

FACT SHEET 2019 - 2020



WHO WE ARE

Created by the United Nations General Assembly, through its resolution 46/182 in 1991, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee is the longest-standing and highest-level humanitarian coordination forum of the United Nations system that brings together 19 Principals of United Nations and non-United Nations entities to ensure coherence of efforts, formulate policy, and discuss priorities for strengthened humanitarian action. It facilitates the leadership role of the United Nations Secretary-General by meeting regularly to ensure better preparation for, as well as rapid and coherent response to, humanitarian crises. It is chaired by the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator.

WHAT WE DO

**WE ARE THE PRIMARY GLOBAL MECHANISM
FOR INTER-AGENCY HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION**

The IASC is the primary coordination mechanism for coherent and timely international response to humanitarian emergencies. It ensures its member organizations effectively assist and protect people affected by conflict, natural disasters, and other emergencies such as pandemics. It supports its member organizations to deliver effective, principled and accountable humanitarian action that saves lives, protects and meets the needs of people affected by humanitarian crises. It advocates for the protection of rights of affected people and respect for international humanitarian law and the humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality, and independence.

Our Five Strategic Priorities to strengthen the effectiveness and efficiency of collective humanitarian action



**ENHANCED
OPERATIONAL
RESPONSE**



**ENHANCED
ACCOUNTABILITY
AND INCLUSION**



**GREATER IMPACT
OF COLLECTIVE
ADVOCACY**



**IMPROVED
HUMANITARIAN-
DEVELOPMENT
COLLABORATION**



**IMPROVED
HUMANITARIAN
RESOURCING**

HOW WE DO IT

The IASC carries out its role through five distinct structures. The **IASC PRINCIPALS** who are heads of the organizations that form the IASC. They meet regularly to address critical humanitarian crises, and to make strategic, operational and policy decisions that have implications throughout the humanitarian sector. The Emergency Relief Coordinator chairs meetings of the IASC Principals. The IASC Principals are supported by four subsidiary bodies established to support the implementation of their decisions and IASC priorities.

DEPUTIES FORUM

Serves as an informal platform for dialogue and information sharing on strategic issues of common interest. It comprises representatives at the level of the Assistant Secretary-General or equivalent.

EMERGENCY DIRECTORS GROUP (EDG)

Emergency Directors convene and focus on responding to current crises, including addressing requirements to meet the urgent operational needs on the ground.

OPERATIONAL POLICY AND ADVOCACY GROUP (OPAG)

Drives the normative and strategic policy work of the IASC, including on system-wide policy matters with a direct bearing on humanitarian operations. Consists of Emergency Director or Policy Director level representatives.

RESULTS GROUP

Timebound subsidiary bodies, comprising IASC member representatives, responsible for delivering the agreed normative / system-wide outputs under each of the IASC Strategic Priorities. The Results Group are accountable to OPAG.

SECRETARIAT

Supports the IASC Principals in their deliberations, ensuring that Principals' decisions are acted upon. It also builds synergies amongst the various IASC structures.

IASC MEMBERS



IASC STANDING INVITEES



IASC SECRETARIAT CONTACT

Palais des Nations,
1211 Geneva 11
Switzerland

2 United Nations Plaza (DC2),
East 44th Street, New York 10017
USA

✉ iasccorrespondence@un.org

🌐 interagencystandingcommittee.org

🐦 [@iascch](https://twitter.com/iascch)

📘 facebook.com/FriendsofIASC