

Minutes of the National Basic Assistance Meeting

Meeting Location	MOSA, 7 th floor	Meeting Date	17 March, 2017
Chair persons	Mario Abou Zeid (MOSA) Hadi Haddad (MOSA) Khalil Dagher (UNHCR)	Meeting Time	14:00 – 15:30
Minutes by	Malak Rahal	Meeting Duration	1h30min
List of agencies in attendance	MOSA, UNHCR, SIF, ECHO, OXFAM, LRC, UNICEF, RI, NPTP/MOSA, ICRC, UNOPS, ACTED, Dorcas Lebanon, LHIF/NRC, ACF, LCC, ANERA, WVI.		

Agenda:

1. Introduction
2. Sector Updates:
 - a) Targeting assistance
 - b) Winter Support
3. Presentation on Data Protection
4. Operational Update: NPTP
5. Gap Analysis: Assistance to Vulnerable Lebanese
6. AOB

1. Introduction

- Mario Abou Zeid, advisor to the Minister of Social affairs highlighted on behalf of the minister, key principles the ministry is currently working under:
 - **Transparency** : There should be transparent processes throughout all the projects and activities in all sectors to make sure that funding received is spent in the right place, reaching the most in need.
 - **Commitment**: All agencies should follow in all their activities the Lebanese Law and the decisions of the respective ministries.
 - **Partnership**: working towards a strategic partnership with all agencies operating in all sectors for a more effective collaboration and accountability.
- Decisions shall come from the minister and his team; a clear memorandum of understanding (MOU) was sent to all relevant departments at the ministry in order to centralize the meetings at the level of the Minister. Clear MOUs will be done with the partners working in different sectors.
- As of March 2017, all working group meetings for the Basic Assistance sector will be hosted at MOSA.

2. Sector Updates:

a. Targeting Assistance:

- 60,033 HHs reached with Multi-purpose Cash Assistance (MPC): 49,112 severely vulnerable Syr. HHs; 9,415 PRS HHs; and 1,506 vulnerable Lebanese HHs (through NPTP);
- 20,577 Syr. HHS reached with cash for education by UNICEF; These HHs are not unique and may overlap with MPC beneficiaries.

b. Interagency Winter Support Plan as of March 2017

- 226,835 HHs out of 265,260 HHs (85.5% of the target) reached;
- 182,754 out of 218,010 HHs reached with cash (83.8% of the target) out of which:
 - 171,040 HHs are Syrians (target : 178, 290);
 - 2,500 HHs are Lebanese (target : 30,000);
 - 9,214 HHs are Palestinian (target : 9,720);
- 8,610 out of 10,000 HHs received fuel vouchers (86%);
- 34,836 HHs received USD 40 cash top-up per child from UNICEF;

- 48,534 HHs from all cohorts reached through in-kind CRIs, of which:
 - 71,000 HHs received high thermal blankets;
 - 4,970 HHs received stoves;
 - 50,000 HHs received in-kind clothing;
 - 527 public schools benefiting from fuel for heating (located above 500m identified by MEME).
- Note: UNICEF will be redesigning the cash for winter top up program for vulnerable Lebanese based on the new list from NPTP. In addition to that, a feasibility study is currently being conducted and will be presented soon to inform future programming.

3. Presentation on Data Protection

- See presentation attached;
- Aim of the survey: To administer a data protection self-assessment amongst partners in order to provide targeted feedback and recommendations based on identified gaps and best practices.

4. Operational Update: E-NPTP

- See presentation attached
- E-NPTP : Emergency National Targeting Program targets vulnerable Lebanese:
 - Subsidies for: Health coverage (hospitalization, medication for chronic diseases (SDCs), education (public secondary and vocational schools);
 - E-card Food voucher in cooperation with WFP;
 - Through UNICEF winter cash transfer (2015-2016);
- The advisor of the minister highlighted the importance of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) process in order to safeguard the partnership with all partners.

5. Gap Analysis: Assistance to Vulnerable Lebanese

- See presentation attached

Below are Inputs from sector partners regarding the gaps in assisting vulnerable Lebanese:

- Partners agree on the importance of scaling up assistance to vulnerable Lebanese through NPTP;
- Partners also highlighted that the existing gap in coverage is due to funding limitations and not capacities; most of the funding received is earmarked;
- Ongoing discussions with NPTP being carried out by different partners for future engagement;
- NPTP is currently undertaking a re-certification exercise of its beneficiaries. The exercise is expected to be finalized by August 2017.
- It was highlighted that data collection and scoring of the cases is based on pre-defined questionnaire and PMT formula designed with the technical support of the World Bank.
- Partners may request specific data fields needed for their programme design; if the data is not captured by the questionnaire, partners can still collect this information directly from beneficiaries; yet the vulnerability score won't be affected.
- The Basic Assistance sector plans to engage with NPTP (under the LCRP) when it comes to capacity building and technical transfer of knowledge.
- It was clarified that graduation approaches for Lebanese is tackled under the livelihoods sector. The contribution of the BA sector is to deliver CASH assistance (income support).

Action points

- Partners expressed interest in getting more information about the questionnaire NPTP is using, along with the decision making formula and criteria;
- Agencies are requested to send to MOSA and NPTP the lists of Lebanese that are being targeted in order to prevent duplication;