



WASH Working Group Meeting # 8 Syrian Refugee Response in Jordan

Meeting location	Mercy Corps conference room	Meeting date	19 August 2014
Chair	Jamal Shah	Meeting time	10:00-12:30
Minutes prepared by	Joud Halawani Al-Tamimi (on behalf of Matthew Richard)		
Purpose of meeting	WASH Working Group Meeting – national level		
Next meeting	Three weeks time (TBC)		

1.) Summary of action points

Item	Action point	Focal Point / Organization
1.)	Once the objective and mechanism for 2015 planning is finalized, a meeting of concerned WASH WG partners would be called.	Jamal Shah (WASH Sector Coordinator)
2.)	Amin Bhai to share whatever UNHCR WASH project details with the WASH sector.	Amin Bhai (UNHCR)
3.)	To send an email to identify which agencies can be part of an IMWG that will organise a training regarding Activity info data entry and its benefits.	Umar Daraz (UNICEF Regional)
4.)	To revise the indicators in September 2014.	Umar Daraz (UNICEF Regional)
5.)	To appoint a gender focal point to join the information management working groups so he/she can identify indicators and then clarify how data collection should be carried out.	Merrin (Senior GenCap Advisor at IATF)



2.) Attendees of the meeting

Name	Organisation	Contact details
Jamal Shah	UNICEF	jshah@unicef.org
Feras Smadi	JFE	feras@greentech.jo
Ghassan Hazboun	Mercy Corps	ghazboun@jo.mercycorps.org
Joud Halawani Al-Tamimi	UNHCR	HALAWANI@unhcr.org
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Pierre Dassonville	Oxfam	pdassonville@oxfam.org.uk
Ghazi Qussous	UNICEF	ghazi_qussous1111@yahoo.com
Gian Melloni	ACTED	gian.melloni@acted.org
Danielle Brunton	ICRC observer	dbrunton@icrc.org
Saed Hameed	UNICEF	shameed@unicef.org
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Amin Bhai	UNHCR	bhai@unhcr.org
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Roberto Saltori	UNICEF	RSALTORI@UNICEF.ORG
Merrin Waterhouse	GenCap Advisor	waterhouse@unhcr.org



3.) Minutes

Item	Discussion
Review of the action points	<p>Re: "Jamal to call a meeting of WASH partners to discuss the methodology of targeting beneficiaries and the guidelines and targets in preparation for next year."</p> <p>Although a DAT process has been started but decision regarding comprehensive WASH assessment will be taken after IATF/ISWG determines the scope of next year plans.</p>
UNHCR Presentation on WASH activities	<p>A presentation was given by Amin Bhai (from UNHCR) to summarize UNHCR's WASH process by looking at WASH Project Development and Accountability Guidelines. The following were the main points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·UNHCR has a selection and prioritization process for host community WASH projects including Guidelines for program development, tracking and monitoring. They only fund raise for RRP projects. · UNHCR distinguishes between Beneficiary Level (Household/ Communal Centre) within boundary of the property, and Infrastructure (managed by government agency/authority) located outside the boundary of the property; ·UNHCR refers to assessments such as the Home Visit report to indicate location of high WASH vulnerability to priorities areas for interventions and needs assessments. ·There is an agreed beneficiary level WASH assessment questionnaire which has been developed by UNICEF-UNHCR and is included in the Vulnerability Assessment Framework (VAF). All partners' interest in beneficiary level project should use this assessment so that results can be compared to prioritize across the country. ·UNHCR has two partners who have undertaken: 11 projects (2012 to 2014) in Irbid/Jerash/Ajloun, ~ USD 4.3, ~ 300,000 beneficiaries 13 projects (2012 to 2014) in Mafraq, ~ USD 2.7 M, ~ 680,000 beneficiaries <p>· <i>UNHCR has recently requested call for proposals for 2015 with deadline of 31 August 2015. All enquiries through contacts on "Questions and Answers" or Amin Bhai (UNHCR WASH Officer)</i></p> <p>Finally, it was concluded that Amin would share UNHCR WASH Project information with the WASH WG.</p>
Information Management	<p>Umar (Regional IM officer with WASH sector) gave a presentation that provides guidance to partners due to hardship experienced in uploading and getting information from Activityinfo. It was also pointed out that some of the data on the system is inaccurate. E.g. For the access to safe water on camps indicator; the camp population was kept constant in many cases although the figures have been changing over time. Thus, the supply of water was shown constant as well although the numbers of people benefiting from water and the amount received by beneficiaries have been changing with the increase in refugee population.</p> <p>Regarding information quality, it was affirmed that there are some issues regarding the regularity, the relevance and the reliability of the information. Accordingly, the way forward from there was indicated; a training/orientation regarding entering the data on Activity info and its benefits should be organised. Moreover, the indicators should be revised in September 2014. Also, a focal point should be appointed on information management so it is possible to revise how Activityinfo should be used and the aim of it. Some emphasized the need to clarify whether Activityinfo is merely a tool for donors or is it also useful for the partners. Finally, Jamal concluded that If there is consensus, an email should be sent to identify which agencies want to be part of the IMWG, so that the WG can then find out what are the needs and what it is that should be achieved.</p> <p>Furthermore, Eng. Ghazi Qussous UNICEF GIS consultant presented the status of the three assignments as part of the UNICEF support to MWI and the WASH sector. In the first part he exposed the problems regarding the different mapping sources used among the WASH partners and how the users should use the same mapping background.</p> <p>In the second part he showed the steps to assist MWI in assessing the use of GIS in the water sector in Jordan and proposing solutions to improve its usage.</p>



	<p>In the third part Eng. Ghazi presented the first design of the GIS projects follow up database and some mapping of the UNICEF project using the database.</p> <p>Overall, the basic idea behind what Ghazi is doing and how it is related to the sector is that he will be ultimately producing priority areas for the partners (i.e. poverty, water consumption, water availability). This will help the sector to prioritize its projects or future interventions, and it will help the donors to prioritize their interventions. Thus, the idea behind this exercise is how to prioritize; what are red areas, yellow areas and green areas, and how does it look on the GIS map? Anyone seeking more details on this matter should contact Ghazi via his email.</p>
<p>REACH Presentation on “Access to water and tensions in Jordanian host communities”</p>	<p>Erin from REACH gave a presentation that explores refugee-host community relations, and particularly; what factors cause tensions and destabilization in these relations? It was highlighted that water was the third most commonly cited factor after shelter and employment. Accordingly, the main objective was to look at people’s perception of access to water. Results show that Syrians had a more positive perception than Jordanians who emphasize a deterioration of access to water since the onset of the Syrian crisis. Also, more females than males showed positive perceptions of access to water; both among Jordanians and Syrians. But overall, it was deduced that there are issues of tension arising with access to water. Results also show high levels of dissatisfaction with water management, which was identified as a key factor causing water tension. It was concluded that issues surrounding access to water threaten social cohesion. As resources become increasingly stretched, efforts should be made to prevent and mitigate frictions between Jordanians and Syrians.</p>
<p>Mainstreaming Gender in WASH. Presentation by GenCap Advisor</p>	<p>Merrin gave a presentation on mainstreaming Gender in Wash. She outlined that she works with sectors to ensure that women, girls, men and boys have equitable access to services. Accordingly, she highlighted the importance of identifying what their distinct needs are, looking at whether activities are tailored to these needs and then measuring performance over time.</p> <p>Merrin then highlighted existent issues with data entry and collection by going through several graphs displaying data disaggregated by gender. One example graph was on the access to portable water by Syrians in Camps. It was observed that fewer men were accessing. But the reason is that the number of Syrian men registering as refugees is fewer. Thus, it was highlighted that data was put based on water supply and that people have been entering rates of registration into Activity info when it is supposed to be measuring access rates instead. The same case was there in the following graphs. Thus, it was deduced that we want activity info to measure the rates of use not the rates of registration and that there is a need to know whether the distinct needs of women, girls, boys and men are being measured. It was emphasized that focus on infrastructure is not enough; thus the importance of measuring access instead of merely measuring how many facilities. Relevantly, it was pointed out that the way to humanize infrastructure is to get the refugees involved by gathering their views on what they need and what they think are the barriers.</p> <p>Due to the highlighted shortcomings in reporting, it was requested that a gender focal point join the information management working groups to identify indicators and move on from there on how to collect data. There were already 2 nominations. Moreover, Merrin announced that she is going to launch the gender dashboard next week, which is a snapshot of the ways sectors are able to meet the need of women, girls, boys and men. She further elaborated on her use of the traffic light system, which is a performance indicator that shows what’s been done and what is yet to be accomplished.</p>
<p>AOB</p>	<p>It was announced that there are trainings for hygiene promoters; one in Azraq this Wednesday and another one in Zaatari next week, as well as another training in Azraq in September.</p> <p>Moreover, feedback was requested on these sessions so that there is scope for improvement.</p>