**SAG Meeting Notes**

**Date and time:** Wednesday, 24 May 2017. 14h00-15h00 Geneva time **Participants:** ACTED, Save the Children, CARE International, Habitat for Humanity, IFRC, IOM, NRC, Save the Children, **UN-Habitat**, UNHCR, World Vision International, InterAction.

1. ***Presentation of the Main Findings and Recommendations of the Evaluation of the GSC Strategy.***

The independent Evaluator presented findings and recommendations of the Evaluation of the GSC Strategy. Please find the Power Point Presentation attached to these minutes.

 

**Comments:**

* The independent evaluator was thanked and congratulated for the accomplished work, the width of the evaluation and that it did not shy away from the contentious issues.
* The evaluation recommendations will be followed up with a management response plan, each recommendation will be looked at to decide whether it is accepted, partially accepted or rejected. Activities to address accepted recommendations will be planed along with the responsible agencies for the implementation.
* The section on analysis of staffing captures a snapshot in a specific point in time thus conclusions drawn from it cannot be used to reflect on a general situation.
* It reads very complimentary, which is appreciated but it may be a bit too complimentary particularly on the progress made over the 5 years and over inclusiveness. Although the cluster leads played their part in reaching it, it was already building on community vibe/attitude and the understanding that agencies come together for the benefit of all that existed before the clusters.
* About financial aspects, particularly the interrelationship between the leads, IOM and partners - there are perceived benefits of leading the cluster, with regards to visibility and potential funding this may or may not bring in. It does need to come out more strongly from the report, to have it at the table as a discussion point.
* Engage better with other actors and discussions around infrastructure rebuilding, safer rebuilding.
* Engage more systematically with local actors and organizations.

**Decisions and Actions:**

* Comments on the Evaluation report to be sent until 28 May (it is an independent evaluation and it will be up to Jean whether to incorporate or not the opinion based comments).
* The evaluation report should be shared via a GSC update, because there was a high rate of responses from the update mailing list to the evaluation survey.
1. ***Revised ECHO budget***

The result of the prioritization exercise was shared. During the exercise the SAG members assigned a priority value for activities that the GSC is asking for funding from ECHO on the assumptions that only 1 million instead of 2 will be provided.

**Comments/questions:**

* Thank you for the transparent and useful exercise.
* The expected deliverables and the amount of co-funding will be reduced to match the reduced budget. Some activities will be removed.
* The evaluation has highlighted the critical role of GFPs as surge capacity. However, the results of the prioritization have graded this line relatively low. Funding for GFP positons has been heavily penalized as compared to other activities that get 100% funding (particularly when compared to Roving Focal Points even though the role is not too dissimilar). There is a need to look at it again and see what solutions there are.

**Decisions and Actions:**

* Unless changes are suggested, the budget will remain unchanged from when it was shared via e-mail.
1. ***Donor Consultation Group Meeting***
* Donor Consultation Group meeting (DFID, ECHO, WB, USAID-OFDA) is scheduled for June 1st, 3 PM Geneva time.
* DFID requested to talk about the evaluation of the strategy.
* Linking with recovery could be discussed, as recommended by the strategy evaluation.
* Assuming DFID and ECHO fund cash related initiatives – there is a need to discuss support to capacity development on cash within the sector. Joint position paper (which can be shared as a draft and in confidence) has specific requests and the more support they can give on it, the more helpful it would be.
* Emphasize that since the WHS, it is not clear whether there is evidence that humanitarian and development funding are better bridged via continuous, predictable and unearmarked funding. Particularly on the WB’s role in recovery.

**Decisions and Actions:**

* Send via e-mail any issues to be included in the agenda for the meeting by the end of this weekend. The agenda will be shared early next week.
* Participation is highly encouraged as it is important to have good representation of the SAG members.
1. ***GSC Strategy development***

**Decisions and Actions:**

* One pager was shared. Please send comments and suggestions on the proposed process.

**Next SAG meeting will be held on the 22nd of June at 2 PM**