

IASC Progress Report January - December 2016

Reference Group on Risk, Early Warning and Preparedness

OBJECTIVES, RESULTS AND OUTPUTS

The overarching result sought by the Group is that the IASC system, as part of wider efforts, is effectively and efficiently prepared to respond to emergencies and protracted crises.

The Reference Group work plan has 3 inter-related outputs:

1. Common risk-informed understanding of current and potential operational contexts promoted
2. Better preparedness to respond developed
3. Advocacy and advice on the importance of consideration of risk, EW, and preparedness, including through inclusion in discussions and outcomes of relevant global processes and support to the design and implementation of platforms that link risk with readiness and financing

TOP ACHIEVEMENTS SINCE EARLY 2016:

1. Common risk-informed understanding

Early Warning, Early Action and Readiness Reports (EWEAR)

- Reports submitted to EDG, ERC, and, through ERC, RQR and Principals.
- Subgroup continuing and regular network consultations.

INFORM – Index for Risk Management

- Global INFORM results + analysis [report](#) produced for 2017. New features for the global Index implemented
- INFORM Subnational Models: Support facility established to provide technical assistance to local partners in selected at-risk countries.

3. Advocacy and advice

- RG serving as community of practice. Members briefed on developments of related initiatives: UNISDR-led “Words in Action”, Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative ([CADRI](#)), Global Preparedness Partnership ([GPP](#)) and 5-10-50 Partnership Initiative for Risk-Informed Development. Individual agencies contributing as required. Promoted and support innovative solutions to financing risk analysis, early warning and preparedness. All initiatives support “Localization” in the Grand Bargain and WHS commitments.
- Inputs provided to work of Humanitarian Financing Task Team and Task Team on the Humanitarian Development Nexus. Ongoing support to EDG on Early Warning.
- Work stream updates (e.g. ERP and simulation) a regular feature of RG meetings.
- Preparedness lessons from 2015 Nepal Earthquakes shared.
- At least one of the Co-Chairs is part of related initiatives such as: TT on Hum/Dev Nexus, UN Plan of Action on DRR, Global Framework for Climate Services ([GFCS](#)), CADRI, GPP, El Nino\La Nina group,
- Links maintained with UNDAC and INSARAG through OCHA membership of Reference Group.
- Ref. Group [Website](#) and document repository established.

2. Preparedness to respond

Emergency Response Preparedness - [ERP](#)

- ERP Sub-group established in July 2016 to promote implementation of inter-agency preparedness in the field. Lead agency: OCHA
- ERP being implemented in 55 countries. More than 270 people trained on ERP approach in 7 locations. Ongoing support missions and training
- Online ERP Tool being tested. Internal launch in November 2016.
- Information collection commenced for 2017 Review

SOP for slow onset situations (e.g. El Niño): first draft prepared Simulation

- Led by WHO. Health Emergency Exercises to strengthen and assess core capacities in implementing International Health Regulations (IHR)
- Health Emergency Response Plans in vulnerable countries
 - Development of risk assessed multi-sectoral response plans
 - Testing of operational readiness (MS, Partners and WHO)
 - Developing and testing internal WHO plans

Advisory group for [ALERT](#) established

- Early warning and preparedness support online tool / information system. ALERT Design workshop conducted end 2016.

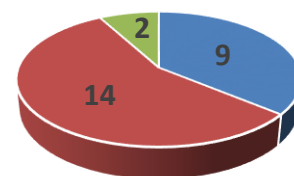
Challenges to Achieving Expected Objectives/Activities in 2017 and Possible Workplan Alterations

- All tasks on track as per Work Plan.
- Political sensitivities related to Early Warning, Early Action and Readiness Report being solved in consultation with EDG and UNDG.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES UNTIL THE END OF 2017:

- Continuing EW/EW and Readiness Report (May/Nov) as well as INFORM development, in particular sub-national models in selected at-risk countries
- Linkages with early warning and analysis with other communities (development and peace and security) under way as part of EW/EA Reporting.
- ERP: 21 more countries to start implementation in 2017. ERP Review– including incorporation of preparedness for cash based transfers.
- Simulation: IASC standardization of exercise methodologies
- Roll out of Common Framework for Preparedness (in relation to GPP implementation).
- Development/refinement of preparedness tracking tool.
- Development of preparedness costing models, potentially to support decision making by the ERC and EDG.

RG Composition



■ NGOs ■ UN ■ IFRC, WB/GFDRR
 * 2 NGO consortia are members of the Task Team: InterAction and the Start Network. Together, they represent hundreds of NGOs around the world.

Co-Chairs: Anthony Craig (WFP) and Patrick Grémillet (UNDP). Both served since inception.

WG Sponsors: Reference Group. No sponsor required/appointed

Secretariat Support: Reference Group self-supported by Co-Chairs. UNDP consultant providing extra support when required