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| **Core Cluster Activities** | **Core Cluster Functions** |
| Identify advocacy concerns to contribute to HC and HCT messaging and action. | 6 |
| Preparing needs assessments and analysis of gaps across and within  clusters, | 2 |
| Be ready for situations where there is a high risk of recurring or significant new disaster and where sufficient capacity exists within the cluster. | 5 |
| Analysis to identify and address (emerging) gaps, obstacles, duplication, and cross-cutting issues including age, gender, environment, and HIV/AIDs. | 2 |
| Apply and adhere to existing standards and guidelines. | 3 |
| Undertake promotional activities on behalf of cluster participants and the affected population. | 6 |
| Reviewing the implementation of the cluster strategy and results. | 4 |
| Provide a platform to ensure that service delivery is driven by the agreed strategic priorities. | 1 |
| Clarify funding requirements, prioritization, and cluster contributions for the HC’s overall humanitarian funding considerations (e.g. Flash Appeal, CAP, CERF, Emergency Response Fund/Common Humanitarian Fund). | 3 |
| Prioritization, grounded in response analysis. | 2 |
| Develop mechanisms to eliminate duplication of service delivery. | 1 |
| Recommending corrective action where necessary. | 4 |
| Develop sectoral plans, objectives and indicators that directly support realization of the HC/HCT strategic priorities. | 3 |

Consequently, the **six core functions** of a cluster at the country-level are:

**1. To support service delivery by:**

* Providing a platform that ensures service delivery is driven by the Humanitarian Response Plan and strategic priorities.
* Developing mechanisms to eliminate duplication of service delivery.

**2. To inform the HC/HCT’s strategic decision-making by:**

* Preparing needs assessments and analysis of gaps (across and within clusters, using information management tools as needed) to inform the setting of priorities.
* Identifying and finding solutions for (emerging) gaps, obstacles, duplication and cross-cutting issues.
* Formulating priorities on the basis of analysis.

**3. To plan and implement cluster strategies by:**

* Developing sectoral plans, objectives and indicators that directly support realization of the overall response’s strategic objectives.
* Applying and adhering to common standards and guidelines.
* Clarifying funding requirements, helping to set priorities, and agreeing cluster contributions to the HC’s overall humanitarian funding proposals.

**4. To monitor and evaluate performance by:**

* Monitoring and reporting on activities and needs.
* Measuring progress against the cluster strategy and agreed results.
* Recommending corrective action where necessary.

**5. To build national capacity in preparedness and contingency planning**

**6. To support robust advocacy by:**

* Identifying concerns, and contributing key information and messages to HC and HCT messaging and action.
* Undertaking advocacy on behalf of the cluster, cluster members, and
* affected people.

**+ Accountability to Affected Population**