

IPC

Integrated Food Security
Phase Classification



IPC Global Steering Committee

Terms of Reference

Purpose

The IPC Global Steering Committee (GSC) is the governing body of the IPC. Its purpose is to provide high-level strategic advice, endorsement, oversight, and support to the IPC initiative.

Roles and responsibilities

The Steering Committee aims at ensuring that issues related to the IPC acute scales and the chronic food insecurity scale are addressed by dedicated fora that have relevant expertise, while ensuring coherence, complementarity and consistency across all IPC scales, and the IPC initiative as a whole. To that end, the GSC oversees and takes decisions related to the overall strategy and functioning of the IPC initiative as well as specific issues related to the IPC acute food insecurity (AFI), chronic food insecurity (CFI) and acute malnutrition (AMN) scales. Specifically, the GSC is responsible for the following:

- Oversight of the implementation of the IPC Global Strategic Programme (GSP) and provision of strategic guidance to the IPC Global Support Unit (GSU), including aspects relating to its structure, composition and recruitment.
- Budget endorsement and monitoring of financial resources.
- Endorsement of technical approaches, tools, and guidelines as proposed by the IPC Technical Advisory Group (TAG).
- Ensuring global coherence and respect of IPC principles, including at national and regional levels.
- Defining the agenda for the High-Level Executive Committee (HLEC) and activating the HLEC on issues of strategic and political importance.
- Translating the strategic considerations shared by the HLEC into action.

Organisations represented in the IPC governance structure commit to pursue the common interest of the IPC global initiative, and respect the principles of equitable partnerships and confidentiality.

Membership

The GSC is composed of senior management representatives from agencies with a humanitarian and/or development/resilience mandate.

All agencies will address cross-cutting issues that relate to all 3 scales as well as overall management of the IPC GSP.

The GSC members include Action Against Hunger, CARE, CILSS, the Global Food Security Cluster, the Global Nutrition Cluster, the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, FAO, FEWS NET, OXFAM, Save the Children, SADC, SICA, UNICEF, IFPRI, IGAD, UNDP, World Bank, WHO and WFP. One of the members will act as the Chair of the GSC for a maximum consecutive duration of one year.

Experts with humanitarian profiles are nominated to address issues related to AFI/AMN and those with development/resilience profiles to address issues related to the CFI.

While organisations may be represented by two persons in the GSC considering each member has a unique profile i.e. humanitarian or development/resilience - the agency will have only one vote in the decision-making process to ensure equity.

Due to the interlinkages between the governance bodies of the IPC, it is requested to have separate representation at the GSC and the TAG (i.e. one dedicated person per group without overlap) to ensure accountability and effective governance.

Additional agencies or organizations i.e. UN agencies, IFIs, Technical agencies, INGOs, with an interest in joining the partnership may be considered in the future. The inclusion of new member organisations in the GSC will be subject to the decision of the GSC as per standard decision-making processes and criteria for membership, bearing in mind the need to maintain a workable size of the membership to ensure a balance between participation and efficient functioning of the GSC.

Reporting lines and support

- The IPC GSU acts as the secretariat of the HLEC and GSC.
- The GSC updates the HLEC on key developments and strategic issues stemming from the programme implementation.
- The IPC Global Programme Manager reports to the HLEC and the GSC on the activities of the GSU, TAG, as well as any other matters arising from the IPC implementation.

Working modalities

- The frequency of GSC meetings is three times per year, either face to face (once a year if possible) or virtually. Regular meetings typically include two working days (for face-to-face meetings) or two half days (for virtual meetings).
- Additional ad hoc meetings may also be called upon on an as-needed basis.
- The GSC also meets at least once a year in regular sessions (typically for one day) with IPC resource partners. The agenda of each GSC meeting is proposed by GSU in agreement with the Chair with each topic labeled either (i) AFI/AMN, (ii) CFI or (iii) Cross cutting. All Steering Committee members receive the agenda, and are invited to join sessions based on their designated expertise, i.e. AFI/AMN or CFI.
- Members appointed as acute food insecurity and/or malnutrition experts make decisions on the AFI and AMN. Members appointed as development/resilience experts make decisions on the CFI scale. GSC representatives from organisations, which do not have a second representative for CFI may also participate in decision-making on the CFI scale. Cross-cutting decisions involving all IPC scales and the functioning of the IPC are made by the entire GSC.
- Each organisation is responsible for designating the appropriate expert to partake in decisions.
- Decisions are made by consensus, or by a majority of at least 75 percent of SC member organizations participating in the meeting. Agencies with multiple members continue to have one vote. It is expected that, depending on the topic of discussion, the designated expert (acute or chronic) will vote on behalf of the organisation. For decisions related to the IPC CFI, for agencies that have dual representation, it will be the designated development expert who will express the organisation's position on the decision to be made. The quorum for SC meetings is set at 50 percent of the total number of member organisations.
- GSC meeting minutes will be systematically shared with all SC members.
- Communication with GSC members may also be in writing (via e-mail), including to capture GSC comments on documents, feedback/positioning on specific questions/issues or validation.

The IPC Global Partners



IPC Funding Partners

