



South Lebanon Social Stability Sector Working Group Meeting - Minutes

MEETING			
Name	Social Stability WG	Meeting date	February 16, 2022
Meeting location	UNDP South	Meeting time	10:00 a.m.
Chair person	Yousra Taleb / UNDP Elie Chaaya / UNHCR	Meeting duration	1 hr
Minutes prepared by	UNDP		
Participants	UNDP peacebuilding, UNIFIL, CESVI, ACF, MoSA, MoIM, UNHCR, WVI, UNDP LHSP, SB Overseas		
Meeting Agenda	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome and introduction. Identification of required taskforces according to partners' priorities National level updates AoB 		

Summary of Discussion Points

1.	Welcome & Introduction
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNDP welcomed the participants on behalf of the co-chairs The agenda was briefly presented and validated by partners.
	Deviation from original agenda Agenda point 3 was presented before agenda point 2
3.	National updates
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Several topics were identified which need further discussions: Prioritization of areas and projects Pressure from local authorities Ensuring the sustainability of projects (support to municipalities) Engagement of civil society Responding to misconceptions, perceptions (visibility and communication) Elections impact on operation space
2.	Identification of required taskforces according to partners' priorities
	Main obstacles and challenges: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction projects: With less than 20% of public employees working in the public offices it is taking two to three months to get all required documents required (Legal papers and permits). Resulting in limiting the intervention to three areas which do not require permits and paperwork. Documents include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ownership deed from Estate Offices

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Zoning certificate from Directorate General of Urban Planning <p>Possible solutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maybe include governors to expedite the processes which are done within the governorate. ○ Prepare a letter/email to be shared with the governor and then meet with him to discuss possible solutions to expedite the process. ○ MoIM will check the possibility to support with registration through sharing the requests with the national level authorities. ● Registering equipment (especially vehicles) which is challenging due to the continuing strike at the vehicle registry office. Municipalities support in direct communication with ministries. Mitigation is done by delivering the vehicles but asking the municipalities to sign a guarantee that they will not use the vehicles before registration. ● Upcoming customs' dollar will also increase the pressure ● Government gridlock ● Pressure is felt stronger in villages where a higher number of refugees reside. ● Priorities are energy and water. ● Communication between regional and national level authorities is becoming more challenging given the different interests of the different groups. ● Trust in local partners (local authorities) is declining as they are no longer able to sustain their part of the deal/contribution. ● Vendors don't always have USD bank accounts, which is decreasing the benefit to local communities. Working with NGOs (though it helps in building civil society) but these would have additional costs (such as overheads) and the municipalities usually prefer to be the ones in charge of implementation. ● Municipalities are attracting project funds and pass them off as their support to the communities (elections). <p>Possible mitigation measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Working with the private sector instead of the public sector. ● Pausing activities until after the elections. <p>With regards to the task forces, the sector already has the Tension Task force and the Solid waste management task force in place. Further suggested task forces might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Community groups task force ● Prioritization of areas and projects ● Engagement of civil society ● Visibility and communication ● Youth engagement
4.	AoB
	Nabatieh Tahta municipality is asking for support with repairing the waste collection vehicle. It will cost around 4,600 USD but the mayor is willing to contribute with 50% of the cost.