MEETING MINUTES

National Sector Working Group:	Site Management Support (SMS)
Date:	09 June 2016
Venue:	DRC Office (Athens)
Chair:	Knut Gunnar Maehlumshagen (National SMS SWG
	Coordinator) / Francesco Rancati (National SMS
	SWG Co-Coordinator)
Participants:	
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Agenda:

- 1. Review of action points from previous meetings
- 2. Review of SWG standard indicators
- 3. Contingency planning
- 4. New sites in the North created after Idomeni relocation
- 5. SWG members' updates
- 6. AOB

1. Review of action points from previous meetings

No pending action point.

2. Review of SWG standard indicators

- Indicators agree upon by the Working Group will be entered into ActivityInfo (UNHCR IM system) and be used to track achievements by SMS agencies across Greece.
- Review of draft standard indicator table circulated by SMS SWG Coordination \rightarrow Recommended modifications:
 - Addition of "# of small scale infrastructures constructed, improved and/or maintained"
 - Addition of "# of site committees formed and supported"
 - In indicator 1.1.2, change of "government authorities" into "government entities"
- Question: shall we include qualitative impact indicators? (e.g. number of beneficiaries expressing satisfaction with small scale infrastructure constructed?). WG decision: No, we leave them out because hardly measurable in a meaningful way.
- Question: Who is the indicator on Training of Trainers for considering that no SMS agency does not seem to have conducted any? UNHCR: It applies to UNHCR because they will soon hire a CCCM capacity building specialist whose role will be to provide training to government officials, SMS actors, etc.

For clarification on the content of these minutes, please contact: Knut Maehlumshagen – email: <u>maehlums@unhcr.org</u> Francesco Rancati – email: <u>francesco.rancati@nrc.org</u>

- The indicator about transition to alternative housing (# of families supported in transitioning from sitebased housing to alternative outside-camp solutions) was included because some SMS actors are starting to look at related activities and because it is a reminder to everyone that encampment is last resort and, thus, we should strive to identify alternative solutions.
- The SWG endorsed the standard indicators list

Action Point: Knut/Francesco to circulate endorsed list to SWG members and submit to UNHCR IM

3. Contingency planning

- ISWG finalized planning risk, threshold and assumptions:
 - a. Risk: Collapse of the EU/Turkey deal
 - b. Possible thresholds:
 - 1,000+ for several consecutive days
 - 500/day for a sustained period
 - 35,000 total PoCs in islands
 - 65,000 total PoCs on mainland
 - c. Planning assumptions:
 - Shelter/site capacity insufficient to meet minimum standards
 - Entry from Turkey through islands
 - Northern border remains closed
 - Mandatory detention on islands ends
 - Asylum system clogs
 - Relocation and other decongesting efforts/movements will be slow and limited
 - Host community/social tension ensues
 - Donors will mobilize resources
 - Movements to mainland will occur but end at threshold leading to arrival at island threshold
- Various sector working groups supposed to work on contingency plan and input at ISWG level, where the plan will be consolidated. As of now UNHCR has not yet provided guidance in terms of format and content of the contingency plan, as well as the drafting process

➔ Action Point: Knut/Francesco to liaise with UNHCR and ask for guidance/clarification about Contingency Plan development process

4. New sites in the North created after Idomeni relocation

- 8 new sites (warehouses) created by the government in Central Makedonia to relocate refugees from Idomeni.
- In most of the sites living and safety conditions are sub-standard: inadequate services and high level of congestion
- UNHCR had assessed the sites jointly with the government prior to the relocation and deemed them unsuitable. However, the authorities decided to move ahead with relocation.
- MoMP informed that the sites will be temporary and the Government is in the process of identifying new longer-term sites where people will be relocated from September onwards.
- MoMP asked agencies operating in the North to intervene in the sites. Agencies have been discussing what type of support to extend to the warehouses, considering their structural unsuitability and the need to accelerate the process of relocation to better places (conditional? Time-bound? Only "emergency service provision"?).

IOM • Currently plan to intervene in 6 sites - including Malakasa, Ritsona, Derveni, Ioannina, Katika - with a multi-sector package including SMS and site planning as well. IOM will not be tasked with traditional camp management, but rather SMS. In each of the 6 camps IOM will deploy a "facility coordinator" and a "Camp Management support officer". Looking at doing protection activities in 4 additional camps through mobile teams. Although IOM is already present at the sites, they are still waiting for a response from the Government regarding the exact role they are supposed to play and sectors they are supposed to cover. UNHCR Pre-registration has started in Elleniko in Attica and at the Thessaloniki Port and Oreokastro in Central Makedonia. Slow process during the first day (about 150 people pre-registered in each of the two regions). Ramadan is not making it any easier. Salvation Army Organizations active in Victoria Square have been mapping the area to identify locations (apartments, hotel rooms, squats) where urban refugees in the area are living. Questionnaire

developed by VS task force.

SWG members' updates

5.

- Question: what type of support do UNHCR and GAS need from organizations working in Victoria Square to facilitate the pre-registration process when the exercise will take place there? UNHCR: the process for urban refugees will start in mid-July only.
- <u>Solidarites</u>
 - SMS activities in Malakasa ongoing: establishment of an electronic database recording the site population. The plan is to issue ID cards, but currently on hold because it might create confusion with the pre-registration process.
 - Site Manager announcing that the authorities might impose a 09-to-09 curfew in Malakasa. However, modalities and timeline have not been communicated.
 - Apparently the Attica authorities have recently passed a law enabling refugees to travel on public buses for free in the region. However, not clear whom it applies to.
 - At the moment not sure Solidarites will continue operating in Greece past August.
- Action Point: Knut to share pre-registration schedule for the entire country with SWG members
- ➔ Action Point: Knut to put Salvation Army in touch with UNHCR pre-registration team regarding support needed by GAS/UNHCR for pre-registration for Athens urban refugees.
- Action Point: UNHCR to follow up on Malakasa curfew with MoMP
- ➔ Action Point: UNHCR to follow up on free public transport law

6. AOB

- Deterioration of security in the sites: Inter-communal tension and episodes of violence ever more common in the sites, as well as in Victoria Square. Police rarely present inside the sites. UNHCR has raised the issue several times with the authorities but so far no significant improvement. Unclear who is responsible for law and order within the sites: army or police?
- SMS SWG Focal Points: ToR circulated and endorsed. So far Central Makedonia, Attica, Chios and Lesvos are the only areas where FP agencies have been identified. Need to expand geographical coverage. A form for weekly information sharing between FPs and WG in Athens has been created and will soon be circulated for comments.

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- → Action Point: DRC to map out existing WhatsApp groups and assessing the need to create a Security WA group for SMS actors. Double purpose: providing security alerts and acting as a record of incidents for advocacy
- Action Point: Francesco to circulate Weekly info-sharing template with WG members for comments