

EDUCATION IN EMERGENCIES SECTOR WORKING GROUP MEETING

MINUTES

NOVEMBER 7, 2019

09:10AM - 12:00AM

UNHCR (LION ROOM)

MEETING CALLED BY	Education in Emergencies Sector Working Group co-leads
TYPE OF MEETING	EiE SWG monthly meeting
FACILITATORS	Vick Ikobwa, Anaïs Marquette
NOTE TAKER	Anaïs Marquette
ATTENDEES	See Attached List

AGENDA ITEMS

- Round of introductions
- Ministry of Education and Sports update:
 - Feedback from the Education TVET conference in Helsinki – Joseph Kajumba, MoES (10 min)
 - ERP Secretariat / District costing workshop updates – Connie Alezuyo, ERPS, and Semine Petersen, UNICEF (10 min)
- Task team updates:
 - Localisation task team (15 min)
 - EdTech task team final report (10 min)
 - AEP task team update on AEP curriculum progress (5 min)
 - M&E task team update (10 min)
 - Language task team update (5 min)
- Education Consortium updates – Rachael Corbishley, Consortium manager (20 min):
 - Education Cannot Wait year 2 update
 - Teacher salaries harmonization
 - District facilitation rates
- UNHCR 2020 plans update – Vick Ikobwa, UNHCR (10 min)
- AOB

ITEM 1. Round of introductions

ITEM 2. Ministry of Education and Sports update

○ **Feedback from the Education TVET conference in Helsinki – Joseph Kajumba, MoES, Julius Okello, UNHCR**
 Julius Okello (UNHCR) and Joseph Kajumba (MoES) went to Finland at the end of October 2019 for high a level discussion on TVET system, for refugees and returnees. The country selection was based on the fact that Finland has a good education system and a lot of good examples to give.

Visit of OMNIA TVET center, interactions with staffs.

Ministry of education and culture closed the meeting.

Attended by MoES, UNHCR, FCA and Minister officials from Finland

Observations on the Finnish system (for more details see presentation):

- 50% of students after completing basic education continue to TVET. TVET in Finland is free (publically funded, at national and local level).
- 3 biggest sectors are technology, communications and transport, social services, health and sports.
- Very high regard for TVET in Finland, 90% of Fins think it provides high quality learning.
- Prospective students can apply whenever they see fit throughout the year.
- Learning at work is a very important component, with constant supervision in the place of work, each trainee gets an appointed trainer
- Finnish system looks at TVET as a way to boost economy and sustain their economy. Its doing very well because they operate a vibrant ecosystem, with a relevant governing body. Very important to note that FCA Rwamwanja TVET centre was presented as a success story, Caphas Mugabi from FCA was present and showed how we do TVET successfully in Uganda.
- In Finland TVET is already very strongly embedded in their national system, which makes it easier to implement. In Uganda, we need a focus on vulnerable communities, how to create more scholarship opportunities. But we need programmes that can integrate in the national system, not just focusing on refugees.

Outcomes of the meeting:

- TVET contributes to the 4th pillar of UN SDG goals (quality education)
- TVET should be inclusive, reduce the digital divide and foster innovation
- Need to adapt to changing world, and prepare for skills we are not sure will exist, skills of the future.
- Need to prepare for online programmes. Add skills in conflict resolution, how to deal with differences, this will be crucial.
- Another gap in Uganda is the buy-in. Need to have private and public stakeholders engaged, but buy-in here is very weak and many organisations/companies are not ready to open up to the trainees.

Comments/feedback:

UNHCR: in relation to our context, one of the problems we have the low perception of Technical and Vocational Training and is related to quality and absence of next level to transit to. As stakeholders we don't manage to prioritize all levels of education, as we should, given that education is linked to solutions for refugees. Basic education tends to be the most prioritized, yet it does not result to decent work (ILO standard) for sustainable livelihoods. Little attention is given to post basic education and tertiary education. The Finland model helps us draw good lessons on the importance of availing all levels of education.

UNHCR: TVET seems to be heavily determined by the industries, they contribute a lot to training content. We need to do better linkages between TVET provided and existing employment opportunities. Where do we send the students who graduate?

We also need to open up what skills we offer in TVET here, not just hard skills, anything that prepares students to professional life.

Save the Children: Thanks for the feedback, very relevant to Ugandan context. But how do we push the agenda to make sure MoES takes into account lessons learnt? There is a consensus that it is the best way forward for Uganda, so how do we push this agenda to the Ministry? There is a policy development kick off, that is a starting point, but also need a lot of advocacy.

UNHCR: Our understanding of TVET here is weak, we recommend that as a ministry there is a need for deliberate sensitization to increase awareness of TVET. Need to build the perception of TVET.

MoES: in the build up to the Global Refugee Forum, we could discuss with UNHCR and other colleagues on how to add this to the list of things to be discussed.

Action points:

- Co leads to share presentation

○ **ERP Secretariat / District costing workshop updates**

Update on Global Refugee Forum- Anna Leichtfried, CRRF/OPM:

Uganda government is co-sponsoring 2 of 6 focus areas: Education and Energy and Infrastructure (water, environment, health, etc.)

High-level delegation, several ministers will be present in Geneva December 16-18th.

We started preparations here in Uganda; on the 29th of October there was a high-level consultation, with ministers, heads of corporations, ambassadors, good turnout and some indications for possible pledges for education. That was the first step, now the process will be taken to the sectors, specifically sectors that have response plans. There will be sector consultations in the coming weeks. Uganda is the only country so far that has done the national consultation and is taking it to the sectors. The GoU is doing its own pledges in 6 areas, education is one of them. The EiE group came up with its own pledge, with 45+ signatories. All pledges need to be submitted before November 15th, so there are a few more days for signatures. For partners who have not done so yet please get in touch to sign the pledge! Worth to note that ECW has even signed the education pledge.

The ERPS is making sure we have infographics on the response achievements and gaps.

ERP District costing – Semine Petersen, UNICEF:

We now have 12 (+break away districts) costed district ERP models. All districts went through the process of data collection, prioritization and target setting, and revised back and forth to stay within the ceiling. OPM was also represented which will help with planning.

ERP total cost is 389 millions, allocated to each district based on population. An information package will be shared with the sector. We also now have all updated databases for each districts for nationals and refugees. As of yesterday, all plans went to districts for finalization and they are forming ERP task team meetings, the DEOs are inviting all stakeholders. All partners are invited to engage, to spread word to their field teams to be part of the task teams. The drafts presented by the DEOs in those meetings are based on district prioritization. Very important that the activities partners are doing and planning to do reflect those plans.

District level coordination: DEOs around the country are showing increased appetite for better district level coordination, encouragement to all partners to engage. Coordination will be a key priority next year, to really acknowledge the local government being in the driving seat.

ERP Secretariat update – Connie Alezuyo, ERPS:

November 11-15th: verification visit by MoES to ECW sites, partners should notify their field teams. ERPS will share guidance on what they are looking at. The aim of the visit is to see progress and accountability, things done under ECW funding, in all 9 districts that the consortium is present in.

New printout of the ERP: with added M&E definitions. Extra copies available beginning next month.

Comments/feedback:

CMU: It would be useful to understand how the new district plans will inform the revision of the ERP, for example about including gender and inclusion, furniture, MHPSS. What is the vision? Will the district prioritization feed the revision bottom up? Yes, they will be taken into account, the ERP is a national plan so not much might change at national level, but districts have the opportunity to adjust to their own needs. There will be a reprint of the national document with additional pages for revised activities like gender, MHPSS, etc.

MoES: we will work with the ERPS to provide quarterly progress and work together.

Action points:

- UNICEF/ERPS to share the ERP district costing information package with the sector
- All partners to encourage their field teams to be involved in ERP district task teams

ITEM 3.

Task team updates

○ **Localisation task team – Ellen Fitton, Street Child**

TOR draft finished for sector approval. The task team came from the fact that not enough local organisations are taking part in big funding calls. Background to TORs is the localization paper written by Ellen and Rachael.

The task team is co-convened by Street Child (Ellen Fitton) and Seraphine Awacango (ELECU)

The 3 deliverables are:

- Mapping of local organisations: Mapping is a huge task, and no budget for it, so need help from other organisations. NGOs can nominate themselves for to be focal points in each district. Please let Ellen and or Seraphine know if you would like to help.
- A survey on what the limits to localization are, asking all stakeholders, both international organisations and local organisations to get a comprehensive response.
- Develop an advocacy strategy

Call for more members, especially local organisations

TORs will be circulated for feedback.

Comments/feedback:

OPM/CRRF: working with Oxfam as they published a report called *Money talks*, talking about funding flows and analyzing how much is going to local responders, will share. Recommendations in report might interest localization task team members. The launch will be in December, more info to be shared soon.

Action points:

- Co leads to share contacts of co conveners for more members to join and circulate mapping tool
- CRRF/OPM to share Oxfam report

○ **EdTech task team final report – Charlene Cabot, Response Innovation Lab**

Last presentation by the EdTech task team!

Deliverables: 1 report, 1 map and 1 database. That package covers 36 EdTech solutions in Uganda, and a couple in other East African countries.

The solutions are grouped in 3 categories: Learning, School management, Teacher development. Not perfect categorisations, some solutions are across 2 categories. Under learning they are grouped in 3 categories as well, Games and apps, Digital libraries, and Tech in school (not including ICT labs). The map shows solutions that are active in the different regions, the type of hardware used, etc.

Findings:

- Most of the solutions are in the learning category (75%), and most are games or apps. With high focus on English and Maths.
- There are many solutions in EdTech in Uganda but they are over-represented in Kampala and urban centres. They might be contributing to a divide rather than bridging it. Overwhelmingly in English, and relying on tablets or smartphones.

Report recommendations:

- few areas of interest for a future iteration of the task team: 8 of the refugee hosting district have at least 1 solution, but no data at settlement level, so how to link this to 5Ws? What gaps exist?
- Also a language issue, should we look at other solutions in neighboring countries.
- For deeper data and research, need funding. The landscape changes quickly, so might need to update the package yearly?
- Maybe create a website?

If need the data contact RIL at charlene@responseinnovationlab.com

Comments/feedback:

FCA: Why are ICT labs not included? EdTech defined as including learning outcomes, not just hardware. Also hard to get actual info on computer labs status, so would have been difficult to know who to engage to include them in the mapping.

Learning Equality: Strongly advocate for sustenance of the task team, new deliverables could center around championing coordination and research, seeing what works or not, how technology can be leveraged for learning

UNHCR: if it is increasing the gap instead of bridging it might be a good reason to keep the task team running

CMU: Great tool and great data, very comprehensive. Important that it is maintained, how could it be linked to the IM task team work, on how to maintain it and link it to activity info, mapping, other tools

MOES: Are those solutions available to education institutions or organisations? Bit of a mix, some are private sector solutions offered to schools or parents, some are owned and implemented by NGOs, all that info is in the report.

It is a matter of interest for the MOE, great data to have access to, in terms of requirements in schools, software available.

RIL: You cannot bring the tech without the programme support, a lot of those labs are under used because no training in school, which is an area of interest and that needs more research.

Action point:

- **Co-leads to share report and powerpoint presentation**

- o **AEP task team update on AEP curriculum progress – Joyce Talamoi, NRC**

No further comments on transition and placement paper, consider them as working documents, will be cleaned up and shared with the sector.

AEP textbooks: NCDC leading the process, now at the 4th stage. The timeframe had to be revised as the work load was too important compared to what was originally planned.

First draft about to be shared with AEP task team members for detailed feedback next week. 3 to 4 weeks to get back to NCDC with comments. Not yet for wider circulation, until final approval. Depending on feedback NCDC might need another session. Once finalized it will go to the Academic steering board, then the Quality assurance committee then to the Governing council, once all satisfied, can be final.

Revised schedule is aiming for textbooks to be ready in March 2020. Might change.

Comments/feedback:

MoES: Good for members to hear about the procedure and see the leadership of the MOES in the process

- o **Information Management task team update – Valeria Cerza, ERP Secretariat**

- ERP logframe: aiming to finalize and validate before November 9th so it is ready for next steering committee
- Baseline of the ERP: finalized the TORs, identified a consultancy company to conduct the baseline.
- Finalization of activity info indicators and make sure it will be updated within UNHCR for Activity Info reporting
- List of schools to be updated, finalized November 7th, will be updated in the online database and shared
- The teacher database and enrollment database are still pending, will be discussed later on.
- Also to be discussed: how to support districts to enhance their M&E systems, will be planned and we will develop a strategy on how to best help the government.

Next steps: once all these are finalized, the next step will be to develop an M&E plan for the ERP; guidelines will be drafted and shared. The plan will touch on who collects the data, how, etc.

The task team is also working on harmonizing data collection tools across partners, especially enrollment collection tools. Please share your templates with Valeria.

Comments/feedback:

JRS: What about the ProGres system (UNHCR data management system), where partners have to input their data as well, are those linked, is it a different system? OPM refugee system has developed an online system, there is indeed a duplication between activity info and ProGres, it is being discussed now and we will get more info about it

ERPS: About support to districts, each district will need to recruit an M&E trained staff, it is a demand from districts themselves, districts need to take on leadership on data collected and analysed in their districts, so that will help.

MoES: given OPM's overall mandate, once their system is operational other systems will have to align, tap in, and coordinate at national level, especially in education, health and livelihood sectors. We need to ensure districts are in the driving seat of all these programmes

UNHCR: There is also the teacher management system ongoing, having all teachers in Uganda in 1 database.

Action points:

- IM task team to share the finalized products (school list, logframe, indicators)
- Partners to share their enrollment collection tools with the IM task team

○ **Language task team update – Ellen Fitton, Street Child**

Consultant was hired to look at needs and gaps in refugee settlements about language, basic recommendations looking at 6 month bridging programme, to ease way into mainstream education. The CMU and the task team met with NCDC to develop a curriculum.

Next steps: there will be a call led by the Education consortium for a consortium to work on the curriculum, coming in the next couple of weeks: mapping of languages, and develop a curriculum in partnership with NCDC.

No update on the work done by the British council yet, at the next meeting hopefully.

Also some progress on teaching assistants but will be discussed by Rachael (CMU).

Comments/feedback:

MOES: issue of language is a very critical one, many issues have come out, about assistant teachers, even at ministry level, how to best accommodate students of different languages.

ITEM 4.

Education Consortium updates – Rachael Corbishley, Consortium manager

○ **Education Cannot Wait year 2 update**

2019 Year 1: 11 millions USD between UNHCR and Education NGO consortium.

2020-21 Year 2 and 3: continuation of current programme and ongoing activities, focused on Primary and AEP, over 2 years.

UNHCR leads on systems strengthening components and education consortium on direct implementation. The concept note was approved by the ERP Steering Committee, pending Minister's approval. Also needs approval by ECW secretariat, meeting first week of December.

What is different next year: 2 new components: MHPSS (1 million USD) and Life skills, Entrepreneurial skills and financial literacy (600,000 USD over 2 years). To pilot and test models that could be scaled up later. The 2 proposals are out this week. Local NGOs are strongly encouraged to apply.

Deadline for MHPSS to register interest is November 8th, and deadline for application is November 19th. Life skills is November 8th and November 22nd. Some flexibility possible for local organisations, please reach out.

Review of proposals will be a consultative process. Need volunteers to review proposals, please let Rachael know by November 13th. Maximum level of effort should be 2 days. Need technical experts in those fields who are not applying.

Michael Corlin (ECW) mission in Uganda week of the November 13th, not confirmed, would like to bring 2 potential donors to Uganda for a field visit in West Nile (Lego and Profuturo) looking at Technology and ECD. More info will be shared once received.

Comments/feedback:

UNHCR: Is the call for reviewers limited to EiE WG? No open to other working groups, MHPSS, Livelihoods, etc. also hoping for independent consultants to engage in the process, please get in touch if any leads.

ERPS: re secondary and TVET, the World bank and Enabel are working on covering those aspects of the ERP.

○ **Teacher salaries harmonization**

ECW, UNHCR, FCA have developed a draft position paper on teacher salary harmonization: We propose the EiE sector adopts a these recommendations, that are not optional, a mandatory position on how teachers are paid. Yet to be discussed with MoES, only a first draft. It would be excellent if us as a sector can be on the same page.

- For primary and secondary teachers, need to align with MOES rates, recognizing there is a bracket. New rates are out. Please align. Hardship allowance to be provided where GoU does. NSSF and other benefits same.
- AEP teachers: paid the same as primary school teachers. Require the same level of qualifications, work the same number of hours.
- Classroom assistants: changed the term as it has caused a lot of confusion at district levels. CAs are not qualified teachers. They provide additional support. Suggested pay is 300,000 UGX per month. Partners should focus on working on equating qualified refugee teachers, instead of hiring qualified teachers and pay them less because of their refugee status. A 1 pager was also developed about classroom assistant TORs and qualifications needed, please give feedback.

Comments/feedback:

UNHCR: new deadline for teachers online registration at MoES is December 31st, but no more info so need to find more on this. MoES will be supporting.

UNHCR: please send feedback on these documents, need large buy-in from the sector. Will also be shared with EDP forum so donors are aware.

CRRF/OPM: what about payment modalities? It is quite complicated and we should aim for same amount for now, need to discuss modality but that should not delay the harmonization of rates.

ZOA: also important for all partners to start with the new rates at the same time.

UNHCR: partners need to follow GoU new civil servants rates.

Action point:

- **Circulate guidance note and TORs for Classroom Assistants.**

- o **District facilitation rates**

Challenge for several partners, need to make sure everyone in the sector has seen this document. We are seeing on the ground very different facilitation rates, so sector partners need to be aware of it and moving towards being aligned with this. ECW grantees will have to follow it.

It has caused challenges in programme implementation as some people still pay much higher rates, and districts will ignore organisations paying the lower rates.

Action points:

- **Share Rachael's contact for questions on ECW, and presentation**
- **Relay calls for year 2 for MHPSS and life skills on EiE mailing list**
- **All partners who want to volunteer do so before November 13th to Rachael or Nesli**
- **Re-share the new schedule for allowance**
- **Share the teacher salaries harmonization paper and the classroom assistants TORs**
- **Partners to send feedback on these 2 documents**

ITEM 5.

UNHCR 2020 plans update – Vick Ikobwa, UNHCR

UNHCR corporate education strategy and Uganda strategy (see presentation).

2020 planning:

- **Continuity**, priority on core costs such as teacher salaries, PSN, scholastics
- System strengthening for inclusion
- Partners complement critical gaps for example FCA secondary and vocational, WIU school feeding, ECW for AEP, UNICEF on ECD, etc.
- Centralized procurement of school supplies for efficiency

Looking at multi-year funding, better links with development partners

ITEM 6.

AOB

Task teams: child protection task team and ECD task team, UNICEF proposes that they are embedded in national structures. More information to come.

AEPWG workshop invitation:

Workshop to pilot the Accelerated Education Working Group (AEWG) Monitoring and Evaluation Toolkit on Thursday, November 14, 2019, from 9am to 4pm. The workshop will be held at Oxfam Office, in Muyenga. Please reach out to maria.gaudenzi@avsi.org if interested.

ITEM 6.

UPCOMING DEADLINES and CALENDAR

ECW:

November 8th: Deadline to register interest for ECW MHPSS call to register interest is, and

November 19th: Deadline for application

November 8th: Deadline to register interest for ECW Life skills call

November 22nd: Deadline for application

November 13th: Deadline to volunteer to review ECW proposals

November 14th: AEP WG MEAL workshop

NEXT MEETING	December 5th at 9am at Kyambogo University		
ACTION ITEMS	RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	STATUS
Share resettlement location for new arrivals	UNHCR	4/07/2019	PENDING
Share the new teacher policy with the SWG	MoES	14/06/2019	PENDING
UNHCR to circulate the contact list for field level EIE SWG	UNHCR	14/06/2019	PENDING
All new task teams to draft TORS	ALL	30/09/2019	PENDING
Cash task team to send position paper for comments	Cash TT	01/09/2019	PENDING
Co-leads to share all presentations and contacts with the sector	FCA + UNHCR	10/10/19	PENDING