

[GSC Strategic Advisory Group \(SAG\)  
Meeting Notes – 24/04/2025](#)

**Participants:** Impact Initiatives (Ugo Semat), CARE International (Step Haiselden), UNHCR (Francesca Coloni and Rama Nimri), Australian Red Cross (Leeanne Marshall), IFRC (Ela Serdaroglu), IOM (Alberto Alcalde), CRS (Eva Maria Suarez Castro), GSC (Seki Hirano, Pablo Medina, Mamen Sancha)

**Excused or Absent:** NRC, Habitat for Humanity

**Agenda:**

Update on SAG Members, Alternates, and Support Team
Agency Updates
GSC 2024 Annual Report
2030 Strategy Dissemination and Rollout
GSC Fundraising Initiatives
Update on Humanitarian Reset Discussions
Supporting Cluster Transition / Handover
Any Other Business (AOB): - Annual Shelter Meeting – Dates and Modality - Review of SAG Terms of Reference (ToR)

**Summary of action points:**

1. SAG members and alternates: GSC ST to add James.Morgan@care.org as alternate
2. GSC 2030 Strategy champions: SAG members to reach out to Seki and Pablo if they would like their organizations to take leadership on a particular strategic priority of the GSC 2030 Strategy
3. SAG ToR: GSC to circulate revised SAG ToR. SAG members to provide feedback based on recent organizational and sector-wide developments.

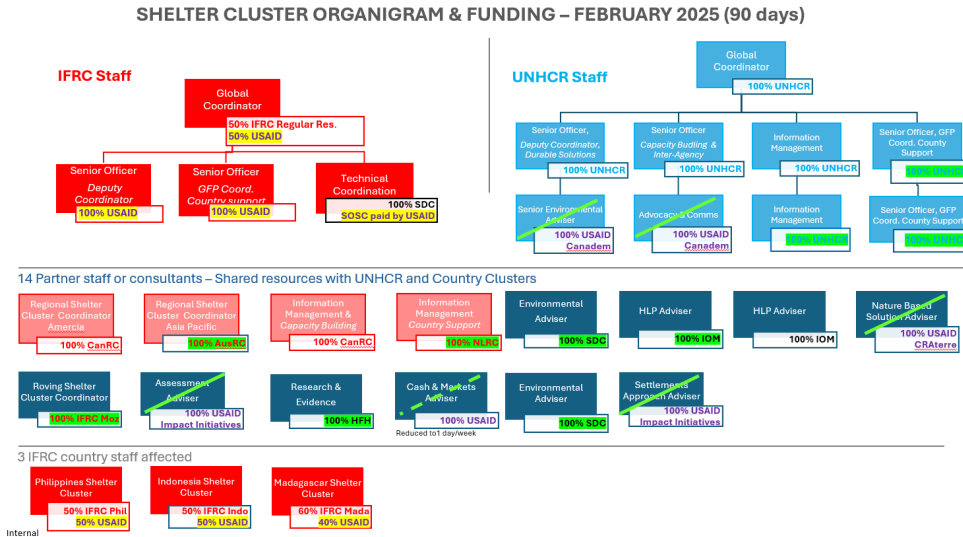
**1. Update on SAG Members, Alternates, and Support Team**

Introduction and welcome of Ugo Semat, representing ACTED/IMPACT Initiatives, and presentation of the updated list of SAG members and alternates as of April 2025

Agency	Members	Alternates
Co-chair (IFRC)	Pablo Medina	Caroline Dewast
Co-chair (UNHCR)	Seki Hirano	Mamen Sancha
IFRC	<a href="#">Ela Serdaroglu</a>	<a href="#">Sandra Jeanette Durzo</a>
UNHCR	<a href="#">Francesca Coloni</a>	<a href="#">Rama Nimri</a>
ACTED / IMPACT Initiatives	<a href="#">Ugo Semat</a>	<a href="#">Katie Rickard</a>
Australian Red Cross	<a href="#">Leeanne Marshall</a>	
Care International	<a href="#">Step Haiselden</a>	
Catholic Relief Services	<a href="#">Jamie Richardson</a>	<a href="#">Eva Suarez</a>
Danish Refugee Council	<a href="#">Fie Lauritzen</a>	
Habitat for Humanity	<a href="#">Mario Flores</a>	
InterAction	<a href="#">Christine Knudsen</a>	
IOM	<a href="#">Carolina Cordero-Scales</a>	<a href="#">Takuya Ono</a>
NRC	<a href="#">Amelia Rule</a>	

Action point: GSC ST to add James.Morgan@care.org as alternate for CARE

Presentation of the Support team updated organigram registering the changes due to the BHA fund cut and limited funding from Cluster lead agencies.



## 2. Agency Updates

**CARE:** The organization is having an important internal advocacy meeting in a couple of weeks and would like to have a bilateral call with Seki and Pablo a few days before to exchange about sectoral updates and feed into the bigger picture.

**UNHCR:** The organization is going through a restructuring process with a target of 40% savings. Actions expected to be taken very soon.

## 3. GSC 2024 Annual achievements report

Presentation of [GSC 2024 Annual achievements report](#) for all partners to use for their benefit. Key achievements in 2024 include:

- GSC Strategy 2030
- Deployments and missions to DR Congo, Ethiopia, Honduras, Madagascar, Mali, Mozambique, Philippines, Syria, Timor-Leste and Turkiye) and systematic remote country support
- Wider network of partnerships, Working Groups and Community of Practice
- Above all, supporting 17M people, 7M with Shelter and 11M with NFIs

## 4. 2030 Strategy Dissemination and Rollout

Discussion about the need to finalize the Strategy dissemination video, with some amendments to the introduction part to adapt to the present situation and the possibility to have a dissemination campaign for the strategy, titled “Shelter 2030: A Strategy for Extending Impact, Optimal Reach”; for 3 weeks (one core post per week, with 1–2 complementary follow-ups or resharing content in between) and the following campaign objectives:

- Announce and explain the Strategy to a broad humanitarian and development audience
- Highlight key themes: coordination, localization, protection, innovation, climate action
- Invite dialogue with peers and cross-sector actors
- Drive downloads and engagement with the PDF
- Reinforce GSC’s leadership in humanitarian reform and sectoral integration

SAG agencies could also consider reaching out to their communications colleagues to disseminate the strategy more widely

Within the context of the roll out of the strategy, SAG members were asked if they would like to support specifically any of the strategic priorities and become a champion for this area. They would have the authority for the area and also the responsibility for fundraising for this specific priority.

Action point: SAG members to reach out to Seki and Pablo if they would like their organizations to take leadership on a particular strategic priority of the GSC 2030 Strategy

Australian red Cross will join GSC team on the dissemination work of the Strategy 2030

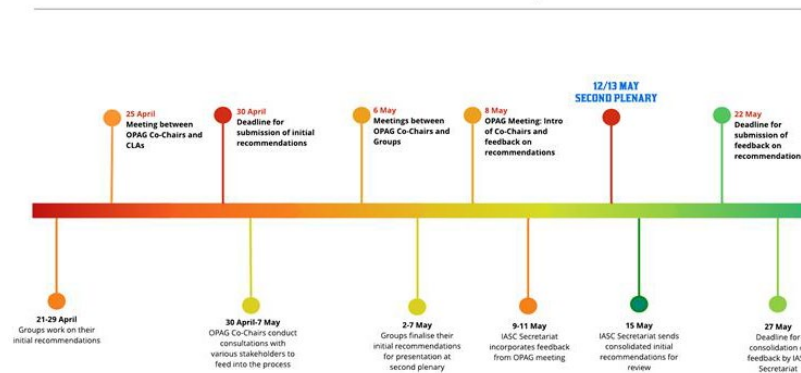
## 5. GSC Fundraising Initiatives

Pablo presented the fundraising efforts ongoing in a presentation with messages that can be used by SAG members too in their fundraising initiatives on behalf of the GSC. However, these efforts are important to do in a coordinated way. The GSC is mapping besides the traditional donors, private sector actors and foundations. Pablo shared next month he will attend an event organized by the Royal household and a meeting with McKinsey consulting.

## 6. Update on Humanitarian Reset Discussions

It was shared an update of the discussion process led by OPAG co-chairs in the 4 different working groups. The result of the groups discussion has to be presented the 6<sup>th</sup> of May to the OPAG co-chairs and the 8<sup>th</sup> of May there will be a meeting with the OPAG for feedback and recommendations.

Cluster Reform Timeline - as of 23 April 2025



## 7. Supporting Cluster Transition / Handover

Given the information of several cluster deactivation under discussion, the GSC ST started to contact the coordinators to check if these discussions are happening in their ICCGs and HCTs. The answer has been positive so far in the case of Nigeria, Cameroon and Colombia, but not official communication has been received yet. The support to the coordination team for the transition period, until the deactivation happens is priority for the ST.

## 8. Any Other Business (AOB):

Annual Shelter Meeting – Dates and Modality

GSC Support Team expressed concerns over the feasibility of holding an in-person meeting in June, given financial and logistical constraints.

UNHCR recommended postponing it to September 2025 due to anticipated internal transitions and uncertainty. CRS and IFRC supported the idea of an alternative format than face to face. There was general consensus around planning a virtual meeting in September or later, possibly in a spread-out format similar to the COVID period.

#### Review of SAG Terms of Reference (ToR)

Action point: The revised ToR, developed during the December SAG retreat to incorporate thinking since 24<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025. The draft will be circulated by email for agencies to review and flag any updates based on current developments.

End