

IASC Task Force 3 on BAI/COTER Work Plan – Approved by OPAG in June 2022

TASK FORCE 3 – BUREAUCRATIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE IMPEDIMENTS, AND COUNTER-TERRORISM

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Objective 1: Mitigating the Impact of Counterterrorism legislation and sanctions on humanitarian action		Progress Update	
Priority Area of work 1.1.	Supporting field leadership in operationalizing the recently endorsed IASC Guidance on Impact of Sanctions and Counterterrorism Measures on Humanitarian Operations and the Security Council’s requests on humanitarian organisations/other organisations whose activities support basic human needs under res. 2664 (2022) – including request to share information for the ERC’s annual briefings to sanctions Committees.		
Activity/deliverables 1.1.1.	Organise 4 Regional webinars for HC/HCT focal points on key issues for example the IASC Guidance and obligations under resolution 2664 (2022)	Q3 – OCHA, in partnership with IASC members	Members of the TF held ad hoc discussions with field teams on mitigating the impact of sanctions and COTER measures. Thematic regional webinars were postponed owing to the adoption of UNSC Resolution 2664.
Activity/deliverables 1.1.2.	Provide ad hoc support to HC/HCTs as required, including on due diligence and other risk mitigation measures to limit incidental benefits to actors sanctioned by the UN, and how to regularly coordinate information-sharing on this at field level, including with a view to feed into the ERC’s briefings to sanctions Committees under res. 2664 (2022)	On-going – OCHA	OCHA provided support on sanctions-CT related issues to Ukraine colleagues and participated in a meeting organised by OCHA regional office for West Africa on CT issues, with the ICRC and HCT representatives from relevant countries. On-going
Priority Area of work 1.2.	Systematically monitoring and reporting on the practical impact of COTER- and sanctions-related measures on humanitarian operations to inform Member States decisions, including on the impact of exemptions, with specific attention to donor conditionality, and the domestication and effective impact of the carveout established by SC res. 2664 (2022).		

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Activity/deliverables 1.2.1.	Stimulate regular information exchanges between members at HQs and field level, including with a view to inform the ERC’s annual briefings to sanctions Committees on the benefits of the carveout established by resolution 2664 (2022), remaining challenges (notably donor conditionality/ restrictive measures other than UN sanctions), and potential shortcomings.	On-going	E.g., the IASC TF3 is looking at the impact of sanctions and unilateral coercive measures on the scale up of operations in Syria following the earthquake. The TF3 is coordinating IASC-wide messaging on the issue.
Priority Area of work 1.3. Developing key messages in support of IASC Principals in undertaking targeted advocacy with donors and Members States to mitigate the impact of counter-terrorism- and sanctions-related measures on humanitarian action in select humanitarian operations.			
Activity/deliverables 1.3.1.	Finalize paper on beneficiary screening and work towards a common IASC position and messaging on the topic	Q3 - HI	A third draft and pre-final were shared in October for endorsement. Several UN agencies have raised legal concerns; discussions are ongoing to reconcile positions of IASC members.
Activity/deliverables 1.3.2.	Use the Group as a regular information-sharing and advocacy coordination body on specific issues as they arise to identify context-specific advocacy priorities and agree on common messaging on identified contexts	On-going	The Group has continued to be instrumental to share information, specifically on the potential impact of Russia/ Ukraine-related sanctions as well as the impact of the humanitarian exemption in the Afghanistan sanctions regime. Likewise, the group will coordinate information sharing and advocacy related to the impact of sanctions and coercive measures on the EQ scale-up.
Priority Area of work 1.4. Consolidating good practice on efforts to mitigate the impact of counter-terrorism legislation and sanctions on humanitarian action.			

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Activity/deliverables 1.1.2.	Update the draft paper on “Policy Recommendations to Address the Negative Impact of Counterterrorism Measures and Sanctions on Humanitarian Action” paper on solutions with an annex listing examples of good practices.	Q4 - Save the Children	Completed
Objective 2: Addressing Bureaucratic and Administrative Impediments to enable principled, timely and effective humanitarian action.			
Priority Area of work 2.1.	Supporting field leadership in operationalizing the recently endorsed IASC Guidance on Understanding and Addressing Bureaucratic and Administrative Impediments.		
Activity/deliverables 2.1.1.	Support the utilisation and strengthening of existing tools to help ensure colleagues are equipped to identify and manage BAI.	Q4 – OCHA; InterAction; ICVA	A survey has been distributed to narrow down suggested indicators in relation to BAI to enable monitoring. On demand webinars may be organised for key contexts to build capacity in relation to utilisation of key BAI tools.
Priority Area of work 2.2.	Compiling good practice drawn from humanitarian operations on understanding and addressing bureaucratic and administrative impediments.		
Activity/deliverables 2.3.1.	Organise 2 peer-to-peer events/workshops with access working group members to exchange on lessons-learned, challenges and best practices. Where relevant and strategic, ensure that issues are brought to the attention of other parts of the system.	Q4 – OCHA; InterAction; ICVA	A peer-to-peer workshop was successfully convened in Q4 to help disseminate guidelines, brainstorm with colleagues on indicators, and share lessons-learned and best practices. A second workshop is being planned for 2023.