The Humanitarian Programme Cycle

Improving the delivery of aid through a better joint response

IASC Inter-Agency Standing Committee
Session Objectives

 Familiarise with the purpose of the humanitarian programme cycle and its distinct steps
 Appreciate that humanitarian coordination and information management are the essential enablers of the humanitarian programme cycle
Key Messages

- The humanitarian programme cycle:
  - achieves collective results
  - a more focused way of working
  - flexibility to adapt
  - an inclusive strategic process
  - plan based on joint analysis and evidence

- Information management and humanitarian coordination are the enablers for the HPC
Accountability for collective results

The Three Pillars of the Transformative Agenda

Leadership

Coordination

Accountability

Common humanitarian programme cycle to achieve collective results
Humanitarian Programme Cycle

- **Needs Assessment & Analysis**
- **Preparedness**
  - Operational Peer Review & Evaluation
  - Coordination
  - Information Management
- **Preparedness**
- **Strategic Planning**
- **Resource Mobilization**
- **Implementation & Monitoring**
Humanitarian Coordination at Field Level
The Cluster System
Preparedness
Joint Needs Assessment and Analysis

A coordinated approach with a joint analysis which forms the evidence base for response planning

- Assessments are planned and carried out by humanitarian actors in partnership to identify the needs of the affected population
- Document a consensus and shared understanding on priority needs
- Output of inter-agency/cluster process which collectively analysis existing humanitarian needs is the Humanitarian Needs Overview
- Following new rapid-onset emergencies a joint multi-cluster needs assessment may be undertaken, e.g. MIRA
Humanitarian Response Planning

A shared vision: What we are trying to achieve and how

- Strategic objectives: what are we going to do to address agreed priority needs?
- Scope/boundaries defined (what are we not going to do?)
- Priorities within the plan: tough decisions
- 2 parts: country strategy & cluster activities
- Informs individual organisation’s programming
Resource Mobilization

- To ensure well-funded activities
- Based on credible assessment & analysis
- To indicate collective funding priorities
- To raise visibility of a crisis
- To maintain on-going dialogue with donors on the evaluation of needs, results achieved and funding received
Joint Response Monitoring

A tool for the HC and HCT to:
‘Identify if the humanitarian community has done what it committed to do in the strategic response plan, and if not, why, and what should be done to address those shortcomings’.

Response Monitoring tracks inputs, outputs and outcomes.
Operational Peer Review: Learning Lessons

- Triggered by a request from the HC/HCT, the Emergency Directors Group or the IASC Principals
- Mandatory the first 90 days of a L3 declaration
- To recommend adjustments to the response as necessary and to identify good practice or learning
Humanitarian Programme Cycle

1. Needs Assessment & Analysis
2. Coordination
3. Strategic Planning
4. Information Management
5. Preparedness
6. Operational Peer Review & Evaluation
7. Implementation & Monitoring
8. Resource Mobilization

The cycle is continuous, with each step leading to the next.
Ensuring quality and principled humanitarian action

- Protection
- Minimum standards
- Environment
- Gender, age, diversity
- Early recovery
- Accountability to affected populations
HPC Impact so far?

- Better aligned joint process done step-by-step
- More focus on quality needs assessment
- Better joint planning

WHO NEEDS AID?

76 million people to receive aid
Find Relevant Tools and Guidance

- IASC Humanitarian Program Cycle Reference Module
- Humanitarianresponse.info
- BuildingaBetterResponse.org e-learning module
Questions & Comments