Humanitarian Gap Analysis Purpose, Definition and Products



Drafted by Andrej Verity, January 2014

Background

Gap Analysis can mean many things to many people, but generally it is the difference between the expected or needed response that which actually occurs. However, being so generic, we can apply the gap analysis concept to multiple aspects in humanitarian response: operational capacity, activity or response, strategic and funding. Each of these can then be further broken down further based on criteria such as status (completed, ongoing, planned), number of staff, response planning, and so on.



Such a variety means that when a person mentions Gap Analysis in a disaster response, many others in the same room will have a different idea on what is meant. In the *IASC Operational Guidance on Responsibilities of Sector Cluster Leads and OCHA in Information Management*¹ noted that OCHA will "aim to provide standardized cross-cluster needs/gap analysis based on information provided by the clusters" yet makes no further mention in terms of what gap analysis is little lone providing standards.

This paper aims to set out initial thoughts on these topics as well as attempts to begin applying standard language to Gap Analysis. Once we agree on these standards, then we can begin developing standard products and related tools.

Purpose Gap Analysis

The purpose of gap analysis is quite straightforward: attempt to identity a difference between the desired state and the actual state. Once identified then the organization or community can determine if corrective action needs to be taken.

Definitions / Products

1

For the first version of this document, the aim is to define the standard names for the different humanitarian gap analysis types and the examples of data that would be used to create products.

Name	Explanation
Operational 1. Capacity • Staffing • Transport • Others? 2. Others?	 At a local level Planned in past versus now
Strategic	 What we are doing, what is the government is going, what is the remaining GAP?
Response 1. Activities 2. Monitoring	 Activities is 3W tracking Completed in the past versus the current Ongoing project At beginning there was blanket feeding. But now are all these same people being provided with Livelihood solutions? Monitoring is indicator-based
Funding	What was request vs how much has been committed
Reporting	 Which clusters are reporting & which ones are not Organizations who are attending coordination meetings, but not reporting activities (3W) Organizations who are reporting 3w activities, but not attending meetings
Information / Product Availability	 Data that is not available, but needed e.g. COD/FOD checklist e.g. Humanitarian Profile Appropriate products (by cluster) are available on central website (or agreed space)

Connection/Relation to other Processes

Name	Other Processes
Operational 1. Capacity • Staffing • Transport • Others? 2. Others?	 Internal staffing matrix Internal logistical tracking tools
Strategic	Strategic Response PlanContingency PlanCommon Humanitarian Action Plan
Response 1. Activities 2. Monitoring	 3W: Activities Monitoring Framework
Funding	Financial Tracking Service

Roles

Undertaking gap analysis with a cluster or organization is the responsibility and domain of the respective cluster or organization. OCHA will aim to undertake inter-cluster, overall, and summary gap analysis. Inter-cluster would include analysis such as capacity vs scale of the emergency. Overall would include analysis such as funding status. Summary would include reporting and information/product availability analysis.

Annex (for Visual Examples)

Somalia: Humanitarian GAP Analysis as at May 2012

2.50 million People in Humanitaria Emeregncy and Crisis 1.29 million

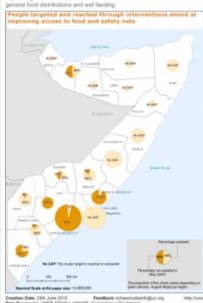
1.36 million

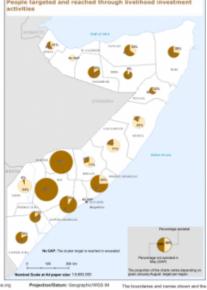
323 thousand

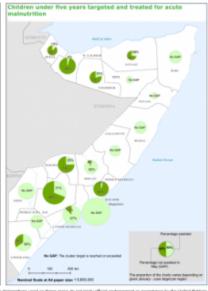
Food Security: 2.4 million assisted

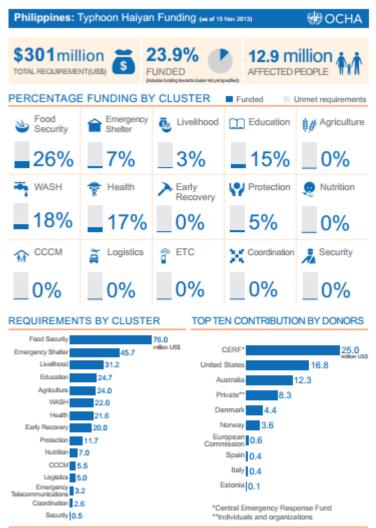
The Food Security Cluster (FSC) reached an estimated 2.4 million people throughout Somalia with responses aimed at (i) improving household access to food, (ii) investing in livelihood assets and (ii) safety nets interventions.

The Nutrition Cluster partners reached a total of 332,485 malnourished children under the age of five who were severely malnourished (SAN) and moderately malnourished (MAN). In May, the number reached was 44,206. The total reached represent 103% of the cluster target.

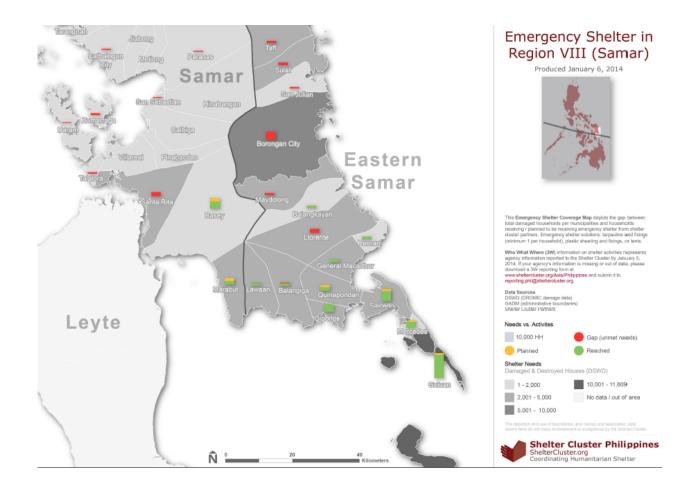








Creation date: 15 Nov-1200(17:00 GMT) - Glide number: TC-0013-000139-PH. Sources: OCHA-FTS Feedback: ochavisual@un.org www.unocha.org www.niefeeb.in



PHILIPPINE: ORMOC HUB - COORDINATION PARTICIPATION (7 December 2013 - 10 January 2014)



The figures indicated are derived from 3W reports and meeting minutes received from the clusters between 7 December 2013 - 10 January 2014.
Please note: the figures include NGOs, UN agencies and Government activities.

SHELTER	48 PARTNERS	29 REPORT 10 ATTEND BUT PREPORT 8 REPORT
HEALTH	35 PARTNERS	20 REPORT 1 1 ATTEND BUT A ATTEND & REPORT
PROTECTION	31 PARTNERS	15 REPORT 9 ATTEND BUT 7 ATTEND & REPORT
FOOD SECURITY & AGRICULTURE	28 PARTNERS	28 REPORT - ATTEND BUT - ATTEND & REPORT
WASH	27 PARTNERS	11 REPORT 9 ATTEND BUT 7 ATTEND &
EARLY RECOVERY	26 PARTNERS	3 REPORT 20 ATTEND BUT 3 ATTEND & REPORT
NUTRITION	16 PARTNERS	12 REPORT 3 ATTEND BUT 1 ATTEND & REPORT
LOGISTIC	15 PARTINERS	2 REPORT 11 ATTEND BUT 2 ATTEND & REPORT
EDUCATION	12 PARTNERS	7 REPORT 3 ATTEND BUT 2 ATTEND & REPORT

Report: Report activities to 3W; Attend but don't report: Attend cluster meeting but not report activities to 3W; attend and report: Attend the cluster meeting and report activities to 3W.