

Cash Working Group

Syrian Refugee Response in Jordan

Meeting Location	UNHCR–Large Conference Room	Meeting Date	12.08.2013
Chair Person	Volker Schimmel	Meeting Time	15:00-17:00
Minutes Prepared by	Rasha Batarseh		
Purpose of Meeting			

1.) Summary of action points

Number of action point or discussion	Action point	Focal Point / Organization
1.)	IRC to share documents related to presentation	Melanie Megevand
2.)	UNHCR's PDM to be shared	UNHCR/Rasha Batarseh
3.)	Next meeting will be on 9 Sep at 15:00 @ UNHCR	UNHCR

2.) Attachments and References

Documents	Location	Contact Person
CWG ToRs		Volker Schimmel / UNHCR
Activity Info presentation		Edouard Legoupil
CWG co-chair voting results		Volker Schimmel / UNHCR

3.) Minutes

Item	Discussion
Co-chair & ToRs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Based on voting results, CARE will be the co-chair for the CWG. - CWG ToRs will be circulated for feedback for further discussion in the next meeting. The best practices and learning components should be worked on more in addition to the responsibilities of HCR and co-chair.
Presentation by IRC on their projects mainly CA	<p>Melanie Megevand summarized their CA project highlighting the following issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) CA program is under the umbrella of protection of women & SGBV. 2.) The particular need that refugee women need is mainly the financial means to meet their basic needs. In parallel, in most conflict economic and social development model in which women have access to financial means and if they are being supported by men around them which emphasizes the importance of empowerment. Their CA program is like UNHCR's in the amount of monthly CA and HH size. 3.) In another project, IRC provides consultation and prescriptions to reduce the stress and difficulty for patients not having them. Health screening is being done in two clinics in Ramtha and Mafrq. There is assigned staff for this including the medical team and social workers. 4.) Their cash program covers 2,000 families for three months. They look at vulnerabilities as a core element but not as prioritization. Also the question of how much does the family earns is a very difficult one. It might be that the conditions are worse than reality. 5.) Work has been done with registration and protection for mainly the below categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Escapees from camps. - People without documentation - Within the same HH, single women who could be at risk. - Women & men heading houses in addition to elderly plus other protection issues eg no school that will increase the risk. - Access to services for families and personal status law. - Minor HHs e.g. men and women >15. - Pregnant women either alone &/or medical, psychological problems - Financial coping mechanisms. - Separated children and foster families. - Elderly (extremely vulnerable). - Health problems/disabilities with either birth or after or as a result of the crisis/displacement to be able to increase their capacity taking into consideration if they are receiving any kind of assistance. 6.) To better distinguish some of the vulnerabilities, certain weight is given to every vulnerability criterion to better internal coordination and to provide assistance either from IRC or any other partner. 7.) Identification: CBOs and partners were reached and training sessions were conducted for referral ex. HI as they might have particular vulnerabilities. The most vulnerable families will be visited ensuring that follow up is being done. Still a better referral system has to be put in place. 8.) Outreach: sufficient assessments were conducted and families did not know that IRC is doing this exercise and it did not cover just cash. Refugees were generally very honest; they mentioned most of their financial income and NFIs...etc.
Presentation by Information Management	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) Activity Info: the web based platform for information to strengthen the referral and updates to save time and improve coordination. 2.) A draft RRP5 reporting template & examples were presented. It highlights the importance of what each working group is doing. It is just for the information at this stage but more inputs will be needed from the technical group.

Coverage map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is better to understand the whole situation soon because the context has changed and RRP6 will be looked into soon. Technical meetings will be arranged separately for vulnerabilities that might be less than 70%. For UNHCR, all registered cases in 2013 will be visited for vulnerability assessment. - More regular update on the tabular overview and coverage map is needed but this requires feedback & commitment from all partners. - proGres (UNHCR's information database for refugees) might be an open tool to partners using data sets. It doesn't offer users exactly what they need, that is why is parallel and interim solutions are there (referral).
Winterization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This applies to cash/NFIs & shelter working groups. - Standards will be set jointly by the NFI-Shelter-Cash WGs to define the standard package(s) and provide also a cash equivalent for each.
Round of cash program updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Caritas: support 1,800 families for rent assistance for three months. - NRC: small cash grants to families in Irbid (under shelter sector). - Oxfam: Both ATM cards and cash are being provided to beneficiaries in Balqa. - WFP: 314,000 beneficiaries received food vouchers in August's cycle. Pilot of e-voucher will start in Sep 2013. - SC: work on winterization and cash. - HI: finalize the assessment in Amman and waiting for MoPIC's approval for 300 HHs in Amman and Mafrq. - Care: cash is Zarqa, Mafrq & Irbid for 1,200 cases. - Medair: pending MoPIC's approval. Their project will cover 240 families in Irbid & Mafrq. - IFRC/SRC: the project covers beneficiaries residing in Irbid, Ajloun, Jerash and Amman. - DRC: 1,250 families until the Dec 2013 in addition to winterization across three governorates. - UNHCR: 12,500 cases are on July's cash list. 1.8M dollars was received from UAE and was distributed prior to Eid. Another note on non-Syrians; transfer to iris from ATM has been made.
AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACAPS specialist, Mr Hisham Khogali, is on mission for cross sectorial definitions and vulnerabilities. Coordination with him is highly appreciated. - It was not possible for health colleagues to attend the CWG meeting. However, they will be in the one meeting soon.