

IASC: a gateway of our learning and participation – Be a Knowledge Leader- Connecting the dots

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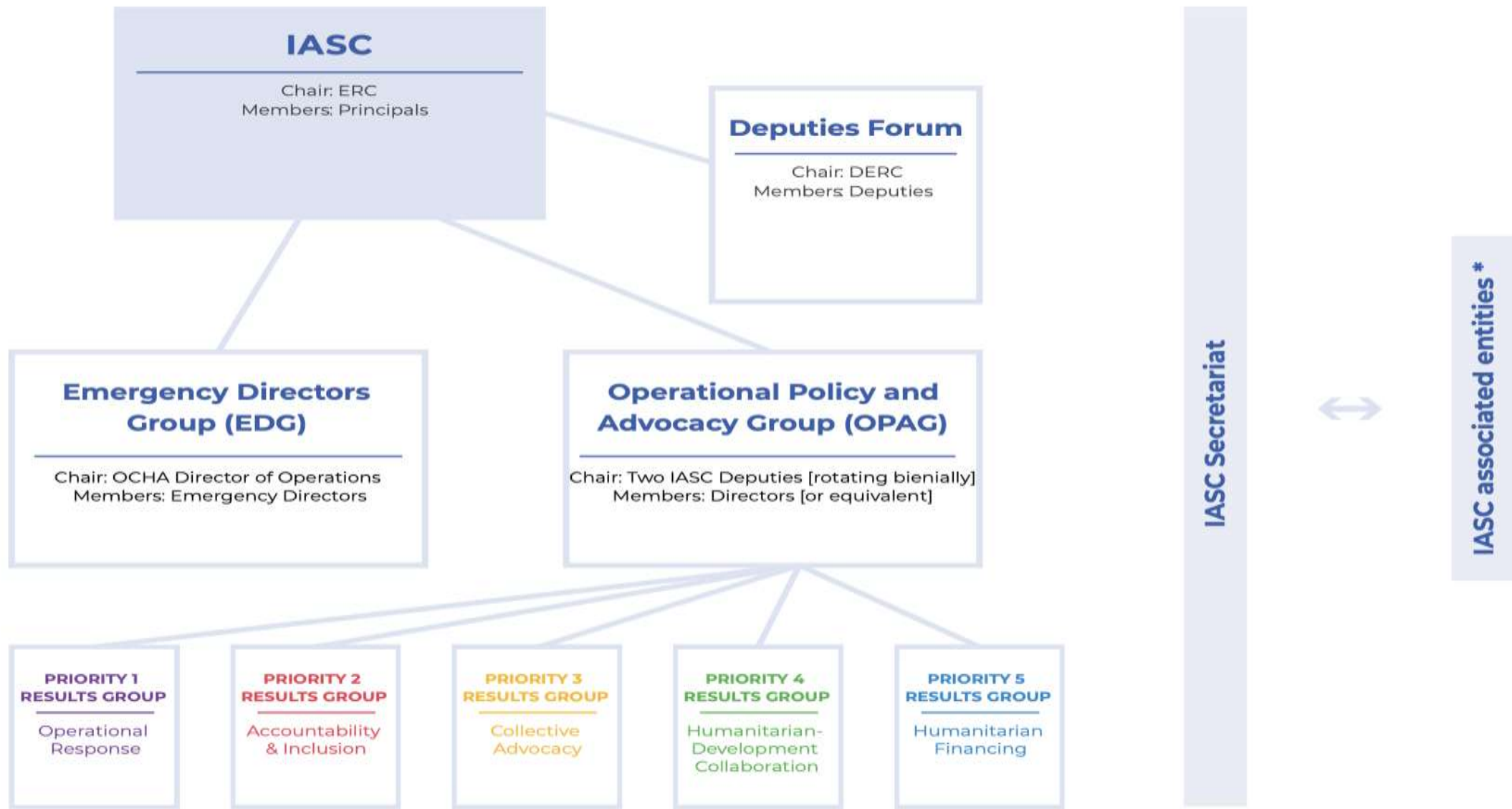
www.coastbd.net, www.a4ep.net

Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) has been formed in view of **UN General Assembly Resolution 46 / 182 (1992)** as the **primary inter-agency coordination mechanism**. Its objective is to **strengthen and effective delivery humanitarian assistance**, with **respect of humanitarian principles, neutrality and impartiality**.

IASC website: www.interagencystandingcommittee.org,

Members : FAO, OCHA, UNFPA,
UNHABITAT, UNHCR, UNICEF,
WFP, WHO, ICRC, ICVA, IFRC,
Interaction, IOM, OHCHR, SCHR, SR
on the Human Rights of IDP, World
Bank

*Note: No representation from Southern NGOs, all though
most of the humanitarian crisis happen in global south.*



* The Inter-Agency Humanitarian Evaluation Group (IAHE), Global Cluster Coordination Group (GCCG), Humanitarian Programme Cycle Steering Group (HPCSG) and Reference Group on Gender and Humanitarian Action, Reference Group on Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support

Operational Policy Advocacy Group (OPAG)



To support 5 Results Groups to implement next two year plan.

28 members, mostly UN agencies and INGOs, only three representative taken as global south NGOs through ICVA from this November 2019 (Reza COAST Bangladesh, Azmat FRD Pakistan and Fiona AKBAR staff from Afghanistan) with open call to ICVA members and interview process.

OPAG has to agree on this access as because of demand from ICVA, other INGO networks and INGO members in OPAG.

Note: No direct membership from global south NGOs or from southern NGO networks.

Five Result Groups

Membership: all together around 100 members from INGOs and UN agencies, hardly anyone from national or southern NGOs. Participating INGOs especially, ICVA, Christian Aid, SCHR and we have raised this issue in Nov. OPAG meeting. INGO and UN agencies need to invest on this to strengthen southern voice.

Nov 2019 meeting reviewed the Results Group Progress. Matrix on issues and Priorities.

Group	Lead / Presenters	Priority
Operational Response	Interaction and OCHA	Review of coordination modalities. Support localization, representation of national and local orgn. in coordination structure.
Accountability and Inclusion	UNHCR and UNICEF	Working collaboratively with HC/HCT to reduce SEA/SH, to improve AAP and PSEAH. Adherence to accountability and inclusion standards.
Collective Advocacy	Save the Children and UNFPA	Addressing the impact of counter-terrorism measures and criminalization of humanitarian action. Humanitarian diplomacy. Engagement with non-state armed actors.
Humanitarian and Development Collaboration	Oxfam and UNDP	Disseminate good practices on humanitarian and development collaboration, especially in multi-year, flexible funding, etc. Pooling capacities on humanitarian and development nexus.
Humanitarian Financing	OCHA and ICVA	Multi-year funding, innovative approaches, cost-effective humanitarian approaches, simplification and harmonization of the UN system.

What we have tried to said in IASC – OPAG Nov. 2019 Meeting. And what we have heard interesting

Good evidence, in Bangladesh UN RC, has formed Localization Task Force (LTF) in Rohingya Response led by UNDP and IFRC, participated by Oxfam, Save the Children, COAST and PHALS. The LTF has already finalized ToR, an employed team of consultants, started work.

Do not ignore the concern of government in respect of counter-terrorism, Invest in education and youth to build a new generation who will act against terrorism

Counterterrorism, really shrinking space for local and national NGOs, who can do better navigate in the situation.

**What we have tried to said in IASC – OPAG Nov.
2019 Meeting. And what we have heard
interesting**

Accountability should be treated as MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY, importance should be given on accountability, not on accounts ability, that which deprive local NGOs in getting funding.

What we have tried to said in IASC – OPAG Nov. 2019 Meeting. And what we have heard interesting

These are FALSE MYTH, thanks to Ms Rachel Scott INCAF- OECD;

1. The nexus undermine humanitarian principles;
2. Donors silos are the real reason why the nexus won't work;
3. It is impossible to find out what development actors are doing;
4. The best way to finance the nexus is pooled fund;
5. There is no development money in crisis context;
6. The nexus is about diverting humanitarian funding;
7. People affected by crisis only have humanitarian needs;
8. The nexus just a buzzword, donors are not really committed;
9. Collective outcome are just about aligning;
10. Fragility can be solved by development actors addressing root causes- there is no role of humanitarian;
11. We do not need – indeed it is dangerous – to include peace actors in the nexus.

What we have tried to said in IASC – OPAG Nov. 2019 Meeting. And what we have heard interesting

Anchor with local actors, local actors does not mean only local NGOs, it is local government and local private sectors and community leaders too. There is sufficient **POLITICAL WILL** already.

Funding big organizations like UN or INGOs or NNGOs, it it is funding like to Titanic, who have some possibility to sink. You need to fund local NGOs who are like small lifeboats, at the end who will rescue the people.

50 to 60 % humanitarian fund is going to UN agencies, then rest bigger chunk to IFRC and ICRC. While the UN supposed to play the role of Referee, it is like in funding application we are competing with UN agencies, it is like playing football with Referee. It is not fair.

What we have tried to said in IASC – OPAG Nov. 2019 Meeting. And what we have heard interesting

Capacity development is "colonial". Each community and local NGOs have some inherent capacity as they are part of the local community. HPG – ODI, the total discourse should be considered as Capacity Exchange. Or we say that it should be capacity convergence.

Complain Response Mechanism (CRM) has some inherent weakness, there should be whistleblowing policy and policy toward protecting the whistleblowers. Without this accountability in CRM hardly worked.

Please Network with ME and Azmat FRD Pakistan

Please communicate me for your feedback in reza.coast@gmail.com,

Please follow me for sharing the learning for me in facebook, in twitter @RezaKChyBD,

Thanks to ICVA and Ms. Mirela for preparing us to raise voice in IASC - OPAG

Thank You
Let's Discuss

