

**IASC PSEA Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Meeting**  
**11 September 2024**  
**15:00-16:30 (GVA/CET)**

**Meeting Summary**

**Agenda**

- 1. Reviving the Field Support Team (FST)**
  - **IASC-OSCSEA Joint Helpdesk**
  - **Mission to DRC**
  - **Mission Mapping**
- 2. Review of progress on the TAG Action plan (All)**
- 3. Proposed P5 Senior PSEA Coordinator ToRs**
- 4. AoB**

**1. The Field Support Team (FST)**

This agenda point stems from a decision in the August TAG meeting to revive the FST in an enhanced manner. IASC is reaching out to FST members for thoughts and ideas on how the revived FST will look. During this month's meeting, the IASC PSEAH Team presented the initial results of these discussions.

It was again emphasised that overlap between the FST and the TAG must be avoided. The IASC suggested that related discussions can happen in the TAG and that FST meetings can be ad hoc. In addition, remote support should be prioritised because field missions are costly and often last minute. The IASC also emphasised that the FST will be an interesting forum of expertise and reference to be delivered to the helpdesk. The IASC wants to run a quick survey to map out the expertise of TAG members on the issues they feel most comfortable supporting PSEA Coordinators with. The IASC proposed a briefing in terms of what support could be offered for capacity building workshops for PSEA Coordinators upon their request.

In relation to the topic of field support, NORCAP has carried out a survey with PSEACap roster members to elicit some areas where they would like to prioritise capacity development. The same survey is being run with all PSEA Coordinators by the IASC PSEAH Team. The capacity development initiative will be in French and English, based on a remote format. This will be a short-term pilot from now until the end of 2024, aimed to inform, inter alia, the PSEACap roster management and capacity development strategy. NORCAP would like to tap into the expertise of TAG member to help run these sessions.

IOM encouraged involvement of the FST from the outset in decision making relating to emergency/field support. Needs/interests in learning of PSEA Coordinators, a.i. Coordinators, and PSEACap roster members are currently being assessed (surveys run with PSEA Coordinators and PSEACap roster) sharing an initial draft with interested TAG members. UNFPA encouraged building on the mapping initiated in the context of the global workshop in Brindisi, whilst also mapping out what the FST can be doing. Concerns were raised around already deployed PSEA Coordinators needing training. IASC responded to this that capacity building workshop targets are not just deployed PSEA Coordinators but also roster members who have not yet been deployed. NORCAP added that capacity development helps with roster engagement and maintaining interest and peer exchange in an environment with limited deployment opportunities.

**Action Point:** TAG members particularly from FST to complete a survey on areas of expertise for the FST and capacity building expertise, to be used for the IASC-OSCSEA PSEA Helpdesk.

**Action Point:** IASC will set up a dedicated meeting of the FST on collaboration with the PSEA Helpdesk, which will also mention bringing in new members.

- **IASC-OSCSEA Joint Helpdesk**

Sonja Wendlinger from the OSCSEA presented the Joint IASC OSCSEA Helpdesk initiative. This project aims to allow PSEA Coordinators to reach out to the IASC-OSCSEA using a single channel, allowing for them to be connected with subject matter experts to help with their queries. This stems from a request made by Coordinators in 2023, during the global workshop.

The Helpdesk targets all PSEA Coordinators, whether permanent or interim, with a shared mailbox, [pseahelpdesk@un.org](mailto:pseahelpdesk@un.org), monitored by IASC and OSCSEA. Initial responses/acknowledgement will be provided within 2 business days. If an immediate response can be provided it will be, or the query will be referred to an expert colleague from the IASC's Technical Advisory Group/Field Support Team. Modalities of support include, inter alia, rapid one-on-one support, or more long-term coaching sessions. Requests can be public or anonymous. There will be clinics with technical specialists for recurring issues. The Helpdesk was presented to PSEA Coordinators by the IASC and OSCSEA on 10 September. A Teams channel will be activated in due course and requests for help can come in from now. The IASC PSEAH Team added that the Helpdesk is not new but rather streamlining existing support and enhancing the role of the TAG and FST. If a request is made by one coordinator, the response will be shared with everyone on the Teams channel, along with good practice documents.

UNFPA asked about knowledge management from the helpdesk and how responses and information already provided will be captured, OSCSEA said that requests will be mapped by subject and geographical area. If there are a lot of requests on a topic, a targeted 'clinic' can be organised or follow-up/advice can be shared, via the Team channel, with all in-country PSEA Coordinators. UNDP asked about whether the helpdesk focuses on development contexts and can be expanded to PSEA Focal Points. OSCSEA said the helpdesk is not exclusive to the humanitarian context. For Focal Points, following a question from UNDCO, it was explained that (1) ideally, PSEACoordinators in-country would receive and 'channel' specific questions from in-country PSEA focal points. Receiving questions directly from PSEA focal points might undermine the role of the in-country PSEA Coordinators as well as the global Agency PSEA focal points. (2) the helpdesk does not have dedicated funding unlike other examples, therefore an enlarged target audience might exceed helpdesk capacities. For UNCTs, Focal Points are clear cut, however for the HCT Focal Points would be expanded greatly to a large number of international and national NGOs. UNDCO wants to follow up in improving support for UNCT Focal Points.

- **Field support to DRC**

The HC/RC of DRC had requested support for the DRC PSEA Network. The support request had been shared with the FST. Initially, a mission to the DRC was requested at short notice to develop a PSEA Strategy and Action Plan. The mission was provisionally planned for the end of September. Meanwhile, the request had evolved to a remote support via webinars, focused on the PSEA action plan development. A series of webinars in September and October will take place. IASC will keep the TAG/FST up to date.

- **Mission Mapping**

IASC encouraged TAG members to input missions onto the mission tracker going into the first quarter of 2025, so that collaboration and joint missions can occur.

**Action point:** TAG members to add Missions into the [IASC TAG Mission Tracker](#)

## **2. Review on TAG Work Plan Progress (All)**

A further review of Work Plan activities and progress was carried out. Working Group Meetings for various Work Plan activities will be taking place soon, for example the Practitioners Working Group linked to activity 1.2.1, as well as meetings between UNOPS, UN Women and IASC on activity 2.3.3. TAG member organisations have kindly made themselves available to co-lead certain activities, for example The Global Fund for activities 2.4.1. and 2.4.2., which might merge. For some Work Plan activities, the end period of the commitment of certain agencies to take the lead was noted, for example activity 3.4.2 at the end of 2024. Update on the MOS was also provided by OCHA, with the final step before endorsement by IASC principals being the conclusion of discussions with ICRC on their stance towards the update. The success of the PSEA Coordinator Training in Jordan in early September was noted, alongside the milestone of 300 organisations having signed up to participate in MDS having been passed in August.

**Action point:** TAG members to add timelines and updates on the TAG Workplan.

## **3. Proposed P5 Senior PSEA Coordinator ToRs**

IOM spoke about a proposed generic ToR being drafted for P5 Senior PSEA Coordinators, saying that its format is the same as the PSEA Coordinator and Focal Point generic ToRs, but is for more senior staff. The draft will be finalised soon and anyone who wants to contribute will be invited to an ad hoc meeting.

## **4. AoB**

- IOM has issued a vacancy for a consultant to establish an institutional SEAH Survivors Assistance Fund, with an application deadline of 24 September.
- OCHA mentioned the upcoming Deputies Meeting, where a point on PSEA will be raised during the free-flowing discussion.
- A message about the PSEACap project has been shared with OCHA's field presences. This is to help with fundraising and remind that PSEACap is IASC-endorsed. Ideally, all TAG members could share similar messages with their country presence, with a view to avoiding situations where country presences fundraise bilaterally for PSEA Coordinator positions which could otherwise be covered through PSEACap.
- The CEB Results Framework on Sexual Harassment has gone to the IASC for endorsement.
- WHO raised an AOB on PSEA mainstreaming in the Mpox response, suggesting that a brief can be created to be circulated with those in the response.

**Action Point:** TAG members inform their Deputies that PSEA will be mentioned during the free-flowing discussion.

**Action Point:** TAG members inform their field presences that PSEACap is an IASC-endorsed mechanism.

## **Annex I: List of Participants**

No	Name	Organisation
<b>TAG Members</b>		
1.	Alexandra Hileman	IOM
2.	Alon Plato	ICVA
3.	Anna Reichenberg	IOM
6.	Carina Hickling	NRC
7.	Christos Mylonas	WHO
8.	Coline Rapneau	CHS Alliance
10.	Denise Hauser	OHCHR
11.	Desiree Bartosiak	WVI
12.	Elena Bezzolato	CHS
13.	Eva Modvig	FAO
14.	Gareth Price-Jones	SCHR
15.	Jane Boissonneault	OSCSEA
16.	Joanne Dunn	IFRC
17.	Julia Schipper	UNOPS
18.	Karen Barnett	Mercy Corps
19.	Laura Silva	IFRC
20.	Livia Mueller	UN Women
21.	Liz Pender	UNFPA
22.	Luiza Lacerda Bogado	World Bank
23.	Madalina Georgiana Lumaicu	DRC
24.	Margaret Lamunu	WHO
25.	Nadia Abu-Amr	UNHCR
26.	Najla Nassif Palma	Victims Rights Advocate
27.	Nana Elsler	UN HABITAT
28.	Natia Cherkezishvili	UNDCO
29.	Paulien Vandendriessche	ICRC
30.	Samantha Hutt	CRS
31.	Sonja Wendlinger	OSCSEA
32.	Thymee Ndour	UNFPA
33.	Veerle Triquet	WFP
34.	Yanthe Cornelissen	UNDP
<b>OCHA/IASC PSEAH Team</b>		

35.	Charlotte Helletzgruber	PSEAH Advisor
36.	Joe Levy Brown	Intern, PSEAH
37.	Kirstie Farmer	PSEAH Advisor
38.	Wendy Cue	Senior Coordinator
39.	Yuliya Pyrig	Programme Management Officer, IASB