



**Inter-Agency
Coordination**
Lebanon

INTER-AGENCY MEETING

MAY 19, 2017



Protection Update

- Update on GSO Waiver of Residency Renewal Fees
- Surge Project for UNHCR Reception Centers
- Rising Hostile Rhetoric on Social Media
- Riyak Evictions



Protection Update

Key Points on Waiver of Residency Renewal Fees by GSO

- **No deadline:** waiver of renewal fees for UNHCR registered refugees expected to be in place indefinitely, despite brief suspensions in February and March.
- **Included:** refugees registered with UNHCR prior to 1/1/2015, including those who entered unofficially
- **Currently NOT included:** refugees not registered with UNHCR, refugees who renewed on another basis, e.g. sponsorship

Mapping of GSO center practices in their implementation of the new circular

- Field PWGs, including UNHCR, Caritas, Intersos, IRC, IRD, and NRC.

Phone Survey in April 2017

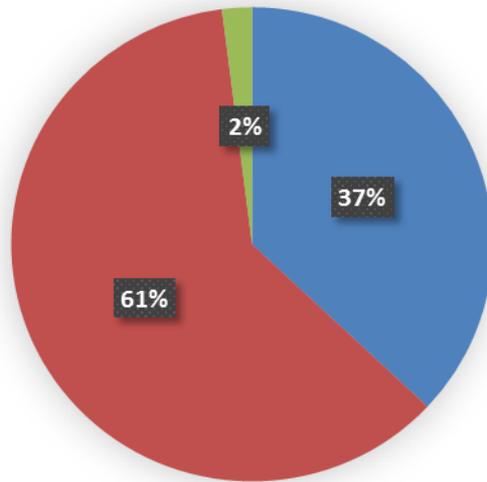
- Random sample of 393 Syrian refugees who in the months of February and March 2017 approached UNHCR to obtain the Housing Attestation.



Protection Update

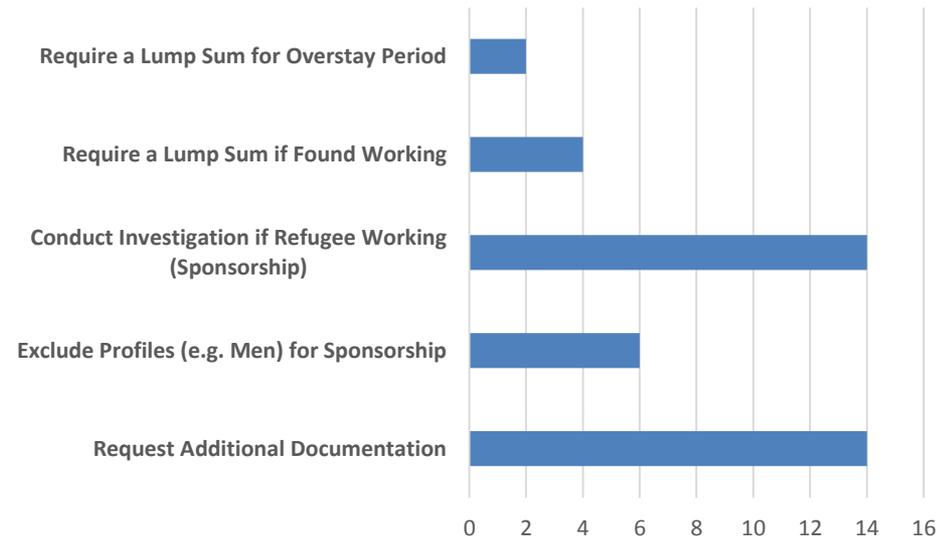
GSO Center Implementation

Monitoring of 41 GSO Centers



- Fully Apply Circular
- Partially Apply Circular
- Not Apply Circular

Practices of GSO Centers Partially Applying

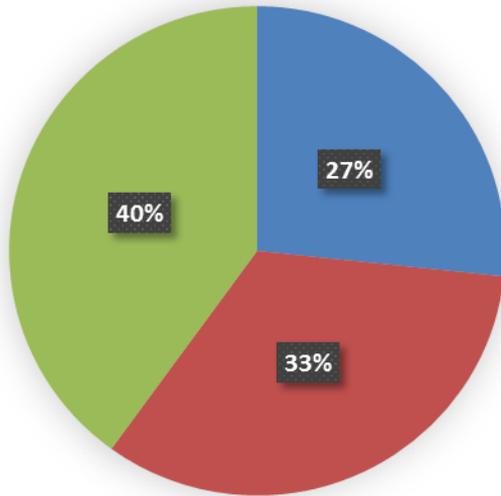




Protection Update

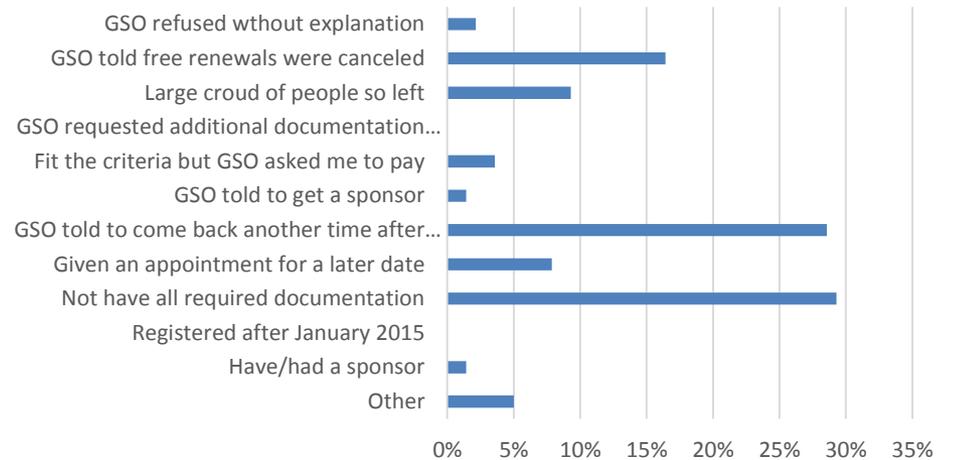
Impact on Refugee Renewals

Phone Survey of Refugees



- Renewed or in progress
- Did not approach GSO
- Approached GSO but unable to renew

Refugees Unable to Renew





Protection Update

Observations of GSO Renewal Practices

- While 98% of GSO centers state they are applying the new circular, only 37% are observed to be fully applying it, while 61% are either not waiving the fees, requesting a sponsor or requiring additional documentation.
- Primary reason (57% of GSO offices) is to exclude refugees perceived or investigated to be working.
- Additional documentation required includes: housing certificate from mukhtar (with more detail than UNHCR attestation), proof of income, etc.
- Most GSO centres in the North and South are applying a quota per day ranging between 4 to 15 applications daily.



Protection Update

Summary Points on GSO

- **Objective:** Ensure the maximum benefit to refugees from the waiver of residency renewal fees.
- **Local level monitoring, advocacy and legal assistance at GSO Offices:** a) consistent practice; b) legal assistance; c) complex cases
- **Communication with communities:** refugees <-> GSO and refugees <-> UNHCR reception centers;
- **UNHCR engagement with GSO at national level:** a) clarification to GSO offices for consistent practice; b) ease documentary requirements; c) refugees who renewed on other categories

Job creation under LCRP 2016



INTER-AGENCY MEETING

20 MAY 2017

Job creation under LCRP 2016 - Background

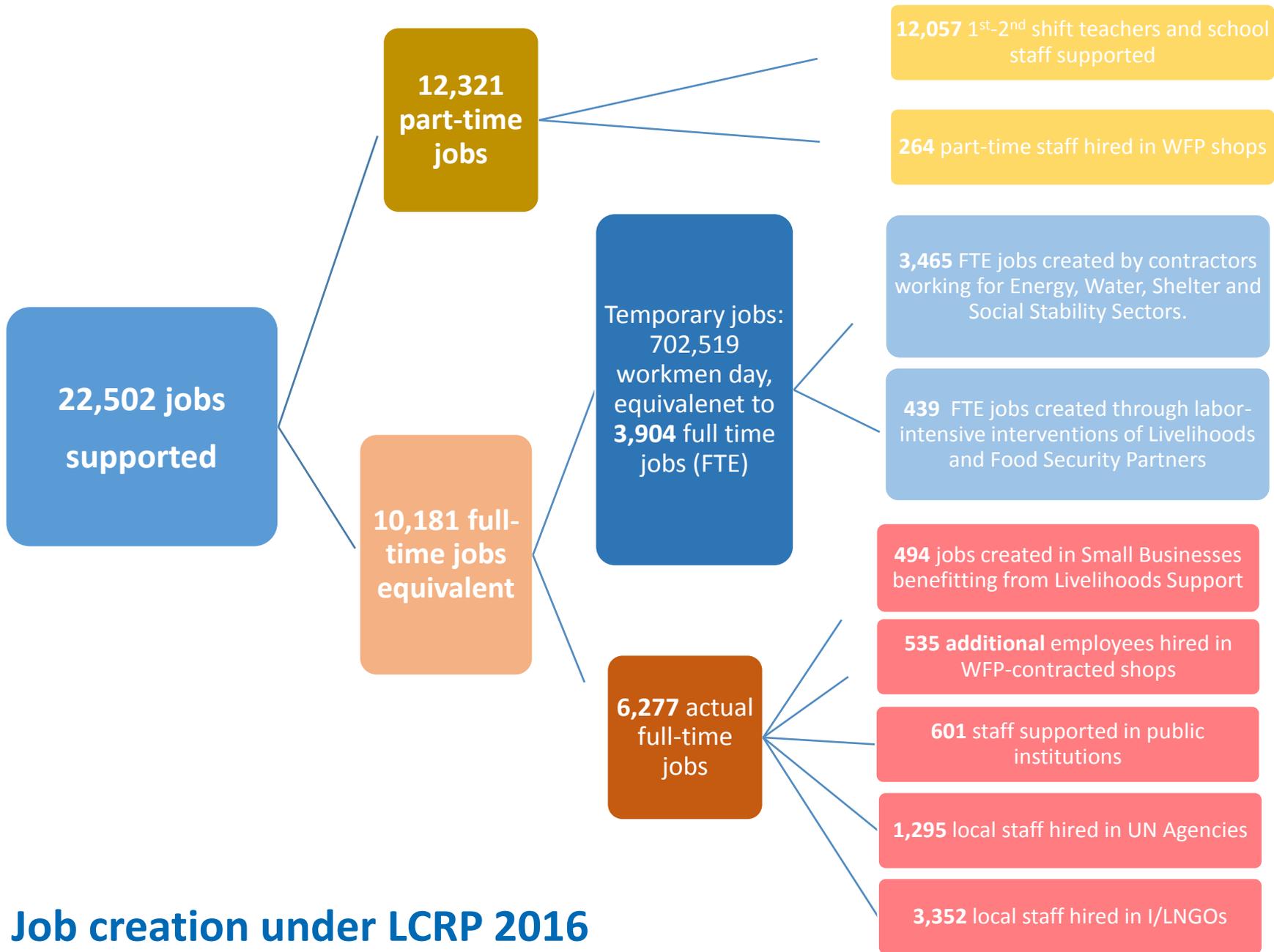
- **Job creation tracking exercise** launched by Livelihoods sector in January 2017, as a result of:
 - The increased focus on economic growth & employment generation following **London Conference** (February 2016).
 - The **LH sector's steering committee** request to better monitor the overall impact of hum./dev. assistance on job creation in Lebanon.

Job creation under LCRP 2016 – Sources/inputs

- **E&W sector:** UNICEF, WVI, UNRWA, SCI, Solidarites, UNDP, NRC, MC, Concern, ACF, Intersos...
- **Shelter sector:** UNHCR, UN-Habitat, ACTED, CISP, TdH-Italy, Solidarites
- **Livelihoods sector:** ACTED, ARCS, AVSI, DRC, GVC, IOM, IRC, PU-AMI, SCI, TDH, UNDP, WVI.
- **Social stability sector:** B&Z, DRC, IOM, LOST, MC, PU-AMI, UN-Habitat, UNDP, UNHCR.
- **Food security sector:** WFP/FAO & partners
- **Education sector:** UNICEF
- **UN agencies:**
 - 10 agencies: UNICEF, UNHCR, WHO, UNDP, UNFPA, FAO, WFP, UNRWA, ILO, UNV
- **I/LNGOs:**
 - 22 INGOs (amongst LHIF members)
 - 3 LNGOs (ALEF , Caritas, Amel)

Job creation under LCRP 2016 – Key findings

- Overall, **22,502 jobs** were supported under LCRP 2016, including:
 - **10,181** full-time / temporary converted in full-time equivalent (FTE) positions (=> 3x annual number of jobs created by the Lebanese economy pre-crisis).
 - **12,321** part-time positions.



Job creation under LCRP 2016

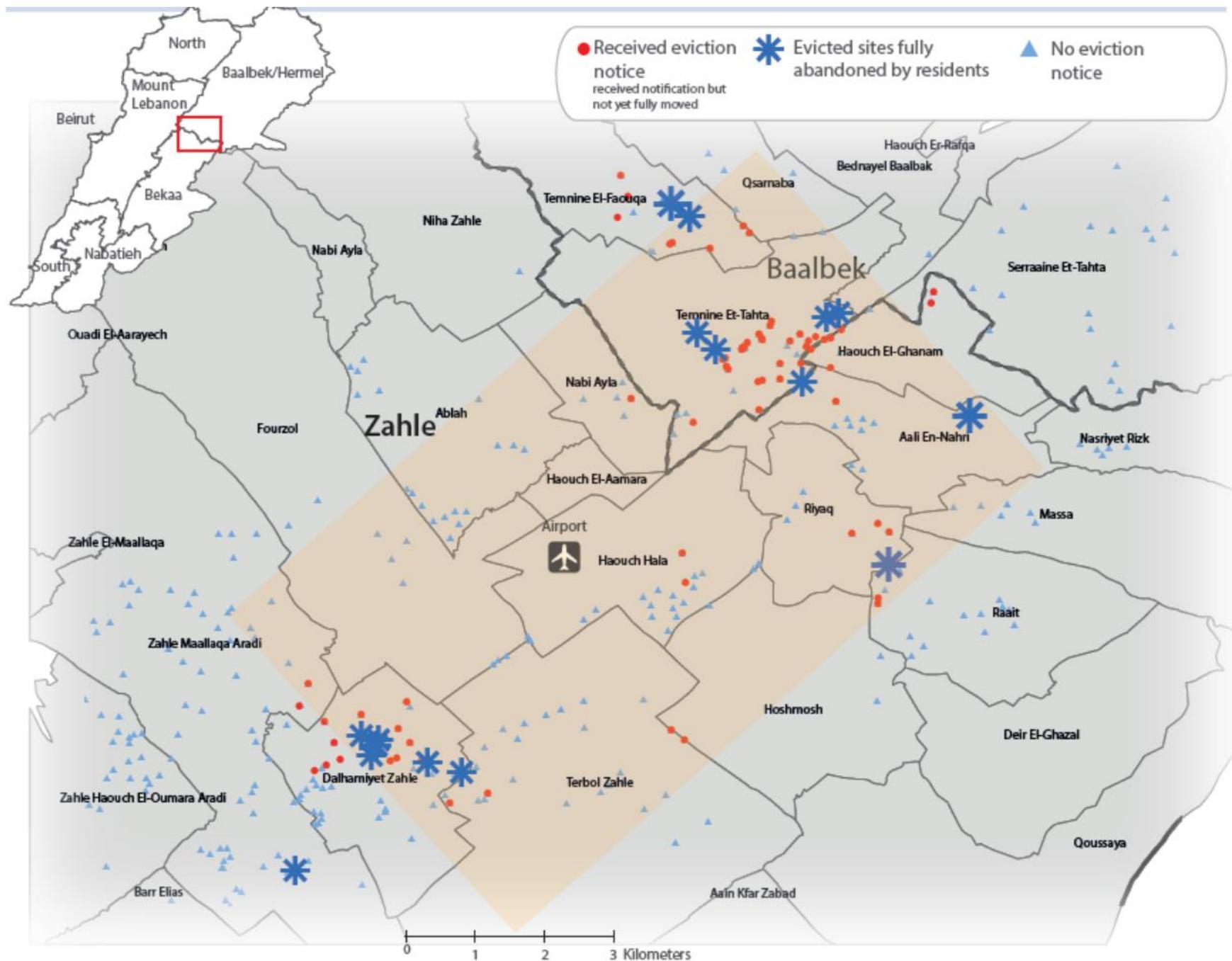
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Riyak Eviction Update

19 May 2017

Key Developments

- In March, Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF) ordered the eviction of Syrian refugees living in settlements around the Riyak airbase in the Bekaa valley (9x6 km zone)
- Total impacted population: 2,160 households(HH)/12,655 persons and 285 sites
 - 142 sites have received eviction notice
- Relocation of 777 HHs (approx.4,428 persons) has been verified
 - Majority of HH have found their own accommodation arrangements
- Estimate number of 6,262 persons remain in evicted area who are considered the most vulnerable



Map illustrating the distribution of evacuation notices and the status of evacuated sites in the Baalbek and Zahle regions. The map shows various districts and the locations of sites where eviction notices were received (red circles), sites fully abandoned by residents (blue stars), and sites where no eviction notice was received (blue triangles). The legend defines the symbols used. A scale bar at the bottom indicates distances up to 3 Kilometers.

Response

- Field level coordination to address critical needs of the affected population
- Humanitarian assistance coordinated through Riyak Task Force
- Specific assistance provided in the areas of protection, WASH, and shelter
- Identification of relocation sites in cooperation with MoSA and MoIM
- Advocacy with LAF for continued delay in the enforcement of the eviction order
- National Protection Sector developing Eviction Guidance Note – legal considerations and standards to guidance the response

Needs

- Shortage of LAF, municipality and neighbourhood approved destination
- General WASH and Shelter support in areas of destination, especially newly relocated HHs