**SAG Meeting Notes**

**Date and time:** Thursday, 26 January 2017. 14h00-15h00 Geneva time **Participants:** ACTED, CARE, CRS, Habitat for Humanity, IFRC, InterAction, IOM, NRC**,** Save the Children, UNHCR, World Vision International.

**Excused**: **UN-Habitat.**

1. ***Welcome, revision of the agenda and action points from the previous meeting.***

The minutes from the SAG Retreat have not been finalized yet. They will be shared in the coming days for revision. One point was added to the AOB: quick update on the status of the draft 0 of the new 2018-2022 Strategy.

**Decisions and Actions:**

1. Agenda is approved with no further changes.
2. Minutes of the SAG Retreat to be shared soon.
3. ***ECHO proposal***

As announced by email, ECHO had a positive reaction on the Concept Note that was submitted by the GSC and asked for a full proposal to be developed. No major objections were raised to the content of the CN. The decision will be made in the coming months and in any case it was clarified that, if the proposal was accepted, the amount that ECHO would contribute would have to be aligned with funding availability and other proposals received.

The full proposal has been developed based on the SAG Retreat discussions, GSC meeting, and experience from previous ones. The narrative and budget have been shared with SAG members for comments. One SAG member asked for additional time to provide comments, the deadline was extended until Friday 27, 10am. After the deadline, the document will be consolidated in the ECHO format and submitted. It is expected that ECHO will revert with either questions or the request to reduce the amount of the proposal and therefore the scope. In preparation for that eventuality, the Support Team will share with the SAG members a prioritization survey so that the priorities on what to remove or reduce are decided beforehand.

Other clusters, in particular CCCM, have asked for the proposal to be shared. Since this document belongs to the cluster, approval is sought from the SAG to share it.

**Decisions and Actions:**

1. Deadline for comments on the ECHO project proposal (narrative and budget) extended until Friday 27, 10.00 am Geneva time.
2. Support Team to prepare and share a prioritisation survey so that the proposal can be reduced at short notice when ECHO provides feedback
3. The Support Team can share the project proposal with other clusters that request it.
4. ***Feedback from Global Cluster Coordinators Group (GCCG) Retreat***

The GCCG had their annual retreat 19 and 20 January. Prior to that there was a half-day workshop on cash on the 18 January. During the cash event all clusters shared their progress on cash. The Food Security Cluster is very advanced on cash. Shelter has also made a lot of progress by developing a position paper and guidance, as well as other documents. Other clusters are also advancing in the same direction. Other clusters such as WASH and Health share the concerns that shelter has on ensuring quality in cash interventions, particularly in unconditional unrestricted grants. CaLP shared some of the areas in which they are working and introduced an ECHO ERC funded project to increase the intake of multi-purpose cash grants. This information will be provided to the Cash WG.

During the GCCG Retreat there were discussions on the relation between the country-level inter-cluster coordination groups, the clusters, and the Humanitarian Country Teams. There were also discussions on how the GCCG should relate with the Emergency Directors Group. Cash continued to be discussed. Seven work streams were identified for the GCCG for 2017. They include efforts to maximize effectiveness across clusters, increase joint analysis, and work on area-based/settlement approaches.

**Decisions and Actions:**

1. GSC Coordinators to share with SAG members the minutes from the GCCG Retreat
2. ***Activity proposal submitted by CARE on Promoting Safer Building***

An activity proposal was submitted by CARE pending the confirmation with other partners from the Promoting Safer Building alliance. SAG members were interested in this activity, particularly since it also includes exploring behaviour changes to allow for safer building practices. InterAction offered the possibility of promoting it amongst its members. There was a question on the articulation between the GSC Working Group that would result if this initiative was accepted and the current alliance. This will be discussed with the current project alliance during a workshop that is taking place. The activity proposal will be clarified according to the feedback received during the workshop and shared by email with SAG members.

**Decisions and Actions:**

1. Activity Proposal to be resubmitted with clarification on the scope of what will be considered a GSC Activity and what may remain outside the GSC and what will be the relation between the GSC Working Group and the existing alliance.
2. ***Area-based/settlement approaches:***

The GCCG has identified seven work streams as mentioned in point 3 of this meeting. One of these work streams will address area-based/settlement approaches. IOM/CCCM has expressed interest in leading this work stream. SAG members were asked whether the GSC should be involved in this work stream. SAG members expressed their interest in participating in this with the following observations:

* There is general interest in participating in this initiative. Given the interest it has for the GSC, the GSC should also be leading it.
* There is a need to define better these concepts which seem vague and interchangeable. It is important to define what these approaches are and what their practical implications will be.
* Apart from the GSC and the CCCM Cluster other clusters such as WASH and Food Security should be included.

**Decisions and Actions:**

1. GSC to be part of that GCCG initiative. Consider leading or co-leading it.
2. ***AOB***

* During the SAG Retreat there was an agreement to start a draft zero of the Strategy 2018-2022 early on in 2017 to start a broad consultation process. No progress has been made so far.

**Decisions and Actions:**

1. A small group should be formed to start working on the GSC Strategy draft zero

**Next SAG meeting will take place on 23 February 2017**