Global WASH Cluster Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) and WASH Donor Group Meeting Minutes

Summary

Dates	Wednesday, 29th November 2023, 2pm – 4pm CEST		
Participants	SAG members: BHA (Tracy Wise), Ethiopia WASH Cluster (Laure Anguez), IFRC (William		
	Carter), Institut 2iE (Seyram Soussou), Oxfam (Michelle Farrington) SI (Baptiste Lecuyot), UNICEF (Omar El Hattab), UNHCR (Helen Eve Salves) and WHH (Arjan Ottens) CAST: Monica Ramos, Julie Bara, Angie Saleh, Nancy Kanwal Observer: IOM (Antonio Torres)		
Not Present	CAST: Ross Tomlinson, Ramy Zaki and Aliocha Salagnac		
Agenda	Review of meeting minutes (5 mins)		
	 Update from Road Map representatives (15 mins) Update on GWC Annual Meeting / EEHF / NCP workshop (20 mins) 		
	Update on Midterm Review of GWC's strategy (10 mins)		
Update on NCP Feedback (20 mins)			
	Membership applications (20 mins)		
	Other/AOB (20 mins)		

Action Points and Decisions

Agenda Items	Action Points and Decisions	Responsible	Deadline
Review of meeting minutes	External meeting minutes available on GWC website Undate on governmen structure	CAST	Completed
Update from Road Map representatives	Update on governance structure → Explanation of interim governance structure after the September workshop. → There will be a simplified governance structure after this more horizontal and more initiative based. This also comes with a reduction in the number of initiatives. → There are still a lot of questions in terms of accountability of the entire model including: ○ Role of co-leads ○ Role of Emergency Directors → There will be a body for co-leads of the initiatives, referred to as the Operational Committee. Feedback on outcome of host agency for the Secretariat → The process to select the new host agency was completed in October. RedR was selected.	Arjan and Baptiste	Ongoing

	 → However, after the Executive Committee decision, the current Secretariat provided outreach to RedR to suggest revisions to the size and functions of their proposal → RedR has agreed to host a reduced Secretariat. → The new Secretariat, hosted by RedR will be launched in January 2024. → There is a push to have more focus on initiatives rather than governance – and there is an expectation from SAG that changes will occur to support this. 		
	Other → Due to delays, there is a need to extend SAG representation by Arjan and Baptiste by one more month (end of January).		
	Actions:		
	→ Agreement for Arjan and Baptiste to extend		
	as SAG representatives until end of		
	January.		
Update on GWC Annual Meeting, NCP Workshop and EEHF	 Meeting dates are13th – 17th May 2024 in Zurich, hosted by Eawag. 2 days Annual Meeting (one day meeting and one day workshop for MTR); 2 days NCP workshop; 2 days EEHF (simultaneous) and ½ day SAG/WASH Donor Group meeting. Save the Date/Placeholder was shared in November. The brainstorm on structure of the meetings, and topics to be discussed with the following highlighted: 	CAST	Ongoing
	 Last year's marketplace was appreciated, as it allowed for exchanges in smaller groups but could benefit from discussions being better structured. Opening with what is new in the humanitarian operational environment and how it relates to coordination (I.e. large-scale emergencies, COP 28, OCHA initiatives etc.). Suggestion to select one of the strategic objectives and conduct a deep dive on that specific topic. Could focus on a few critical topics, 		

	 ○ Ensure that there are clear objectives for each session, to ensure that expectations are met. ○ Potential for first day to be split between the Annual Meeting (morning) and MTR workshop (afternoon). Continue into the second with MTR workshop (morning) and finish with Annual Meeting (afternoon). Actions: → Draft Concept Note to be shared with the SAG in December for feedback. → Launch of Expression of Interest amongst GWC members and NCPs to participate in December. → Consideration to invite a plus one from 5 – 6 GWC members from country contexts, to enrich 		
Discussion on Mid Term Review of the implementation of the GWC's Strategic Plan	discussions. → Recruitment completed, and successful candidate to start early January 2024 (6 months, 65 days). → Three deliveries, focused on an action plan for implementation. → Decision that a two-fold approach was not required due to profile of the selected candidate (with combined expertise in WASH and conducting evaluations). → In-person workshop to take place during 28th GWC Annual Meeting (1-day). → Feedback from interview panelists included that the selected candidate was competent and demonstrated innovation in her strategic approach and thinking about the assignment during the interview, including providing options for complementary methodologies.	CAST	Ongoing
	Action: → Share the presentation provided by the consultant during the interview.		
Feedback from NCP	 → Feedback from NCPs requests to include topics in SAG meetings. → Survey with NCP members to ask for topics to be addressed by the SAG; 14 respondents; topics classified by type. → Existing initiatives already in place to address some of these topics. → Reviewed with CAST and highlighted ongoing initiatives for each topic. This has been summarized in an Excel sheet. 	CAST	Ongoing

	Suggestions on way forward:	
	→ Focus on two topics mentioned most by NCPs.	
	This includes:	
	 Nexus and collective outcomes 	
	 Accountability 	
	→ Provide feedback to NCPs regarding follow up.	
	→ Include these topics in the NCP workshop	
	agenda.	
	→ Consideration for these to also inform key topics	
	for the Annual Meeting.	
	Action:	
	→ Include the key topics in upcoming SAG meeting	
	agendas.	
	→ CAST to communicate and share the excel	
	sheet with the NCPs, with support from national	
00000	SAG representatives.	
COP 28	→ 1st ever Humanitarian Hub lead by IASC	
	and OCHA in the Green Zone.	
	→ UNICEF-led/co-led clusters and Areas of	
	Responsibility (AoR) focused on the	
	collective outcomes, hosted on 3 rd December in Dubai.	
	→ GWC leading on behalf of EMOPS.	
	→ Thanks to IOM and IFRC for support for	
	engagement of high-level speakers for the	
	event.	
WASH Insecurity	→ Testing and development continuing	
Analysis	through the end of 2023.	
	→ Five countries currently engaged: Benin,	
	Togo, Mali, Kenya, and Lebanon.	
	→ Series of meetings held with Geneva-based	
	WASH actors.	
	→ Identification of an additional five countries	
	under-way, with consideration for countries	
	with Anticipatory Action Frameworks or	
	Nexus work ongoing. Can also be non- cluster-activated/HRP countries.	
	Ciuster-activateu/FIRF countries.	
	Action:	
	→ SAG to share ideas for countries to be	
	included with CAST (Monica).	
АОВ	SAG re-election of reps: One application for	
	NCP seat, two applications for national SAG	
	seats (NE Nigeria and Cameroon), to be	
	confirmed. UNHCR and IOM agreed to transition	
	the UN seat as of 1st January 2024 (as agreed in	
	May 2022).	

- Climate Working Group: planning meeting took place and detailed workplan will be shared with the SAG.
- Staffing 2024: confirmed consultancy includes a Comms Assistant (6 months, starting December 2023); and a Advocacy and Capacity Strengthening Specialist (18 months, starting January 2024).
- 2024 meeting schedule: proposal for ½ day in person meeting (linked to the Annual Meeting);
 ½ days online meetings twice a year. To reduce meetings to a total of three meetings per year. This will be decided at the next SAG meeting.
- Next meeting: email follow up and the next SAG meeting will be planned for January/February.
 Follow-up with Doodle Poll