



UNHCR

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

Irbid Operational Coordination Meeting

6 August 2015, 12 p.m.

In attendance: ACF, ACTED, HI, ICMC, IRC, LDS, MedAir, MSF-Holland, MSF-France, NHF, NRC, TdH, UNHCR, WFP

1. Welcome and Roundtable introductions

- UNHCR Protection Officer Nami Asaka is newly arrived and will serve as Officer-in-Charge of FO-Irbid upon upcoming departure of Head of Office Bashir Khan. -- asaka@unhcr.org
- Welcome to UNHCR Associate Coordination Officer Olivia Cribb, based in Amman, supporting Basic Needs sector, winterization, and urban coordination – cribb@unhcr.org

2. Partners' Operational updates (Particularly Changes and Challenges)

- Care: will start case management for Jordanians and distribution of cash in multiple payments. 2, 4, or 8 of 130 or 150 JD each. Provided on conditional basis to child labour cases to cover and support returning children to school. Only 1 child per family will be covered. Similar program being implemented across country. 100 families will be served. Referrals accepted until 24 August. No age limit.
Note: TdH is also targeting out-of-school children with conditional cash and is partnering with STC to monitor such cases.
- NRC: shelter program is still on hold pending government approval [correction]. New learning support program at schools in Taibeh and Naiema on Sun/Wed/Thurs. NRC is constructing classrooms for overcrowded schools. Began last month in Taibeh and begins next month in Naiema. 7 more locations will begin next year. Also installing solar panels and photovoltaic cells. ICLA – counselling and legal assistance – no major update.
- IRC: health: Mobile clinic now serving 2 new districts (Wasatiyeh and Ramtha) for the mobile clinic. 20 new health volunteers brings total to 78.
- Medair: continuing of cash for 6 month, last payments are in October, referrals will not be accepted until new project, they are continuing SGBV and cash for health but awaiting approval
- MSF-Holland: will increase percentage of patients who are Jordanian to 20%, will begin home visits for Syrian refugees next month in Irbid, focusing on non-communicable diseases. Plan to expand to support elderly
- LDS Charities: no major updates
- ICMC: project ending 31/8 to be renewed, they will share the target number upon getting approval, no changes on their projects, thanks for support for updating ActivityInfo, planning to look into participating in winterization to be confirmed. This Sunday last day for cash for rent distribution for 100 cases in Irbid and Ramtha
- HI: no major updates.
- ACF: new project in Irbid, 3 sectors, basic needs and cash, mental health and care practices (only basic not medical) to target nutrition lactating and pregnancy by mobile team to the CBO, WASH rehabilitation and hygiene promotion 125 households, they will start receiving referrals upon getting the final approval.
- ACTED: new WFP partner for the north, soft component for WASH in the end of the month, homestead gardening for 550 household, assessment within the 2 weeks, hopefully will begin implementation by September

- IFH/NHF: 5 clinics operating as usual, protection and health, today distribution on 100 for today at KAP and CC and 100 for tomorrow, waiting for hearing devices. Approved by UNHCR to turn the visual and hearing campaign on daily basis through their clinics, in host community and camps, cases will be able to be assessed by a trained nurse. ZRC already started. Challenge in Dair Alla difficulty in referral in legal aid and mental health referrals,
- ICRC: no updates. Normal activities continue
- TDH: also work on child labor cases to ensure return of children to school through referrals and cash assistance, running 7 child-friendly spaces, and all activities as usual, established CSC, and outreach, still identifying most vulnerable cases to be referred, Swiss will renew 1 year project, and will cover 3 child-friendly spaces in Jerash, Irbid, and Ramtha. Thanks Bashir for his efforts in launching the coordination mechanism.
- MSF France, no major update

3. Follow-up on Action Points

- ActivityInfo (Olivia/Serin/ICMC/CARE): UNHCR data is up to date. A few agencies need to update their end dates and referral focal point, or else programs with incorrect data will soon be deleted next week – Olivia has list of which agencies need to correct their info. Correct data allows for the service advisory dashboard to be updated from ActivityInfo data and for referrals to be enhanced.

4. Security briefing (Nasri Al-Jaabani, Field Safety Associate)

- Daraa -- the Southern Front offensive against Dara'a City, which has been renewed twice already, focused attacks on regime-held security compounds within Dara'a city, while simultaneously attacking regime defences in villages to the immediate north of Dara'a City, the supply line to Damascus. In response, the regime continued intensive barrel bomb strikes on villages including Saida, Garyiah, Dael and Tafas among others. The Southern Front also attacked regime positions in Izraa and Kherbet Ghazalah defending the M5 highway to Damascus. Finally, in the east of Dara'a, bordering As Suwayda, Southern Front fighters continued to attack positions near Al Thaala and in response the SAAF dropped barrel bombs and shelled opposition controlled towns including El Karak, Mleha and Al Hrak. No significant territorial advances were reported over the past week.
- Due to fighting in Daraa, 25 mortar shells fell on Ramtha area this month, resulting in no injuries and some minor material damages. Partners should exercise caution while moving within the border area.
- The security situation within Irbid/Jerash/Ajloun governorates remains safe and calm.

5. Food update (Hassan Al-Jubouri, WFP)

- In urban / non-camp areas, last-minute donor contribution is allowing WFP to provide 10 JD to 'extremely vulnerable' refugees through November and 5 JD for 'vulnerable' for August only. Camps remain fully covered with no anticipation of funding problems; in addition, contingency plan has been considered in case large numbers (up to 30,000) of refugees go to camps. No appeals process for voucher cuts.
- WFP has conducted surveys about coping mechanisms; some refugees state that they will return to camps or to Syria; others mention illegal labour, child labour, and begging.
- *[In response to question about percentages, 211,000 urban refugees are classified as 'extremely vulnerable' while 229,000 are classified as 'vulnerable']*
- Results of Comprehensive Food Security Monitoring Exercise available at <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=9103>

6. Health Update (Dena Jardaneh – UNHCR)

- After cut of WFP food vouchers, UNHCR is encouraging malnutrition screening for all children under 5 and pregnant and lactating mothers in all primary health care centers (partners, NGOs, government)
- UNICEF and health partners are employing REC (reach every child) approach to strengthen routine vaccinations
- Partners should coordinate with health unit when delivering cash assistance for health purposes to avoid duplication

7. Education Message (Katherine)

- Message from Farrukh Mirza of UNICEF / Education Sector Working Group Chair: International Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE) Minimum Standards training will be held in Irbid, in Arabic, October 28-29, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. 6 to 8 more people can be accommodated; contact Farrukh if interested in signing up – fmirza@unicef.org

8. CARE : Presentation of key findings from report, “Five Years Into Exile” (Wedad Al-Tamimi, CARE)

- Full Report available at <http://insights.careinternational.org.uk/publications/five-years-into-exile>

9. Announcement of Bi-Annual Election of Co-Chair in Next Meeting

- Election will be held at September meeting, following completion of CARE’s six-month term. Any interested organization may run. TORs for coordination meetings and for co-chair will be circulated for information and feedback.

Next meeting scheduled for September 3rd at 10 a.m. (Changed from 12 p.m.)