

Solutions Alliance Governance Framework

STRUCTURE AND ORGANISATION

Organisational Structure

The Solutions Alliance is an inclusive partnership of governments, organisations, and private entities committed to finding solutions to displacement. The Solutions Alliance is made up of three entities:

- 1) The Solutions Alliance Partners
- 2) The Solutions Alliance Regional/National and Thematic Groups
- 3) The Solutions Alliance Governing Board and Advisory Board

These three entities are supported by:

- 4) The Hosting Organisation
- 5) The Solutions Alliance Secretariat

1) THE SOLUTIONS ALLIANCE PARTNERS

A Partner is any government or for-profit or non-profit national or international organisation that commits to support the Mission and Objectives of the Solutions Alliance by joining a National or Thematic Group and subscribes to the Alliance's guiding principles.

Partners are responsible for (a) advancing the mission and objectives of the Alliance in their own displacement-related work; and (b) promulgating and adhering to the Alliance's seven guiding principles within their organisations (at headquarters and field levels).

National and Thematic Partners are expected to contribute actively to the work of their respective Group. They may contribute financial and/or in-kind resources to the activities of the Group.

Global Partners are encouraged to actively participate in the work of National and Thematic Groups of the Solutions Alliance. They may contribute financial and/or in-kind resources to the activities of the Solutions Alliance.

At the triennial Roundtable, Global Partners will (a) consider and approve recommended changes to the mission and objectives of the Solutions Alliance; (b) endorse the 3-year strategic plan; and (c) appoint (by consensus) the members of the Solutions Alliance Governing Board.

2) THE NATIONAL AND THEMATIC GROUPS

Responsibilities of National Groups:

National Groups are the essence of the Alliance. Both the Governing Board and the Thematic Groups should see their primary roles as supporting National Groups to bring about tangible and reportable solutions results at the country level.

Responsibilities of Thematic Groups:

Thematic Groups should primarily support National Groups and additionally capture thematic learning from National Groups, as well as from their own work, to provide input into global policy processes.

All Groups are expected to cover the costs of their own work. Limited support from the Secretariat may be available to provide common services to Groups, to facilitate linkages between Groups, to support Group preparations for the triennial Roundtable, and to publish Alliance-branded documents.

3) THE GOVERNING BOARD

The Governing Board shall be composed of two core members and four rotational members each drawn from specific constituencies:

- UNDP (core)
- UNHCR (core)
- Donor Government (2016-2018 Denmark)
- Host Government (2016-2018 Turkey)
- International NGO (2016-2018 International Rescue Committee)
- International Financial Institution (to be confirmed)

The Governing Board shall:

- a) Approve the draft Alliance 3-year strategic plan for presentation to Partners for their approval at the triennial Roundtable and, between Roundtables, to update the strategic plan;
- b) Approve the Secretariat's annual work plan;
- c) Approve the Secretariat's annual budget;
- d) Approve the annual report of the Solutions Alliance;
- e) Conducting advocacy on behalf of the Alliance; and
- f) Representing the Solutions Alliance at high-level meetings.

Rotational Board Members shall be appointed by consensus for a three-year term, amongst the Solutions Alliance Partners present at the triennial Roundtable, and may be appointed by vote in case there is no consensus.

Responsibilities of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Governing Board

From among the two core and four rotational Board members, the Governing Board shall elect a Chair and a Vice Chair for one-year terms. To provide continuity, one of the two core Board members will always be either the Chair or the Vice-Chair. To ensure diversity, the Rotational Board members will hold either the Chair or Vice-Chair position, with a core Board member holding the other position.

The Chair is expected to work very closely with the Head of Secretariat to advance the goals and objectives of the Solutions Alliance. The Chair is expected to have a substantial role as: “chief spokesperson” for the Alliance; Chair of the Governing Board meetings; and the primary liaison between the Board and both the Head of Secretariat, as well as the Hosting Organisation.

Advisory Board:

The Governing Board shall be supported by an Advisory Board made up of one representative of each National and Thematic Group, external experts, and other key stakeholders (possibly including affected persons).

The Advisory Board shall meet face-to-face annually to consider the annual work plan and triennially in conjunction with the Roundtable to consider the strategic plan, with ad hoc online consultations or virtual meetings as required. In addition, individual members could be consulted in their areas of expertise as/when needed.

4) THE HOSTING ORGANISATION

The Hosting Organisation cannot be a Governing Board member, is appointed by the Governing Board for three years renewable (in cycle with the strategic plan), and reports to the Chair of the Governing Board.

The Hosting Organisation provides the legal entity for the Solutions Alliance Secretariat, provides the office facilities, administrative and financial support, holds the employment contracts of staff of the Secretariat, and manages the financial resources for the Secretariat.

5) THE SOLUTIONS ALLIANCE SECRETARIAT

The role of the Secretariat is to support the Solutions Alliance to achieve its Mission and Objectives. As the Secretariat is intended to remain “light”, accountability for achieving the Alliance’s objectives rests with the Partners, the National/Thematic Groups, and the Governing Board. The Secretariat is accountable for implementing the agreed annual work plan in support of the strategic plan, provided that it is sufficiently resourced.

Effective Date

This version of the Solutions Alliance Governance Framework was adopted by the Co-Chairs in advance of the Solutions Alliance Roundtable of 9-10 February 2016.



2016 Solutions Alliance Roundtable
9-10 February 2016
Brussels, Belgium

