ADAPTING HUMANITARIAN ACTION TO AN URBAN WORLD

Global Alliance for Urban Crises

Meeting of Working Groups

09 and 10 October 2017

Paris, France

Summary

The Meeting of Working Groups of the Global Alliance for Urban Crises was convened on the sidelines of "L'internationalisation des collectivité territoriales," hosted by Cités Unies France, on Monday, 9 October 2017 in Paris, France. During the full day event, the four Alliance Working Groups had their first ever, face-to-face meeting to develop an overall strategy to better operationalize Working Groups, review work plans, cross-cutting issues and modalities. During plenary sessions, Working Group members discussed advocacy strategies, primarily towards the World Urban Forum 9, resource mobilization and fundraising, and strengthening engagement with local authorities. The following day, the Alliance hosted a panel with Alliance members and mayors from Lebanon and Haiti, in addition to a closed meeting with Haitian mayors for their candid feedback on country-specific humanitarian response and Alliance initiatives. A total of 30 participants attended the meeting, representing 19 organizations across the four Alliance constituencies.

Please see the attached List of Participants to see who and from which organizations attended the meeting.

Outcomes of Mapping of Urban Profiling/Assessment Tools Plenary

• Utilize existing urban plans. local data and knowledge in cities. Develop a shared understanding of the city in crisis across different constituencies.
• Study different methodologies and build synergies to understand what profiling we would need in cities. Identify core elements of urban profiling, and be able to aggregate information to guide decision making, both in terms of prioritization and sequencing across sectors.
• WG2 to use the long-term impact mapping to better understand what activities and capacity building are needed for local and national governments in the field.
• WG4 to map and predict long-term impact to achieve long term resilience. Identify how to predict impact from certain interventions and how this is currently being done in development context. Think about how to bring this thinking into crisis context. WG1 and WG4 is looking at different phase in an emergency.

Outcome of Cross-Cutting Issue on Coordination

• Increase capacity in municipalities and mobilised local actors.
• Added value in bringing municipal sector and local civil society in at the global level. UCLG to inform and guide local authorities on how to become players in coordination mechanisms. Advance discussion on

coordination between constituencies. Understand better our coordination as humanitarian in relation to other constituencies.

- Need to keep in mind the difference between protracted crises versus acute crisis / emergency.
- Find key gaps that have emerged in previous operations, identify synergies and understand what we can support.
- Each constituency to look into their own system to understand the complexity.
- Identify the practicality of changes, how we influence the actors already there and advantages.
- Feed back into localization (ex. Grand Bargain). systematic change. Identify how we become more predictable and up to scale.
- Align as much as possible conflicting agendas from governments, development and humanitarian mandates and agendas to fit into the existing systems.
- Draft guidance note to IASC on urban coordination is almost ready and can use advocacy support.
- Leverage and look into where the big players are putting resources.
- WG1 to take the lead on profiling and coordination and develop a framework for other WGs to feed into, to be supported by the secretariat.

Outcomes of Capacity Development, Advocacy, Outreach and Knowledge Management Plenary

- Be able to deploy urban experts in all phases and to all actors.
- Develop knowledge management framework and provide consolidated guidance and tools. Develop competency framework and provide urban humanitarianism training package to train technical personnel and authorities.
- Funds at an early stage will enable us to provide capacity to cross-sectoral teams. Support operations to lift standards and to consolidate.
- Knowledge management: CCCM cluster as an example. CCCM learning component is managed globally by one FP, to make sure we have a coherent approach globally.
- Impact is already working with UCLG on a roster. This need to be coordinated.
- Submit joint proposal to serve all stakeholders and situations.
- Bilateral meeting with UCLG Africa. WG2 presented their work and got feedback. Revise proposal and share next step.
- What is the critical path to make the case, ensure clarity and added value.

Outcomes of Advocacy and Way Forward Plenary

- Opportunities identified between October-February:
  o Global Compact on Refugees and Migrants: State led discussions, for which we get state advocates and allies. Alliance member involvement include, UNHCR, IRC.
  o Global Migration Compact: Global Conference on Cities and Migration by UN-Habitat, IOM and UCLG will take place in November in Brussels. Alliance member involvement include, UCLG, UN-Habitat,
  o Global Forum for Migration and Development: State led forum on the nexus of migration and development with forced displacement as part of discussion. Opportunity for state advocates and allies.
- IFRC's localization agenda: Explore the extent to which UCLG can be brought to the table, partnership between UCLG and IFRC to raise profile of municipalities as part of the agenda. Both organizations have upcoming elections and will link up in November.
- IFRC's flagship publication on shelter projects contains 150 case studies to which municipal counterparts can be brought to a a few pilot cities.
- UN-Habitat Lab: Aiming to have position on WUF9, will produce a brief on humanitarian development projects can integrate IDPs through city planning with lessons learned.
- World Urban Forum 9: 7-13 February 2018

- Advocacy platform setting the tone for global debate and generate momentum.
- Provides direct feedback to UN-Habitat's Governance Council.
- Informal feedback into reporting on the New Urban Agenda
- Deliverables: Concept Note for WUF Side Event, Guidance on WUF, Policy Paper on Urban Issues, engagement with grassroots organizations during the WUF.

Outcomes of Resource Mobilization and Fundraising

- Map and scope opportunities, in-kind contributions (ex. advocacy, resource mobilization), quantifying time of Steering and Working Group Members.
- Working Group leads to think and communicate on different resourcing.
- Draw into grant making capacity of different organizations.
- Draft a clear Partnership Framework
- Articulate demands of Alliance.
- Brainstorming needed with Steering Group

Panel - Local Crisis Prevention and Management: Humanitarian networks working with local actors: local coordination and aid location stakes

Together with Alliance members, a panel was convened by Cités Unies France and chaired by Bertrand Gallet (General-Director of Cités Unies France) with Yahya Bou Karroum (Mayor of Mazraat Al Chouf and President of the Federation of Chouf Soueijani – Lebanon) and Jean Samson Limongy (Mayor of Petit-Goâve – Haiti) to discuss the challenges of urban humanitarian response and coordination with local actors.

Panelists from the Alliance include: Randa Hassan (UN-OCHA), Filiep Decorte (Alliance Steering Group/UN-Habitat), Mohamed Hilmi (InterAction) and Gaia van der Esch (IMPACT Initiatives)

Closed Meeting with Haitian Mayors

Chaired by Filiep Decorte (Alliance Steering Group/UN-Habitat), the Alliance convened a meeting with Haitian Mayors from affected regions. The discussion focused on specific urban cases in Haiti, and featured an exchange of ideas and tested the relevance of Alliance initiatives. Haitian Mayors provided feedback on humanitarian response in their municipalities and ways the Alliance can work differently.

Breakout Session Outcomes and Action Points:

Working Group 1:

- Lead and support agencies and modalities for undertaking the stocktaking and analysis activities – to be confirmed by Working Group members and Steering Group.
- Discuss potential for financial support to undertake high quality stock-taking process.
- WG members to discuss how current trainings/simulations could be scaled up, replicated and/or consolidated to pilot new approaches in targeted cities for simulation exercises, focusing on preparedness and coordination.
- Continued refining of guidance note to IASC Principals, by early 2018.
- Roster-related initiatives to be integrated into WG2.
- Develop a set of essential components and approaches for urban profiling, promoting innovative approaches for data collection and joint analysis, to lead and support agencies and modalities for undertaking activities to be confirmed by WG and Steering Group Members.
- Promote convergence between key actors on urban profiling through information sharing and during various events through 2017-2018, drawing from the on-going experiences in the Middle East in particular.
- Further discussion amongst WG members to map level 2 and 3 activities.
- For further discussion: 1) Structures dialogue between constituencies on expectations, roles in urban crisis response coordination and 2) Advocacy, messaging on dedicated coordination for urban responses; linkages between aid actors and local authorities/decentralized governments.
- By early November: complete a validation process with WG1 members to crystalize specific activities on which specific levels (1, 2, and 3), and identify lead/supporting agencies on various activities.
- Results to be discussed with other WG co-leads and Alliance Secretariat to best identify synergies between various activities and WGs.

Working Group 2:

- Aims to deliver on different topics of the Alliance.
- Level 1 Initiative: Urban Competency Framework: Provide rosters for technical resources in response. WG2 is looking at putting together a framework on what is required of someone responding to urban crises.
- Mapping initiatives on the ground to feed into WG3 and how to identify and bring in stakeholders for capacity building.
- Working on deployment for agencies and local authorities.
  - o Revising and refining concept.
  - o Talks with UCLG Africa who have a clear vision of what they want to achieve, discussed and MoU. WG2 to reflect on their discussion.
  - o Will need a partnership framework.
  - o Deployment and Capacity on the Field: Set up a system where we are able to deliver on the ambitions of the Alliance and make sure all organizations can access resources. Target cities. local governments and national authorities so they are aware of guidance, resources and ambitions on urban resilience. Potential MoU with UCLG in progress.

Working Group 3:

- WG3 discussed three concept notes related to level 1.1 (led by ODI), 1.3 (led by Samaritans Purse and RIBA) and 1.4 (led by JIPPS) in the agreed work plan.
- ODI will share a revised concept with WG3 in the coming weeks with a view to beginning that work in January.
- A key areas of overlap with WG 1 was identified with respect to level 1.3, which focused on evidence around coordination efforts in urban crises. It is possible this activity will shift to WG1, although they are still to determine if this would form part of their objectives.
- Level 1.4 may also form part of a wider piece of work being developed by WG1. JIPS participate in both WG 1 and 3 and will make suggestions for the way forward by next month.
- WG leads will meet later this month to determine next steps to avoid duplication of efforts.

Working Group 4:

- Members to feed into the previously shared template on resilience activities, while the Secretariat and the Steering Group can facilitate the process with other constituencies.
- Identify a more active local government component, to be included in mapping *(e.g. how do we capture positive experiences from municipalities that are independently working on resilience?)* and engagement and dialogue with cities.
- A first 'configuration of cities' needs to be operated, in order to narrow down our area and scope of intervention, based on one hand on income levels, on the other on different categories of crisis that we want to address. A matrix combining these two variables will be created to serve this initial configuration.
- The categories used in this matrix should take into account – and possibly find consistency with - the areas of work defined by WG2, in their roster capacity proposal.
- Foster intra-working group delegation. Co-leads to define clear task and verify the members' availability to fulfil them.
- Put human/economic resources in place. Each member to verify resources they could provide to support the work of the Secretariat and the Alliance in general.