ISWG Meeting Note
June 2023

Inter-Sector Working Group Jordan

ISWG Meeting Note and Action Points

Date / Time / Venue	**Wednesday, 04 June 2023, 14:30 - 16:00, UNHCR office**
Attendees	Inter-Sector Coordinator, Sector Coordinators, UNHCR Assistant Representative (Protection), Leads/co-leads of the Economic Empowerment, Shelter, WASH, Food Security Basic Needs and Education sectors, CP, GBV and Sexual and Reproductive Health sub-sectors, chair of Assessment, Analysis and Learning Hub, Senior Protection and Senior Gender Advisors

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND OUTCOMES

- **The sector 3RP log frame, including indicators, targets, calculation methods and financial requirements, to be completed and submitted by mid-June**
- **Sectors to start consultations on the usage of Services Advisor mapping tool**
- **Sectors to discuss on the frequency of reporting in ActivityInfo to come to common conclusion**

SECTORS UPDATES

All sectors have finalized their strategies and submitted to the ISWG; majority of the strategies have gone through the peer review. Most sectors are finalizing establishment of sector log frames.

Shelter sector has agreed on a shelter specific definition of informal settlement, it will be utilized in the 2023-2025 programming and for advocacy purposes.

In the spirit on cross-sectorial collaboration and anticipating joint planning, the Shelter and WASH sectors completed mapping of partners operational in both sectors.

Education sector engaged in preparation for the Ministry of Education workshop dedicated to the policy discussions on the implementation of the Education Strategic Plan (ESP) 2018-2022.

Protection sector and its sub-sectors – CP, GBV and Disability and Age – have worked closely with the national institutions, i.e., National Council for Family Affairs (NCFA) and Higher Council for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to have developed sector indicators aligned with national systems.
Protection sector is bringing more attention to the south areas of Jordan impacted by lack of economic opportunities, which may generate protection issues.
The CP and GBV sub-sectors are engaged in joint programming.
The CP sub-sector is working to align with the MoE case management system.

The Sexual and Reproductive Health sub-sector identified maternal mental health services as a gap in the overall scope of services provided at the MoH PHCs to mothers and children.

Economic Empowerment sector is engaging in the impact assessment of livelihoods programmes (cash for work), reaching out to 200 Syrian refugees of working age living in urban. The data collection will last four months, the results will inform future programming.

The Food Security and Basic Needs sector started mapping of projects implemented by partners, indicating types and modalities of assistance.

Update on the Evolving Discussions Around Returns

Spontaneous and self-organized returns from Jordan to Syria have been taking place since 2018, estimating around 48 thousand recorded returns, mostly from urban. The GoJ narrative around the return in the context of League of Arab States discussions remains centered around voluntariness and safety. The GoJ is taking a proactive role in political discussions on the subject, its 'Step by Step' plan of return is derived from the notion of the required investments in early recovery to support reception of refugees if they choose to return.

UNHCR global position on return to Syria articulates that certain protection benchmarks agreed in the inter-agency consultative manner are still applicable.

Aiming to raise awareness on return and addressing the uncertainties in the communities, UNHCR is developing key messages to be shared with partners for further dissemination in the communities. If partners face major concerns of the communities about return, this to be channeled to ISWG.

Impact of Global Shocks on Jordan

The Assessment, Analysis and Learning Hub (AALH) presented the UNHCR – World Bank "Exacerbating vulnerabilities: Where do global shocks leave refugees in Jordan?" report. The study builds on data from multiple data sources conducted during 2021-2022 to better understand the impact of shocks occurring outside of Jordan, and how that impacts the socio-economic situations of people living in Jordan. The study shows differential recovery pattern of refugees living in camps and out of camp after the initial shocks, as well as explains how the recovery process for refugees differs from host communities in Jordan.

The AALH has launched the Jordan Assessment, Survey, and Evaluation Registry (JASER) tool. JASER is designed to map data collection and research activities in Jordan specific to the refugee response and other populations, such as Jordanians and migrants. The tool aims to promote the de-duplication of research, encourage the use of available findings, and ultimately support an evidence-based refugee response.

World Environment Day

The World Environment Day (WED) celebrated annually on 5 June promotes awareness and action for the protection of the environment. Under 2023 global theme 'Beat Plastic Pollution', Shelter sector will commemorate the WED in Mafraq, Azraq and Irbid through the inter-agency efforts of UNHCR, Oxfam, World Vision and NRC.

Sectors are encouraged to initiate consultations with their constituencies on what can be done to preserve environment. UNHCR environment expert can extend support to the sectors/agencies to strengthen their environmental capacities and support mainstreaming.

Status of the 'Services Advisor' Tool and the Way Forward

The Services Advisor inter-agency web application launched in 2016 aims at providing up-to-date information about availability of humanitarian services, avoiding redundant service mapping, highlighting gaps in services, and offering a handy navigation platform for the partners.

The ISWG initiated review of this visual tool and its potential adaptation to the evolving inter-agency context, assuming complementarity to the existing sectoral service guides and maps.

AOB

The IACU is in the process of establishing the ActivityInfo 2023 database. Once it is finalized, the sectors will be invited to the series of ActivityInfo training sessions, and the IACU will remain available to guide sectors through monitoring, evaluation, and reporting, as well to suggest on the effective analysis and usage of the information collected through ActivityInfo. The sectors embarked in consultations on the appropriate frequency of reporting in ActivityInfo, choosing between monthly and quarterly options.

The Jordan 2023 appeal and funding status reveals 30 partners appealed in seven sectors (dropped from 56 in 2022), and number of INGOS (14) and NNGOs (5) in 2023 dropped from INGOs (33) and NNGOs (12) in 2022. The 2023 budget requirement estimates USD 928.50 M, with USD 94.2 M received in first quarter which constitutes 10% of the required budget (as compared to 13% in 2022 Q1 and 18% in 2021 Q1).

Editing of Jordan chapter of the Refugee Response, comprising the strategic overview, priorities, and sector strategies is at the completion phase. The comprehensive document to be finalized before the Brussels Conference.

Further to the active discussion of the above, overall, **the meeting participants concluded** the followings:

- Sectors to complete **development of** 3**RP log frame**, set targets and means of verification **by mid-June**
- Sectors to discuss usage of the 'Services Advisor' inter-agency interactive mapping tool
- Sectors to start consultations on budget requirements for 2023 and funds received in Q1 2023
- **Sectors to channel communities' concerns on return to ISWG**

Road Map of ISWG Deadlines

Based on the above, the road map of the key actions and the respective deadlines were updated:

Action Point(s)	Timeframe	Focal Point(s)	Status	Note(s)
3RP logframe to be submitted to ISWG	Mid-June	Sector Leads		
Share the edited version of 3RP Jordan chapter	Mid-June	ISWG		
Initiate consultations on frequency of reporting	June	Sector Leads		

Initiate consultations on usage of Services Advisor tool	June	Sector Leads		
Share monitoring and evaluation tool	asap	ISWG		done
Start consultations on the 2023 budgetary requirements	asap	Sector Leads		
Share JFT (Jordan Financial Tracking) Dashboard	asap	ISWG		done
Share link to 'Global Shocks'	as soon as published	ISWG		done
Share key messages on return	June	ISWG		
Share Shelter specific definition of Informal Settlements	asap	Shelter sector		
Share pros and cons of various frequencies of reporting: one month or quarterly	June	ISWG		
Final 3RP & submission to Bureau in preparation for Brussels	Mid-June	ISWG		