Inter-Agency Standing Committee

Working Group

IASC Subsidiary Bodies

REFERENCE GROUP-MEETING HUMANITARIAN CHALLENGES IN URBAN AREAS  
*Work Plan for 2015-16*

Update on Progress and Upcoming priorities

July 2016

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| **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE** | **INTERVENTION AND INTENDED RESULT/PRODUCT** | **EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF INTERVENTION** | **IMPLEMENT-ING AGENCIES** | **Update July. 2016** | **Priorities for second half of 2016** |
| ***Strategic Objective 1****. Develop Operational Strategies early-on that ensure multi-stakeholder partnerships for enhanced coordination, impact and effectiveness of humanitarian assistance in urban areas* | 1.a. World Humanitarian Summit Urban Segment: Enhanced coordination | 1.a. New norms and guidelines for support to humanitarian agencies to improve humanitarian operations in urban areas through better coordination with critical urban partners at community, local government, private sector and external development partner levels and through building upon related SDGs  (UN-Habitat, Filiep Decorte; OCHA/NY, Kathryn Yarlett, Hansjoerg Strohmeyer) | 1.a.UN-Habitat (lead), OCHA, IASC | Urban Alliance is leading on the coordination of humanitarian, development and governance stakeholders within the framework of the WHS. | Follow-up on WHS recommendations post May 2016. |
| 1.b. Community Outreach and Coordinated Service Delivery in Urban Responses | 1.b. Pilot a new operational approach for community outreach to facilitate assistance and protection of affected urban populations through community engagement, coordination and service delivery.  (UNHCR, Annika Sjoberg (sjoberg@unhcr.org/Steven Corliss (corliss@unhcr.org) | 1.b. UNHCR, gCCCM Cluster | UDOC has been established:   * Dedicated WG in place * Pilots close to finalization, lessons learned document to be finalized by early 2016 * Multi-stakeholder training to be piloted in Gaza |  |
| 1.c Settlement strategy guidance | 1.c Guidance to country clusters on enabling an area/settlements approach through the cluster-related tools and mechanisms incl. SRP’s, the intercluster coordination process, cross-cluster interventions etc.  (IFRC, Graham Saunders ([Graham.Saunders@ifrc.org](mailto:Graham.Saunders@ifrc.org), Shaun Scales (scales@unhcr.org) | Global Shelter Cluster |  |  |
| ***Strategic Objective 2.*** *Strengthen*  *Technical Capacity for Emergency*  *Response in Urban-based Challenges* | 2.a. Improved Post-Disaster Urban Informal Housing Responses | 2.a. Recommendations of Good Practices and Increased Awareness of humanitarian actors in disaster response and prevention in urban informal housing  IDMC/NRC-CH, Sebastian Abuja (Sebastian.Abuja@nrc.ch) | 2.a. IDMC |  |  |
| 2.b Online self-learning on post disaster shelter & settlements | 2.b No fee self-learning course widely available on different platforms to raise awareness and understanding of post disaster shelter & settlement issues including in urban areas  Graham.Saunders@ifrc.org | 2.b Global Shelter Cluster |  |  |
| ***Strategic Objectives 3.*** *Develop or Adapt Humanitarian Approaches and Tools* | 3.a. Housing Policies and Practices in Support of Durable Solutions for Urban IDPs | 3.a. Best Practices to support achievement of durable solutions for urban internally displaced persons by making available to policy-makers and practitioners comparative analyses of approaches, policies and practices that have improved tenure security and housing and can guide the design, funding and implementation of housing policies/programs in urban settings  IDMC/NRC, Barbara McCallin ([Barbara.Mccallin@nrc.ch](mailto:Barbara.Mccallin@nrc.ch)), Huma Gupta (guptah@mit.edu) | 3.a IDMC with MIT-DRAN (Displacement Research and Action Network) |  |  |
| 3.b. Rapid City and Neighborhood Profiles (Syria) | 3.b. Rapid Multi-Sectoral Urban Assessment Methodologies to assess up-to-date impacts of crisis on cities, developed in Syrian context for Homs, Aleppo, Dara’a and Latakia and neighbourhood profile for Old Homs  UN-Habitat, Szilard Fricska, Andre Dzikus | 3.b. UN-Habitat |  |  |
| 3.c Urban displacement profiling tools and approaches | 3.c.1 Improved capacity of humanitarian community to conduct urban profiling of displacement situations, with particular focus on survey methodology in urban settings  3.c.2 Development of a comprehensive urban profiling approach to facilitate coordinated and evidence-based responses to urban displacement situations  UN-Habitat : Szilard Fricska, JIPS: Natalia Baal ; FIC : Karen Jacobsen | 3.c.1 JIPS  3.c.2 UN-Habitat, JIPS, Feinstein International Centre | JIPS urban profiling Guidance launched in 2014 and continuous dissemination during 2015, including urban profiling coordination training materials and delivery;  Support provided to urban profiling exercises in Somalia, Honduras, Iraq, Yemen and elsewhere.  A technical workshop organised in Beirut, Lebanon in November 2015 to discuss urban data challenges and refine project objectives | * Continued availability of JIPS support for partners in urban settings * Delivery of regional and global trainings with integrated urban profiling element   Launching the project, including desk review of existing urban analysis methodologies and tools; development of new, consolidated profiling approaches; piloting in different urban contexts |
| 3.d. Systematic sharing and uptake of good urban refugee program practices | 3.d. Ensure the systematic sharing and uptake of new ideas, approaches, tools and good practices through the promotion and maintenance of the Urban Good Practices website ([www.urbangoodpractices.org](http://www.urbangoodpractices.org)) as a rich resource of good practices from urban settings targeting practioners.  UNHCR, Annika Sjoberg (sjoberg@unhcr.org) | 3.d. UNHCR and Urban Refugee Task Team | JIPS urban profiling webinar conducted in Nov 2015 |  |
| 3.e. Indicator Development for Surveillance of Urban Emergencies – Next Phase | 3.e. New set of thresholds established to determine the earliest point of entry of humanitarian assistance to avert crises and to graduate urban communities in Kenya. Indicators and thresholds to be determined with potential replicability to other urban areas with potential crises  Concern-Kenya, Wendy Erasmus (Wendy.Erasmus@concern.net) | 3.e. Concern Kenya; Kenya , Somalia and Ethiopia Red Cross; World Vision; UN-Habitat | In November, Concern set thresholds against which to analyse the data collected on urban emergencies indicators, and analysis is ongoing |  |
| 3.f. CMAM Surge in urban settings | 3.f. Adaptation of the community management of acute malnutrition surge model in the urban context of Kenya | 3.f. Concern Kenya | Funding secured from the START network, program to be launched in the next months |  |
| 3.g. Shelter recovery/urban planning surge support | 3.g. Inclusion of dedicated technical capacity/expertise in shelter recovery/urban planning in country cluster coordination teams  Graham.Saunders@ifrc.org | 3.g. Global Shelter Cluster |  |  |
| 3.h. Revised Health Equity Assessment Response Tool (HEART) | 3.h. Set of validated, standardized core indicators (health and non-health as determinants of health) for urban officials to identify and monitor inequities at neighorhood level. New health emergency management module will be added. [*http://www.who.int/kobe\_centre/measuring/urbanheart/en/*](http://www.who.int/kobe_centre/measuring/urbanheart/en/)*;* [*http://www.who.int/kobe\_centre/en/*](http://www.who.int/kobe_centre/en/) *;* [*http://www.who.int/kobe\_centre/measuring/en/*](http://www.who.int/kobe_centre/measuring/en/)  WHO, Alex Ross ([rossa@who.int](mailto:rossa@who.int)), Guillaume Simonian (simoniang@who.int) | 3.h. WHO Kobe Center | - HEART is being revised to include module on emergencies and urban responses, and will be finalised by end 2015.  - WHO-UNHABITAT global report on urban health to published early 2016 |  |
| ***Strategic Objective 4.*** *Promote Protection and Conflict Mitigation among Vulnerable Urban Populations against Violence and Exploitation* | 4.a. City Labs for Safer Cities: Towards an Integrated Approach to Urban Safety and Peacebuilding | 4.a. Pilot Program to: establish locally-led innovative policies and practices to prevent and reduce violence and crime in 10 urban areas and to build lasting relationships between residents and authorities and facilitate exchange of best practice/learnings across urban safety and peacebuilding expert communities in pre/post/current crisis contexts  UN-Habitat, Juma Assiago; Geneva Peace-building Platform, Achim Wennmann (Achim.Wennmann@graduateinstitute.ch) | 4.a. UN-Habitat, UNOG and Geneva Peacebuilding Platform | Program implementation is ongoing | International Review Conference on Safer Cities +20 to take place in Geneva on 6 - 8 July 2016 |
| 4.b. Addressing Displacement due to Urban Violence | 4.b. New tools and guidance for adapting operational responses to populations displaced by urban criminal violence based on analyses in Mexico and other Central American cities  NRC/IDMC, Sebastian Abuja (Sebastian.Abuja@nrc.ch) | 4.b. IDMC |  |  |
| 4.c. Peace-building through Youth-led Development Activity | 4.c. b. Pilot program building on early youth intervention led by UN-Habitat (One Stop Youth Resource Centers) and new research underway by World Bank and UN-Habitat , the pilot will identify modalities for youth to be catalytic agents of positive change, with initial focus on internally displaced youth and urban youth refugees fleeing protracted conflicts  UN-Habitat, Dan Lewis & Doug Ragan | 4.c. UN-Habitat, World Bank, UNICEF |  |  |
| ***Strategic Objective 5.*** *Restore Livelihoods and Economic Opportunities, including Food/Nutrition Security, in the Emergency Phase for Expedited Early Recovery* | 5.a. Adapting to an Urban World | 5.a. Ongoing project co-managed by the gFSC and WFP/VAM: ‘Adapting to an Urban World’ to develop a toolkit of vulnerability indicators, food security assessment tools and guidelines and an early warning system specific to urban settings. The tools will be piloted to in case studies across various urban contexts to capture lessons and contribute to guidance materials  WFP, Aysha Twose ([aysha.twose@wfp.org](mailto:aysha.twose@wfp.org) | 5.a. gFSC, WFP, UNHCR, IFRC, ALNAP, WVI, Samaritan’s Purse, Oxfam, World Animal Protection | - Case studies/pilot assessments in Zimbabwe (Nov 2014), Amman/Beirut (Mar 2015), Madagascar (Jul 2015), Somalia (Dec 2015) and Haiti (Dec 2015)  - Desk review finalised  - Analysis of results/consolidation of lessons learned and priority actions completed | * Finalise lessons learned and report for Haiti assessment * Fundraising for future project activities, including specific urban innovations development of guidance and training modules |
| 5.b. Enabling Sustainable Livelihoods | 5.b. Roll-Out of the Graduation Approach as a proven approach to building sustainable livelihoods to graduate affected populations out of extreme poverty through time-bound, sequenced interventions to meet basic consumption needs, build savings and develop livelihood assets. Approach enhances economic opportunities for displaced but also host communities. Based on pilots in Cairo and San Jose.  UNHCR, Annika Sjoberg ([sjoberg@unhcr.org](mailto:sjoberg@unhcr.org)) and Steven Corliss (Corliss@unhcr.org) | 5.b. UNHCR | Pilot finalised in Burkina Faso and Gambia; | Partners to further pilot this approach in other contexts (countries and timeframe to be confirmed) |
| ***Strategic Objective 6.*** *Strengthen Preparedness and Resilience into Humanitarian Assistance Policies and Programs for more Effective Emergency Responses and Save More Lives in Urban Areas* | 6.a. Building More Resilient and Sustainable Cities in Post-Crisis Contexts and consistent with the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction | 6.a. Program of pilot projects to provide advisory/technical support and capacity building to partners and local authorities on urban risk reduction, preparedness, contingency planning, resilience, settlement rehabilitation and reconstruction by addressing immediate needs of land and tenure, shelter/permanent housing, environmental remediation, basic infrastructure rehabilitation and immediate economic recovery and restoration of livelihoods.  UN-Habitat, Dan Lewis & David Evans | 6. a. UN-Habitat (lead) with World Bank, GFDRR, UNOCHA and IFRC |  |  |
| 6.b. City Resilience Profiling Project | 6.b. More effective humanitarian-development planning and delivery based on verifiable assessments of resilience capacity and production of urban resilience action plans through addressing gaps/weaknesses in urban systems, and capacity constraints with partners and local authorities.  UN-Habitat, Dan Lewis & Filiep Decorte | 6.b. UN-Habitat (lead) with World Bank/GFDRR, Rockefeller, IADB, C40, UNISDR, ICLEI, UCLG |  |  |
| 6.c. Fragile Cities Program | 6.c. Improved humanitarian-development delivery effectiveness by introducing new mechanisms for linking humanitarian and development actors through an urban systems resilience framework.  UN-Habitat, Dan Lewis & Filiep Decorte | 6.c. UN-Habitat (lead) with Rockefeller Foundation, World Bank and others (TBD) |  |  |
| 6.d. Preparedness Guidance for Economic Security | 6.d. Develop and field-test preparedness guidance for food and security and livelihoods responses to conflict in urban areas.  British Red Cross, Sam Carpenter (Scarpenter@redcross.org.uk) | 6.d. British Red Cross and partners |  |  |