

WASH Sector Meeting Notes – 27th February 2013 – Beirut

Meeting Notes			
Name	WASH Sector Working Group	Meeting Date	27 Feb 2013
Meeting Location	UNHCR Office, Beirut	Meeting Time	13.10 – 15.40
Chair person	Anna Hjärne ahjarne@unicef.org	Meeting Duration	2hr 15 mins
Minutes Prepared by	Hani Chatila chatila@unhcr.org Anna Hjärne ahjarne@unicef.org		
Purpose of Meeting	Regular WASH Sector Meeting		

Updates or news

- The lead of the WASH Sector had invited local NGOs that are active in Bekaa to this meeting, upon request from ACF. Representatives from *Coalition of Islamic NGO's* and from *SAWA* were present.

Coalition of Islamic NGO's is active in the following fields: WASH, shelter, health (inpatient services, provision of medication, follow-up on chronic diseases, and also burial services), NFI's and food. Their projects are oriented towards youth – recreation activities, mostly through the scout movement.

SAWA is present in North Bekaa with offices/centers in Baalbek, Briteal, Feqha and Quaa. Their activities include: WASH (hygiene kits, and hygiene promotion in schools), education (providing remedial courses), distribution of NFI's including winter clothes kits, health (psycho-social support) and hygiene promotion. They focus on children, especially those with psycho-social needs; they also assist newcomers with shelter and food items.

Concerns presented by Coalition of Islamic NGO's and SAWA:

The NGO's emphasised the two main issues to be lack of good hygiene practices and lack of proper conditions/facilities to enable the refugees to uphold good hygiene behaviour. The families are too big, thus live too close to each other, and many of them come from rural areas, where their hygiene culture is not sufficient in order for them to uphold hygiene and health in these types of settings.

Especially during winter – due to lack of warm clothes and heating, the number of diseases has risen, such as skin diseases related to the cold and to bad hygiene practices, especially scabies. The assistance is limited, and refugees prioritise shelter and food. There is also a need for medications.

The main challenges are to secure the environment, promote good hygiene behaviour, and improve condition and access to health facilities.

Both NGOs agreed upon the fact that the registration process should be more prompt. They also noticed that some refugees are selling their voucher coupons.

SAWA coordinates with other NGOs depending on needs, however as expressed by Islamic Coalition there is a big gap in coordination in the field. Having field level meetings, could improve coordination and information sharing.

- **Gulf States submissions – under RRP4**

The Chair informed that UNICEF, UNHCR, UNFPA and a total of 7 NGOs have submitted project sheet for the submission to Gulf States, and they are currently being reviewed.

Action point: Sector lead will share the consolidated submission for the Gulf States with the agencies that have submitted once the document is finalised.

- **Dashboard** – WASH is the first sector to create a Dashboard, which can be a good tool for advocacy. The Dashboard still needs to be updated on budget, achievement of the month, and main indicators. The Dashboard will be uploaded to the Portal once finished.
- Aoife Long, the IM of the WASH Sector has left and is replaced by Fredrick Hanga: fhanga@unicef.org. All reporting should from now on be directed to him.
- The participants were informed that the Government is today having a meeting regarding the re-formulation of the consolidated GOL response and RRP4, and so there might be a need for the lead to call partners in for meeting.
- **Field level meetings** will takes place, however the frequency, location and chairing of these meetings are yet to be determined.

Action point: Sector lead will inform partners about the details of field meetings once UNHCR management has come to a decision.

Assessments

- *Oxfam GB has shared their assessment from Tripoli and Koura, and this has been disseminated to the Sector partners.*
- *PU-AMI has shared main indicators extracted from assessments (Saida, Beirut, Mt Lebanon) with the sector. For the North they can share on demand.*

Action point: CISP, PU-AMI (health asmt) and WVI to share assessments when there are finalised.

- **WASH Assessment Team - progress**

Two issues were highlighted under this agenda point:

- 1) *The Assessment team has made available as online survey monkey a Capacity Assessment Tool, and an email was sent out by Sector lead Pankaj on the 25th February, requesting partners to fill this in. Deadline is Friday 8th March.*
- 2) *Standardised Assessment Framework workshop will be held in Beirut on Wednesday the 6th Marc. Exact location will be decided. Partners were requested to revert to Abel Augustinio of the Assessment Team with names of participants.*

Action point: WASH Sector partners are to fill in the Capacity Assessment Tool online before the 25th February (excluding Islamic Relief, who has already done this)

Action point: An email will be sent out with information on location for the Standardised Assessment Framework Workshop that will be held on the 6th March. Partners are requested to confirm names of participants to Abel Augustinio.

Needs & Evolution of the situation

- **Leishmaniasis.** Nohal Al-Homsi from WHO, presented a brief document to chair of the meeting, about former prevalence of Leishmaniasis in Lebanon. Nohal stated the vector is present across Lebanon. Chair again

requested information regarding current status of Leishmaniasis in Lebanon; geographical area, urban/rural, number of cases etc. Islamic Relief shared reports from former response to Leishmaniasis outbreaks, and the sand fly, with the chair for dissemination to the sector members.

Action point: WHO to send soft-copy of document about Leishmaniasis to Lead/co-lead of the sector.

Action point: Lead is to disseminate document from WHO and PowerPoint presentation about insects and rodents by Islamic Relief, with the sector

Gaps

Contingencies

Technical

• Update on Technical Working Groups (TWiGs)

- Contingency TWiG: a draft of the WASH Contingency Plan is under development. None of the Contingency TWiG members were present to update sector on progress.
- Sanitation TWiG: Tomas Carlsson (UNICEF) is new member. The San TWiG will meet next time 7th of March
- HP/IEC TWiG: A first meeting was held on 19th February. A second meeting will be called by Anna (UNICEF).
- Water TWiG: the team is complete and includes Bibi Lamond (Oxfam GB), Adele Elias (ACF), Dr. Nabil Chabayta (Islamic Relief) and Mathias Ntawiha (UNHCR). They will arrange their first meeting directly after WASH sector meeting.

Chair of the meeting proposed that all TWiGs will give a brief presentation in the next WASH Sector meeting on their progress.

Action points: Sanitation TWiG to meet on March 7th 2013

Water TWiG to arrange meeting after sector meeting and HP/IEC TWiG to plan for next meeting.

HP/IEC TWiG will schedule a second meeting.

TWiGs will give a brief presentation of their progress in the next WASH Sector meeting.

• Development of new water sources

Hani, UNHCR, briefly presented the steps necessary if an agency want to obtain approval for water well drilling and extraction. He emphasized that there are two methods: long and short. The long method is drilling a well on private land, yet, the short method is drilling well on public land (Municipality is the owner). All steps regarding hiring a private Engineering Consultancy can be over looked. It was agreed that the pamphlet will be circulated electronically with minutes of meeting.

Shiekh Ziad Taktak added two recommendations:

- Well water can be extracted from existing wells (with the consent of owner)
- Approval of water well drilling and extraction can be facilitated via Al- Awqaf

Action point: The updated pamphlet prepared by UNHCR about process for getting approval for new well drilling/extraction will be circulated together with the meeting minutes.

• WASH Activities Matrix (WAM) Update

Because of low reporting, it was suggested in the last meeting that Hani Chatila (UNHCR) visit sector partners to support in filling in the WASH Activities Matrix (WAM). In this meeting it was decided not to change the WAM again, however partners were advised to fill in at least the essential information each month (possible to leave out more details in case agencies do not have this info)

Action point: Hani Chatila, UNHCR visit sector partners to support in filling in the WASH Activities Matrix (WAM).

Action Needed

Action	Focal Point	Deadlines	Status
Sector lead will share the consolidated submission for the Gulf States with the agencies that have submitted once the document is finalised	Pankaj	After finalising the document	
Sector lead will inform partners about the details of field meetings once UNHCR management has decided.	Pankaj		
CISP, PU-AMI (health asmt) and WVI to share assessments when there are finalised.	CISP, PU-AMI, WVI		
WASH Sector partners are to fill in the Capacity Assessment Tool online (excluding Islamic Relief, who has already done this)	All partners	8 th March	On-going
An email will be sent out with information on location for the Standardised Assessment Framework Workshop that will be held on the 6 th March. Partners are requested to confirm names of participants to Abel Augustinio.	Anna All partners interested in participating	1 st March 4 th March	
WHO to send soft-copy of document about Leishmaniasis to Lead/co-lead of the sector.	Nohal Al-Homsi		
Lead is to disseminate document from WHO and PowerPoint presentation about insects and rodents provided by Islamic Relief, with the sector	Pankaj		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sanitation TWiG to meet on March 7th 2013 - Water TWiG to arrange meeting after sector meeting and HP/IEC TWiG to plan for next meeting. - HP/IEC TWiG will schedule a second meeting. - TWiGs will give a brief presentation of their progress in the next WASH Sector meeting 			
The updated pamphlet prepared by UNHCR about process for getting approval for new well drilling/extraction will be circulated together with the meeting minutes.	Hani, Pankaj		
Hani Chatila, UNHCR visit sector partners to support in filling in the WASH Activities Matrix (WAM).	Hani		

Date of Next Meeting:

13th March 2013 – Location will be communicated later.

Commencing 13:00 Hrs Sharp