The Transformative Agenda:
What does it mean for Cluster Coordination?

IASC Inter-Agency Standing Committee
The Cluster System

Transformative Agenda
Floods in Pakistan

Earthquakes In Haiti
“In December 2011, the IASC adopted the Transformative Agenda. It focuses on three key areas: better leadership, improved accountability to all our stakeholders and improved coordination. The impact of these changes, which we are now introducing, will be more lives saved, faster.”

-Valerie Amos, Emergency Relief Coordinator and Chair of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee
Actions in a Level 3 Emergency

- Initial Preliminary Scenario Definition (PSD)
- Revised PSD
- Initial CERF Allocation
- Initial Strategic Plan
- Flash Appeal launch
- MIRA Report
- 2nd CERF Allocation
- Revised Flash Appeal
- Review IARRM
- L3 activation review
- Review of leadership arrangements
- 3-month RTE completed

MIRA Phase I:
- Cluster response planning
- Resource allocation and monitoring begin

MIRA Phase II:
- Sectoral assessments begin
- Dashboard initiated

IASC Inter-Agency Standing Committee
“The inadequate cholera response in Haiti – coming on the heels of the slow and highly politicised flood relief effort in Pakistan – makes for a damning indictment of an international aid system whose architecture has been carefully shaped over the past 15 years . . . The clusters, at best, seem capable of only passing basic information and delivering few concrete results.”

- Dr Unni Karunakara,
  MSF President,
System-Wide Activation
Inter-Agency Rapid Response Mechanism

Deployment of pre-identified humanitarian leaders with various expertise
“An indiscriminate application of all clusters in every emergency will waste resources and may reduce opportunities for governments to provide humanitarian assistance to people in need”

- IASC Reference Module for Cluster Coordination at the Country Level, September 2012
“The scale of international coordination arrangements should be tailored to the operational context and to support national efforts. ... Avoid developing complicated coordination arrangements; not all clusters need to be activated in every response.”
Clusters aren’t permanent structures . . .

... yes, but when considering de-activation, remember the need to address any on-going critical humanitarian needs and the possibility of recurring or new disasters.
“There is a need to restate and return to the original purpose of clusters, refocusing them on strategic and operational gaps analysis, planning, assessment and results”

IASC Principals, December 2011
... balancing inclusion and decision-making
“Without constant commitment by cluster participants, coordination will not support an effective response”
“Humanitarian actors, and appropriate coordination mechanisms, should be at the point of delivery to affected people”
“Equitably sharing leadership ensures stronger engagement and better coordination”
“We can no longer operate in silos”
... Are we living up to the expectations of all partners and delivering results?
Where to get . . .

HELP !