

Progress Report 2017

IASC Reference Group on Principled Humanitarian Action

Key Achievements – Products – Outputs in Reporting Period

- The Reference Group meetings held to exchange updates and information in 2016.
- One day retreat held in December 2016
- 2017 work plan near finalisation
- Efforts related to the intersection between counterterrorism measures and principled humanitarian action continued in the reporting periods. For example, the NRC Risk Management Toolkit in Relation to Counterterrorism Measures was rolled out in the three locations (Nairobi, Gaziantep, and Sanaa).
- The work on Counterterrorism Measures is complementary to the Grand Bargain on harmonized reporting to donors, and addresses concerns raised by humanitarian actors in the WHS regional consultations.

Challenges to Achieving Expected Objectives/Activities in 2017 and Possible Work Plan Alterations

- Limited capacity and resources; competing priorities.

Planned Activities/Products for Remainder of Envisaged Life Span of the TT/RG

(Please note, work plan is being finalised. Tentatively key outputs included below)

- Collection and promotion of tools, guidelines, training on humanitarian principles (creation of a platform of consolidated resources)
- Support exchange of good practices on the application of humanitarian principles through the establishment of an online community of practices (CoPs)
- Raise awareness and promote the value and importance of respecting humanitarian principles by engaging on a number of selected priority themes and/or country-specific contexts
- Continue to gather and share evidence of the impact of CT measures on principled humanitarian action amongst IASC members - including information on concrete impact that goes beyond the 'chilling effect' (e.g. estimated average length of delays in channelling assistance because of COTER measures, examples of COTER clauses preventing aid distribution in certain areas, etc.).
- Revive the development of a common template for CT and exemption clauses in donor contracts. As a first step take stock of red-lines of humanitarian actors, and existing clauses through information sharing amongst IASC members.
- Develop a two-pager informative note on P/CVE for humanitarian actors.
- Develop common messages and recommendations regarding the link between P/CVE and humanitarian action. To be shared with IASC Principals (not necessarily formally endorsed).
- More information sharing of experience and learnings related and evidence of P/CVE trends and their impact
- Following some attacks, the RG prepares guidance on ways to react and the need to seek justice, including possible reactive statements.
- Develop a briefing paper, based on case studies, on the impact of attacks on PHA and access of civilians to basic services.
- Disseminate information and contribute to advocacy for a better protection of humanitarian action.

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WG Sponsors: N/A

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Composition of the Task Team: Total number of individuals (current email list): 115; Total number of organisations: 17 NGOs, 9 UN, 3 Red Cross/Red Crescent