

# Global Shelter Cluster’s Strategic Advisory Group’s Virtual Retreat 2021

## Participants

ACTED / IMPACT Initiatives, Australian Red Cross, CARE International, CRS, DRC, Habitat for Humanity, IFRC, IOM, InterAction, NRC, UNHCR.

## Invited presenters / observers

- Global Shelter Cluster’s (GSC) Global Focal Points (GFP) for Research, Housing – Land – Property (HLP), Advocacy and Communication.
- Environmental Community of Practice (ECoP) co-lead.
- Self-Recovery (Promoting Safer Building) WG co-lead (CRATerre).
- HLP Area of Responsibility (AoR) Coordinator.
- Additional GSC Support Team members.

## Venue

Online

## Date & Time

9 December 2021, 12h-14h CET

10 December 2021, 12h-14h CET

## Agenda

Time	#	Agenda item
Day 1, Thursday December 9 <sup>th</sup>	1	<b>Welcome</b> <b>Update on strategy review process</b> <b>Mid-year achievements</b> <b>Grants overview</b>
	2	<b>Updates from GSC GFPs for Research, HLP, Advocacy and Communication</b> Review of progress and plans moving forward
	3	<b>Review of achievements in 2021</b> <b>Working Groups (WG) and Communities of Practice (CoP)</b> The WG & CoP co-leads will report to the SAG on key achievements in 2021 and proposed way forward.
Day 2, Friday December 10 <sup>th</sup>	4	<b>Review of achievements in 2021 of WGs and CoPs (continued).</b>

[The detailed agenda is available here.](#)

[Presentation of day 1 & 2 is available here.](#)

The action points and recommendations can be found below.

## Summary of action points and recommendations

### Day 1

Actions & Recommendations	Who	Deadline
<b>Point 1 Welcome and update on strategy review process and grants overview.</b>		
<p><b>Re-programme a face-to-face SAG retreat early February 2022</b> (send placeholders &amp; draft agenda). Background : Due to COVID-related restrictions, the 2021 SAG face-to-face SAG retreat was held online. The agenda was shortened considerably as well to keep the sessions to 1 hour and 30 min each day.</p>	SAG secretariat	January 2022
<p><b>Allow for more technical discussions during Asia Shelter Forum (ASF).</b> Background : While it is commendable that governments are increasingly taking ownership of the ASF, practitioners are also asking for more space to discuss technical issues and to share lessons learnt. These concerns have been heard by the lead organisers (CRS, Habitat for Humanity) who are following up to find a good formula to balance Government led discussions and frank technical discussions among practitioners during the next ASF that will be hosted by the Government of Bangladesh in 2022.</p>	CRS / GSC support team	Ongoing discussions
<b>Point 2 Updates from GSC's GFPs for Research, HLP, Advocacy and Communication</b>		
<p><b>Enhance collaboration between GFP for HLP and GFP for Research</b> to adequately connect practitioners with academics and to create clarity on expectations from both sides (realistic resources required for data collection, timelines, etc.)</p>	GFP HLP / GFP Research	Continuous / to be integrated in the Research GFP work plan
<p><b>Enhance collaboration between GFP for HLP, NRC and the HLP AoR to capitalize on existing training materials.</b> Background : GSC GFPs for HLP want to compile an HLP training and organise a Basic Skills Building curriculum for shelter practitioners. The first step is to compile existing training material. The HLP training has the objective to increase the HLP-related competences of existing shelter practitioners (not necessarily increase HLP specialists).  Additional recommendations :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Consider who the precise audience for this training is and then craft the products consequently.</li> <li>▪ Differentiate between 1) awareness building among shelter practitioners and 2) HLP specialist training for performing legal work in shelter and settlements operations.</li> <li>▪ Think about mentoring through pairing the practitioners that are working on HLP issues / local lawyers with those who are more seasoned and have followed the previous HLP trainings.</li> <li>▪ <a href="#">Monitor impact of existing HLP profiles</a> and gauge if other countries would like to develop an HLP profile.</li> </ul>	GFP HLP / HLP AoR Coordinator and NRC / GSC Support Team	Continuous / to be integrated in the HLP GFP work plan
<p><b>Recommendation for Advocacy &amp; Communication :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Produce social media content from otherwise “technical” assessments.</li> <li>▪ Plan campaigns at different pace : short term focus on certain topics but also longer term sustained campaigns on specific important topics.</li> </ul>	GFP Communication and Advocacy / Support Team	Continuous / Ongoing discussions

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reflection needs to be conducted on how to sustain the gains made through the GSC GFP on a longer term (e.g. decentralised communication / advocacy capacities, sustain the GFP for Advocacy and Communication position beyond current funding, etc.)</li> </ul> <p>Background :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Social media cards are already being produced. These cards contain key messages in a visually compelling way. They can be used on social media, presentations, etc.</li> <li>▪ Additional similar efforts are being made to turn the results of “technical” assessments into more compelling and understandable messages for the wider public.</li> <li>▪ Mini campaigns such as the ones ran on World Habitat Day 2021 and 16 Days 2021 campaign will continue in 2022. All actions are being framed under the two longer-term advocacy and communications strategic topics : Environment and Wider Impacts of Shelter. Some possible subtopics would be health, livelihoods, gender, etc.</li> </ul>		
<b>Point 3 Updates WG &amp; CoP</b>		
<b>Relaunch Coordination, Information Management and Technical COP with new vigour and objectives.</b> Capitalise on enhanced online engagement.	GSC Support Team	January – February 2022
<b>Launch Gender, Diversity, and Inclusion CoP</b> (exact name to be determined).	GSC Support Team	Late 2022 / early 2023
Appoint co-chair for the Technical CoP from UNHCR side.	UNHCR	January – February 2022

## Day 2

<p><b>Quick overview of key points</b></p> <p>*Enhance collaboration and synergies need to be promoted among various WG and CoPs.</p> <p>*The following WG will become threads within the Technical CoP from 2022 onwards :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Non-Food Items (NFI) Practices</li> <li>▪ Construction Standards</li> </ul> <p>* Self-Recovery (Promoting Safer Building) will transform into a Recovery CoP.</p> <p>*Urban Settlement WG (USWG) : further discussions are required in order to determine what shape this WG will take in the future.</p> <p>*The following WG or CoPs would like to increase collaboration with other clusters (e.g. WASH, Health, etc.) :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Promoting Self-Recovery WG (to transform into a Recovery CoP)</li> <li>▪ USWG (a longer discussion is planned with the GSC co-leads and interested SAG members to think through the next steps for this WG – see below for details).</li> </ul>
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## Details

Actions & Recommendations	Who	Deadline
<b>General</b>		
<p><b>Enhance collaboration / synergies among various WG and CoPs.</b> For instance, a quarterly meeting of co-leads / co-chairs of different WG and CoPs could be organised.</p>	All co-leads / co-chairs / GSC Support Team	First quarter 2022
<p><b>Several WG and CoP want to collate case studies. All co-leads /co-chairs are requested to consider Shelter Projects</b> for this endeavour as it is the primary function of Shelter Projects to collect case studies. The idea here again is to create synergies and enhance collaboration among WG and CoPs of the GSC.</p>	All co-leads of WG and CoP who want to collect case studies / IOM (lead Shelter Projects) / GSC Support Team	Continuous
<b>Cash &amp; Markets CoP</b>		
<p><b>Link Global Market Assessment focal point at REACH with Cash and Markets co-leads.</b> In addition, NRC also reminded that they have a multitude of resources available on Cash and Markets programming.</p>	REACH / NRC / co-leads Cash and Market CoP	First quarter of 2022
<p><b>In relation to the Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) more guidance is needed on how to measure / collect these indicators and what the different items mean.</b></p>	Co-leads Cash and Market CoP	Tentatively second quarter of 2022 (To be integrated in the Cash and Markets CoP work plan)
<b>Disability Inclusion WG</b>		
<p><b>Provide <u>final</u> feedback on the updated version of “<a href="#">All Under One Roof</a>”.</b></p>	All	Before January 11 <sup>th</sup> 2022
<b>NFI Practices WG</b>		
<p><b>Integrate the NFI Practises WG into the Technical COP as a thread.</b> The co-chairs of the Technical CoP will moderate discussions.</p>	NFI Practices WG co-leads / GSC Support team	January – February 2022
<p><b>Enhance collaboration with Cash &amp; Markets CoP.</b></p>	Co-chairs of the Technical CoP / Cash & Market CoP co-leads	Continuous
<p><b>Streamline vocabulary with regards to the use of “NFI” or “Essential Household items” within the GSC.</b> This needs to be discussed within the Technical CoP.</p>	Co-chairs of the Technical CoP / Co-leads GSC / Support team	First quarter of 2022
<b>Self-Recovery (Promoting Safer Building) WG</b>		
<p><b>Transform the Self-recovery WG into a Recovery CoP.</b> It needs to be determined who will lead this CoP, ideally the co-leads of the Self-Recovery WG can take on this task.</p>	Self-Recovery WG co-leads / GSC Support team / CRS	Second quarter 2022
<p><b>Define Self-Recovery better and more focused</b> (CRS raised this point).</p>		

<p><b>Create a cross-sector WG on Health with the WASH &amp; Health Clusters.</b></p> <p>Background : This idea from the co-leads of the Self-Recovery WG (that will integrate in the Technical CoP as a thread) is in its infancy and will require some more thought with the GSC co-leads and other SAG members.</p>	<p>Self-Recovery WG co-leads / GSC co-leads / SAG members</p>	<p>Second quarter 2022</p>
<p><b>Construction Standards WG</b></p>		
<p><b>Integrate the Construction Standards WG into the Technical COP as a thread.</b></p>	<p>Construction Standards WG co-leads / GSC Support team</p>	<p>First quarter 2022</p>
<p><b>Shelter Vulnerability Classification WG</b></p>		
<p><b>Organise an update for the SAG on the progress of the Vulnerability Classification</b> (incl. link with Humanitarian Planning Cycle, Joint Intersectoral Analysis Framework).</p>	<p>WG technical co-leads / GSC Support Team</p>	<p>Tentatively second quarter of 2022 (to be integrated in the Vulnerability Classification WG's work plan)</p>
<p><b>Shelter Projects</b></p>		
<p><b>Consider an open running call to collect case studies.</b> <b>Consider longitudinal studies.</b></p> <p>Background : Usually Shelter Projects goes through an intensive period when case studies are collected. An open call may disperse that burden over the longer period. Habitat for Humanity cautioned based on their experience that a completely open call, without a clear deadline, may not yield as many collections of case studies as practitioners tend to respond less diligently in absence of a strict deadline.</p>	<p>IOM / GSC Support Team / all WG members</p>	<p>An inception workshop is planned in January 2022 by IOM where these recommendations will be discussed.</p>
<p><b>USWG</b></p>		
<p><b>Connect with IOM who also received funding to look at their Area Based Approaches (ABA) or Settlements Approach (SA).</b></p> <p>Background : IOM will also review current ABAs and take stock of opportunities and challenges.</p>	<p>IOM / USWG co-chairs</p>	<p>First quarter of 2022</p>
<p><b>Champion ABA at the Donor Consultation Group.</b></p> <p>Background : Some donors are already funding ABA (e.g. consortium of NGO received a multi-million grant to implement ABA). How could we attract more donors to fund ABA ?</p>	<p>USWG co-chairs / GSC co-leads</p>	<p>Latest second quarter of 2022</p>
<p><b>Organise a meeting with the GSC co-leads for a focussed discussion on the way forward for the USWG.</b></p>	<p>USWG co-chairs / GSC co-leads / SAG members as they see fit</p>	<p>February 2022</p>