Meeting Minutes, 15 July 2021
Global Strategic Advisory Group

LOCATION
Teleconference

DATE
15 July 2021

CHAIR
Athalie MAYO

PARTICIPANTS
Christophe MORARD, Fabrice PERROT, John MYRAUNET, Mary JELLITI, Pierre TRIPON, Stephen CAHILL, Susan HODGSON.

ACTION POINTS
- Partners questions/requests to UNHRD to be consolidated and shared with WFP SAG member.
- Overview of the IMPACCT portfolio of activities to be shared with the SAG.
- GLC to explore the feasibility of facilitating elements of the IMPACCT portfolio.

AGENDA
1. Strategy Development Process
2. Update on Service Provision
3. GLM Organisation
4. AOB

1. Strategy Development Process

- The strategy development process has been ongoing for the past few months. The consultations phase started with the “Summer Camp” sessions.
- The “Summer Camp” was divided into nine sessions focused on the next strategy key aspects (e.g. length, vision, mission) and its four identified pillars: partnership base, operational support, building response capacity, and standards and policy setting.
- The main discussions and outcomes of the “Summer Camp” consultations have been introduced to the SAG members and will be followed up.
- The next steps and way forward have been presented. More consultations will take place throughout the summer – notably with the field –, several surveys will be sent, and the drafting process will start shortly.
- The next broad round of consultations, “Back to School”, where partners will have the opportunity to comment and/or input on the draft, will take place early September.
- More information on this ongoing process may be found HERE.
- The SAG will regularly be updated on the strategy development process through their monthly meetings and are invited to join the consultations when they deem relevant.

2. Update on Service Provision

- On the working group:
  https://logcluster.org/strategic-advisory-group
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- A brief background of the Service provision Working Group was provided to the SAG.
- The general willingness to enhance transparency on service provision prompted the working group to be reactivated in advance of the next GLM in October.
- The working group membership is for the time being limited to three organisations (GLC, HI, and Solidarités International).
- Five core topics are currently being addressed: the need to have a small representative group to look at service provision; the service portfolio review; the working group MoU; the service provider pre-selection and transparent competitive process; quality control / performance monitoring.
- The SAG has been invited to share their thoughts and guidance in that regard. They have also been reminded that the work conducted so far is preliminary and must be carried on and opened up to other partners for broader consultations in view of a possible future agreement.
- Progress is expected until the next GLM where a roadmap will be presented to partners, clarifying what can be done and what the timeline will be.
  - The need for synergies, especially with WFP, has been highlighted.
  - Update on WFP work on Service Provision from WFP SAG member:
    - Considering the scale reached by the level of services it provides to third parties, WFP endeavours to rethink how it is done in order to professionalise and harmonise service provision.
    - Two dimensions are especially focused on: 1) ameliorate the outward interface for the user (e.g. how to book a UNHAS flight or warehouse space); 2) Internally consolidate and harmonise the support functions.
    - As the scope of service provision widened, the need for streamlining increased, particularly for complex handling of specific Nfi such as health products.
    - An overview of this architectural overhaul has been shared with the SAG.
    - An effort is also made to separate the food-related activities and service provision to third-parties.
    - Transparency, accountability, and feasibility of service provision have been highlighted as key and determining aspects.
    - Work is in progress to materialise this endeavour and harmoniously embed it into the whole humanitarian ecosystem.

3. GLM Organisation

- As discussed during the previous SAG meeting, the next GLM will take place from 18 to 22 October 2021.
- The venue conditions of cancellation have been discussed, should the health situation prevent a face-to-face meeting.
- A planned agenda for the GLM has been suggested to the SAG and further discussed, together with the online broadcasting modalities to ensure greater inclusiveness across time zones.
- Different arrangements are considered to cover the face-to-face and remote options for the GLM organisation.
- The final decision on whether the GLM will be held face-to-face or not will be taken on the 16 September SAG call.
4. AOB

- UNHRD partners meeting:
  - A brief background was provided to the SAG on the new policy UNHRD shared last February regarding stock revaluation.
  - SAG members reported the concerns expressed by some partners in that regard. Potential impacts on stock management, notably regarding existing stock and prepositioning, have been touched upon.
  - Although it had been suggested that the Logistics Cluster could get involved to mediate the subject and advocate on behalf of partners, the SAG agreed to rather 1) consolidate partners feedback, and 2) liaise and share with WFP SAG member to facilitate communication and settlement around the issue.
  - It has nevertheless been reaffirmed that the SAG is an appropriate forum to discuss such issue, whilst not necessarily being the right instrument to carry them forward.

- IMPACCT Working Group:
  - A brief background was provided to the SAG on the recent developments related to IMPACCT.
  - It has been suggested that IMPACCT could perhaps be facilitated by the Logistics Cluster, noting that while some of is aligned with the Logistics Cluster mandate there is a component, particularly related to advocacy, that is aligned with OCHA’s role. In line with that, the SAG discussed the possibility for the Logistics Cluster to act as the “contracting body” for the coordinator position.
  - Whilst the synergy of the Logistics Cluster with IMPACCT mandate has been reasserted, the scenario would have to be further investigated, the level of engagement it would encompass clarified, and the details comprehensively addressed should the process be taken forward.

The next GSAG meeting will be scheduled on 24 August 2021 at 12:00 CET.

Contacts

SAG

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