progress to date to harmonize partnership arrangements between NGOs and UNHCR, OCHA, UNICEF, the World Food Programme (WFP) and UNFPA</b> and recommend next steps for action.	<p>IASC guidance was adapted for COVID-19 and issued in June 2020 as <a href="#">proposals for a harmonized approach to funding flexibility in the context of COVID-19</a>.</p> <p>Results Group 5 presented the implementation of the guidance to GHD. WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNFPA, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Organization for Migration and OCHA, together with their NGO partners, have increased funding flexibility, thereby speeding up the response to the pandemic.</p>