

Inter-Sector Working Group

Thursday, 24 March 2016

Participants:

Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Mission Anthropos, International Rescue Committee (IRC), International Medical Corps (IMC), International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC), IOCC/Apostoli, Oxfam, SMCHIA & UNHCR.

Chair: UNHCR

Agenda ISWG:

1. Endorsement of meeting minutes and review of pending action points
2. Endorsement of ToRs for ISWG
3. Overview of sectoral gaps (summary overview by sector coordinators) and how to address them
4. Standardized IM package and minimum deliverables for all sectors
5. AoB

Agenda Item 1:

The minutes from the previous meeting were endorsed by all participants.

Agenda Item 2:

The ToRs for the Inter-Sector WG were also endorsed.

Agenda Item 3:

All sectors are requested to have in place some minimum deliverables for their sector; this includes:

- **3Ws** and as soon as possible the 4W which include information on the length of projects and beneficiary information
- **Contact List:** contact information at national level with all members; there will be an online option made available where partners can “subscribe” and “unsubscribe” to certain options
- **Joint Assessment Registry:** All partners in their respective sectors are encouraged to update on a regular basis the assessment registry and to ensure that relevant assessments are shared on a regular basis.

The revised coordination structure proposed by UNHCR, which is gradually implemented, is based on the Refugee Coordination Model. In several WG, in particular at the sub-national level, the Government is represented or chairs the meetings. In the future, it is hoped that the “high level inter-agency steering committee” will be established where the Minister of Migration Policy in cooperation with UNHCR will provide a platform (similar to an UNHCT) for Heads of agencies/NGOs to provide strategic decision making.

There is a call for submissions from ECHO, which opened on the 23/03 and the deadline for submission is on the 01/04. It was suggested to have a coordinated approach to the ECHO call for proposal to

ensure that all sites are covered equally and partners can harmonize their submissions. UNHCR thus offered to provide a platform for discussions with NGOs active in protection. The objective of the meeting would be to facilitate discussions on which actor has response capacity to cover which location.

Action point:

- A meeting will be called by the Protection WG with the involvement of the SMS actors for Monday, 10.00 hrs to facilitate those discussions.

It is very important to ensure that the national level is informed by and provides guidance to the sub-national WGs (on the islands and the mainland). Therefore, all national sector coordinators need to ensure that they are on the mailing lists of the sub-national WGs and vice-versa. This will enhance the information flow.

Agenda item 4: Gap analysis

Sector	Gap	Action required
WASH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ToRs have been suggested and are being finalized 	WASH Coordinator to share final version with Inter-Sector WG
Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First meeting was held last Tuesday. ToRs were discussed and a presentation given on the overall objectives of the WG; a Child Protection Sub-WG will be taking place as of next week. Some NGOs are willing to co-chair this Sub-WG and the FRS and public persecutor will be invited to attend the meeting. The difficulties of accessing asylum procedures in particular for Afghans were discussed and the risks of those with expired police notes to be detained; UNHCR informed that so far few cases of arrests have been reported; it is unlikely that the police has the capacity to start systematically arresting those with expired notes; in addition, discussions are ongoing with the Government to provide clarity if and how the notes will be renewed 	Protection Coordinator to share final version with Inter-Sector WG
Shelter/NFI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First meeting to be held on Friday 	Shelter Coordinator to share final version with Inter-Sector WG
CwC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular meetings are taking place with a review of the ToRs which took place during the last meeting; the idea of a national coverage of the group was agreed unanimously Next meeting to be held on 6th April Concerns are raised with regards to the information flow and clear guidance on the legal questions arising from the EU Turkey deal, asylum procedures and access to relocation; the situation changes often and the final legal procedures are not yet defined which makes it difficult to effectively communicate Oxfam and other NGOs have compiled a document with questions for the Government on questions around the impact of the EU Turkey deal; a similar initiative was already discussed in the last Inter-Agency Consultation Forum where it was agreed that UNHCR would compile such a Q&A document and a summary document for the Government; it was agreed to join the existing documents into one 	<p>CwC Coordinator to share final version with Inter-Sector WG</p> <p>UNHCR is asked to provide a Q&A document on legal aspects of the EU Turkey deal by Tuesday, 29 March and a summary document with questions to be submitted to the Government on the implementation of the EU Turkey deal; partners to submit their questions</p>
SMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WG has taken place for some time, but will need to be reviewed in light of the newest developments 	SMS Coordinator to share final version with Inter-Sector WG

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An assessment team is currently assessing sites in the North and Central Athens; results will be shared accordingly to inform response by partners • UNHCR is finalizing the compilation of information for the site monitoring tool which was designed as part of a prior inter-agency initiative; results including site profiles/dashboards will be published the next week 	
Cash Sub-WG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An informal group of partners active in cash assistance is meeting on a regular basis (CRS, British RC, Mercy Corps and DFID); during the last meeting discussions focused on minimum expenditure baskets • A Cash Sub-WG will be set up to formalize the existing group of partners discussing issues around cash assistance. It was suggested to name the group “market based response” to avoid sensitivities around cash assistance • The importance for the current context for cash based interventions was highlighted, but also the various challenges and sensitivities; there is a clear need to agree on a joint and harmonized way forward including standards. Vulnerability criteria for the determination of cash assistance have important protection implications and thus require discussions at the inter-sector level with all sectors involved 	CRS with support from UNHCR to prepare a briefing for the next ISWG on the existing pros/cons for cash assistance, challenges, legal implications and a possible way forward; the result of the discussions will then be presented to the Inter-Agency Consultation Forum
IMWG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently the IM team of UNHCR provides information services and standardized tools for coordination; if and when partners will have increased IM capacity, an IM WG should be set up 	
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is an acute lack of vaccines in the country; per law it is not allowed to have drugs/vaccines imported; discussions are ongoing with the Ministry of Health, DG Sante, WHO and UNHCR on how to solve the issue • The question around baby formula was raised and which guidelines should be followed. 	<p>Health Coordinator to update ISWG in next meeting on possible solutions</p> <p>Health WG to provide guidance around the usage of baby formula in particular with regards to the sometime difficult hygienic situation in the sites</p>
Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the time being, there is no Food WG given that mostly the Army and volunteer groups provided the majority of all food assistance; there is a 	UNHCR to call for a Food WG meeting asap

possibility that the army might take over food assistance in all sites; however, given that some volunteer organization might not be able to cover needs in the long run and there are numerous concerns with regards to the food provided by the Army

- The question of nutrition was raised and whether or not this should be discussed in the Health or Food sector; it was agreed to have the discussions take place in the Health WG