ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS
Department of Operations and Emergencies

2023 2nd QUARTER NEWSLETTER (APRIL - JUNE)

Welcome to the 2023 Q2 Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) newsletter!

Over the past months, the team has continued to support country missions to ensure that we continue to make a positive impact in the communities we serve. We are thrilled to share with you the remarkable developments and achievements over the second quarter of 2023, which include **global capacity-building**, **data responsibility**, **localization**, and **collective accountability**.

We are excited to showcase the growth of our **AAP community of practice**, which you can join by emailing us at aap@iom.int or by visiting the AAP SharePoint and AAP Forum.

HIGHLIGHTS

I. Capacity Building

a) AAP and Participatory approaches training in Latin America and Poland

The AAP team delivered a training in Poland and has worked with different organizations to improve participatory approaches in Latin America.

AAP training in Warsaw, Poland (19 April 2023)

The AAP Team delivered a basic training in Warsaw, Poland on 19 April. The training was for strengthening common understanding on AAP principles and identifying good AAP approaches that can be sustained in various programmes and contexts. The training was participated by staff members from multiple field locations in Poland and units that implement crisis-related programming and local partnerships. On 12 April 2023, the Office of the Special Envoy (OSE) in Panama organized a three-day training on participatory approaches and community-based planning for local authorities and IOM staff – following the ongoing collaboration of AAP and Transition

and Recovery Division (TRD) to support the regional #WeBelong project since 2022. The training involved 20 local authorities and IOM staff from 6 municipalities from border cities in Brazil, Chile, Colombia, and Uruguay. The training explored the engagement of communities in the development of local integration programmes and policies.

DOE AAP supported the development of a training on participatory approaches to planning and programme development in collaboration with the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO) in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The virtual training took place between 17 May and 7 June and is part of the #WeBelong project. The training, attended by over 70 members of CSOs across the Americas, emphasized the importance of involving communities in the development of integration activities and local policies.

b) Strengthening AAP capacities of DTM

Between April and June 2023, the AAP Team delivered three capacity-building missions to the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) teams in Poland (Warsaw), Ethiopia (Addis Ababa), and Mozambique (Pemba and Beira). The training sessions aimed at strengthening the capacities of field and operations' teams on integrating AAP to enhance data responsibility and to improve the next rounds of data collection in the mentioned countries.

AAP-DTM training in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (12 May 2023)

AAP-DTM training in Warsaw, Poland (20 April 2023)

- The training in Poland was tailored to strengthen the capacities of DTM field enumerators. The session focused on how to improve data collection practices through better information sharing and meaningful participation of affected people.
- In Ethiopia, staff coordinating DTM activities and field coordinators from multiple field locations participated in the training. A follow-up has been scheduled in July 2023 to support the next DTM round of site assessment and village assessment survey. The data collected will be used for the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) for 2023.
- In Mozambique, the training contributed to the preparation for the next national DTM round of data collection to be implemented in July and August 2023. As a result of the training, the DTM team has explored the integration of appropriate feedback and complaints mechanisms for verification, registration, and mobility tracking activities.

AAP-DTM training in Pemba, Mozambique (16 June 2023)

AAP-DTM training in Beira, Mozambique (20 June 2023)

Unlock your knowledge of AAP with the **Basic AAP Online Training** (also available in Spanish) designed to provide the knowledge of what it takes for an accountable IOM action.

Via E-CAMPUS, **USE ENROLLMENT CODE: IOM-AAP-2021**

II. AAP and Data Responsibility

HNPW webinar on AAP and Humanitarian Data Responsibility

On 18 April 2023, IOM through AAP and DTM co-organized a webinar with OCHA on AAP and humanitarian data responsibility as part of the Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week (HNPW). The webinar session was facilitated by the International Association of Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP) and explored areas of opportunity for integrated and joint work on AAP and data responsibility in humanitarian action. The presenters from IOM – AAP, DTM, and Ukraine coordination based in headquarters, OCHA Centre for Humanitarian Data, and UNFPA Afghanistan exchanged experiences and insights on how to leverage data responsibility to reinforce accountable humanitarian action, including by bringing communities to the centre of data collection and management processes. Finally, the webinar was recognized by the HNPW organizers at the closing ceremony attended by the Emergency Relief Coordinator Martin Griffiths as good practice on having an impactful collaboration between cross-thematic workstreams to tackle humanitarian system-wide issues.

Watch the whole webinar here.

III. AAP and Localization

ECOSOC HAS 2023: 'Localization in practice: Enhancing local leadership and people-centered approach for quality humanitarian responses and long-term solutions'.

On 20 June 2023 , the Network for Empowered Aid Response (NEAR), OXFAM International, and IOM co-organized a side-event as part of the 2023 Economic and Social Council Humanitarian Affairs Segment (ECOSOC HAS) week at the Palais de Nations in Geneva. The panel included representatives from IOM AAP, and local non-governmental organizations: Mehad from Northwest Syria, African Women and Youth Action for Development (AWYAD) from Uganda, and the Akkar Network for Development from Lebanon. The event was attended by partners in the UN, international and local NGOs, Member States, and donors including USAID BHA, Humanitarian Aid department of the European Commission (ECHO), Government of Netherlands, and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation who made their respective interventions during the session.

ECOSOC HAS side-event in Palais des Nations, Geneva (20 June 2023)

The discussions mainly highlighted the clearer linkages between Localization and AAP for a more effective and sustainable humanitarian response, and the need to strengthen local partners' technical and organizational capacity-building for better and quicker humanitarian response and recovery. Panelists stressed that Localization entails more meaningful and equal participation of local actors in decision-making at cluster and humanitarian country team (HCT) level and must be promoted by leaders in country. Moreover, local actors should be granted more agency while complying with the same standards on accountability, do-no-harm, and non-discrimination principles. AAP good practices and tools (e.g., participatory activities, complaints and feedback mechanisms CFMs) can inspire Localization efforts to ensure the representation, consultation, and satisfaction of all groups – especially the most marginalized.

Read the event final report here.

III. AAP and Localization

AAP & Localization in Level 3 (L3) emergencies briefing series

On 26 May 2023, a presentation on 'AAP and Localization linkages in L3s' was delivered as part of the bi-weekly L3 Briefing Series. The presentation defined the concept of AAP and traced back its origins to the 2011 Transformative Agenda that challenged the traditional delivery of emergency response.

The IASC 'Standard Terms of Reference of HCTs' require Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs) to be accountable to the people in need and to integrate affected populations' feedback and views in the humanitarian response plans. However, emergency plans and budget lines of most agencies including IOM are yet to systematically dedicate resources for AAP staffing even in L3s. Panelists went on to discuss successful IOM AAP practices globally (e.g., Turkey, Nigeria, and Ethiopia), where IOM has co-chaired AAP Working Groups at the national level and in some of the operational hubs, and where missions spearhead Localization through flexible funding such as the Rapid Response Fund (RRF). The presentation stressed the importance of carrying meaningful and participatory data collection and management to ensure accountability and transparency. Overall, the discussion tackled practical ways to operational-ize AAP while meeting donor requirements, to identify clear AAP mandates and interlinkages with other thematic areas, and to improve coordination and communication.

Watch the full presentation recording here.

IV. Improving Collective Accountability

Inter-Agency AAP Project Steering Committee in Geneva (27 April 2023)

BHA Project: IOM lead global strengthening of collective accountability approach

IOM is leading an inter-agency project in collaboration with select members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) AAP Task Force to help strengthen leadership engagement on AAP. The project will produce AAP training and resource materials for in-country leadership and Humanitarian Country Teams (HCTs) using an evidence-based and multi-stakeholder approach.

Phase II of the project (Development and Design) was kickstarted through an in-person workshop held in Geneva on 27 April 2023 participated by members of the project steering committee. The workshop aimed at identifying the key resources and developing the course content based on Phase I (Planning and Mapping) and to share ideas regarding the design of the training. The participants discussed the various formats and modules that will be included in the online course.

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