

GSC Strategic Advisory Group (SAG)

Meeting Notes – 29/08/2024

Date: 29 August 2024

Participants: Impact Initiatives (Giulia Montisci), CARE International (Step Haiselden), CRS (Jamie Richardson), DRC (Chiara Jasna Vaccaro), InterAction (Mohamed Hilmi), Habitat for Humanity (Mario Flores), IFRC (Ela Serdaroglu), UNHCR (Francesca Coloni), GSC (Seki Hirano, Pablo Medina, Stephanie Loose, Caroline Dewast, Daniela Salazar Diaz)

Excused or Absent: IOM (Carolina Cordero-Scales), Australian Red Cross (Leeanne Marshall), NRC (Amelia Rule)

Agenda:

Time	#	Agenda item
13:00 – 13:10	1	1. Brief Updates 1.1. Annual Meeting and Coordination Workshop reports – completed and published 1.2. Strategy update: re-drafting completed by authors 1.3. Launch of Gender, Diversity and Inclusion CoP 1.4. PSEA and HEAT WGs 1.5. Upcoming events: WUF, APSSF, AIDEX, HSCT 1.6. SAG retreat dates 1.7. DCG workshop
13:10 – 13:30	2	GSC Strategy: next steps implementation – miro board
13:30 – 13:40	3	State of the Humanitarian Shelter and Settlement Sector - focus topic and process
13:40 – 13:45	4	Country updates – Sudan donor briefing, others
13:45 – 14:00	5	Partner updates

Summary of action points:

Action Point	Who	Deadline
Session leads to address comments on the new GSC strategy following the soft launch of the GSC strategic priorities during the Annual Meeting	GSC Strategy chapter authors	Monday, 2 September 2024
The GSC-UNHCR team to share a clean version of the Heat WG activity proposal with SAG for final review	GSC-UNHCR	Thursday, 26 September 2024
SAG to provide comments on the PSEA WG activity proposal	SAG members	Friday, 6 September 2024
GSC to facilitate a discussion with Miyamoto for a consolidated and consistent approach to partnerships	GSC Coordinators	Next SAG meeting

1. Round table feedback

1.1. Annual Meeting and Coordination Workshop reports – completed and published

The feedback of SAG members was incorporated into the [GSC annual meeting report](#). The link to the [summary of the GSC Coordination Workshop 2024 Report](#) was also shared for SAG members to be informed about the content of the sessions. Both reports will now be shared through the GSC update (sent out on 29 August 2024).

1.2. GSC Strategy: chapter drafting completed by authors

There were 60 contributions with feedback on the new GSC strategy following the soft launch of the GSC strategic priorities during the Annual Meeting. Chapter authors have been tasked to address these comments in their respective chapters. The deadline to incorporate feedback in the final draft is next Monday, 2 September 2024.

1.3. Launch of Gender, Diversity and Inclusion CoP

The Gender, Diversity and Inclusion CoP was launched via a Global Update on 22 August 2024. The CoP can now be reached via the email address: gdi@sheltercluster.org. First resources are already available on the [CoP webpage](#)

1.4. PSEA and HEAT WGs

The activity proposal for the PSEA WG was shared with SAG members prior to the SAG meeting, but no feedback has been received within the given deadline of 23 August 2024. The deadline for comments of SAG members on the PSEA WG activity proposal was extended until Friday, 6 September 2024.

The Heat WG activity proposal received numerous comments. The GSC support team reviewed and addressed the comments. A final version (for red lines) is attached to the minutes (deadline 26 September 2024) for endorsement. A Global Update to launch the WG will be shared by the end of September 2024, if endorsed.

1.5. Upcoming events: WUF, APSSF

Asia Pacific Shelter and Settlement Forum (APSSF), 21 to 23 October, Manila, Philippines.

Several members of the GSC support team and the SAG confirmed their attendance to the event. The forum agenda will focus on the national context on the first day and regional and humanitarian context on the second day.

World Urban Forum, (WUF), 4 to 8 November, Cairo, Egypt

The GSC will host three sessions at WUF: a “One UN” networking event (Wednesday, 6 November 2024); a 3-hour training session on HLP, organized as partners event (Tuesday, 5 November 2024) and a session organized by the Urban Settlement WG on the settlement approach from an environmental angle. Several members of the GSC support team, CRS, IFRC and HFH will attend. IFRC will host a session on Heat, Health and Housing, while CRS and HFH will have a joint session. HFH will host several side events. The GSC will support outreach for partners’ WUF events.

1.6. SAG retreat dates

The upcoming GCCG retreat will be held either in December or January. The date is yet to be determined. The GSC, during the session, shared a [new poll](#) for the SAG retreat with a new option with January dates.

1.7. DCG workshop

The GSC support team will meet with BHA to clarify the purpose of the DCG virtual workshop and will contact SAG members for interest and support in organising the workshop.

2. GSC Strategy: next steps implementation – Menti-Meter

The SAG members were consulted on the next stages of the GSC strategy, which will focus on developing an implementation plan through a [menti](#), and the results can be summarised in the attached document. SAG members were asked whether we should aspire to capture all GSC partners/country cluster efforts, to which most SAG members showed reluctance. For further details refer [menti](#).

3. State of the Humanitarian Shelter and Settlement Sector - focus topic and process

SAG members will be contacted to suggest themes for the second edition of the State of the Humanitarian Shelter and Settlement Sector report, which is one of the activities of the BHA grant. A working group will be created to take the publication forward.

4. Country updates – Sudan donor briefing

A donor briefing was held by the Sudan Shelter Cluster on 29 August 2024 and the invitation was shared with the donor consultation group and various stakeholders.

5. Partner updates – any significant initiatives or events coming up that you would like to share with the SAG

CRS shared that the situation remains extremely challenging in Gaza, particularly in terms of gaining humanitarian access, especially into the South of Gaza. CRS is trying to find a solution for improved humanitarian access and is prioritising the shelter items needed in Gaza. There is an urgent need for tools, fixing, and framing materials for shelter, and CRS is managing to get some distributions into the north. However, CRS is waiting for the situation to improve in the South to start distributions there. CARE and Miyamoto are also contributing to the technical working groups.

UNHCR raised some concerns about private sector companies using humanitarian crisis to establish themselves such as in Gaza, Turkey, and Syria. CRS responded that they are exploring the possibility of establishing a global MoU with Miyamoto to ensure that they also focus on strengthening local capacities. IFRC mentioned that they are also considering establishing a global MoU with Miyamoto and asked SAG members if they would like to discuss this further. HfH and CARE informed that they are working on an MoU with Miyamoto. SAG members asked if the GSC could facilitate a coordinated discussion with Miyamoto to ensure alignment across key actors.

**The next SAG meeting will be held on 26 September , 2024
at 13:00 Geneva time, 12:00 London time, 07:00 Washington, 22:00 Melbourne**