



## Minutes of Meeting Inter-Sector Working Group (ISWG)

<b>Meeting Location</b>	Remotely Via Zoom	<b>Meeting Date</b>	8 September 2023
<b>Chairperson(s)</b>	Dr. Ola Boutros – LCRP General Supervisor (Ministry of Social Affairs - MOSA) Camilla Jelbart Mosse - Senior Inter-Agency Coordinator (UNHCR)	<b>Meeting Time</b>	10:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m.
<b>Minutes Prepared by</b>	Jana Nasr, Senior Inter-Agency Coordination Assistant (UNHCR, Inter-Agency)	<b>Meeting Duration</b>	2.00 hrs.
<b>Participants</b>	<a href="#">Annex 1</a>		
<b>Agenda</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <a href="#">Opening Remarks</a></li> <li>2. <a href="#">2024 Planning</a></li> <li>3. <a href="#">Inter-Sector Analysis</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">Consultations on Upcoming “In-Focus” Briefs</a></li> <li>○ <a href="#">Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) Situation Update</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>4. <a href="#">Lebanon’s Integrated Micronutrient Anthropometric (LIMA) and Child Development Survey</a></li> <li>5. <a href="#">Tensions Overview</a></li> <li>6. <a href="#">AoB: Inter-Agency Photo Repository</a></li> </ol>		

### 1. Opening Remarks

**Dr. Ola Boutros, LCRP General Supervisor (MoSA)**

In her opening remarks Dr. Boutros congratulated everyone on publishing the Q2 Sector Dashboards and highlighted the following points:

- A recent meeting with the Lebanese Parliament took place including representatives from UNHCR, relevant ministries, parliamentarians, and security forces regarding an allegedly new influx of displaced Syrians in Lebanon. UNHCR, however, had not witnessed this influx, raising questions about the situation.
- The Lebanese government plans to hold a meeting next week to further discuss the situation.
- The situation needs to be closely monitored in the upcoming period and concerned parties need to be aware of the shifting dynamics.

### 2. 2024 Planning

**Camilla Jelbart, Senior Inter-Agency Coordinator (UNHCR – Inter-Agency)**

Camilla acknowledged the effort that went into publishing the Q2 sector dashboards, including the LCRP Support to Lebanese Dashboard. Regarding the 2024 Planning, she mentioned that:

- Cross-sectoral prioritization discussions were held and intended to feed into the upcoming LCRP governance discussions.
- There has been a delay in forming the LCRP steering committee, with ongoing discussions at ministerial levels.
- Planning for 2024 aims to unify the response framework, combining the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) with the Emergency Response Plan (ERP) to encompass both humanitarian and stabilization efforts. Discussions were held between the RC/HC and the Prime Minister of Lebanon on this matter, but feedback has been delayed on final coordination architecture.



- Emphasis on the needs analysis process and mapping available datasets (including ILO Labor Force Survey, VASyR, IPC, LIMA, MSNA, and others). Data collection is ongoing and updates with analysis are to be provided.

### 3. Inter-Sector Analysis

#### Consultations on Upcoming “In-Focus” Briefs

Simona Pari, Inter-Agency Gender Specialist (UNDP)

For the upcoming “In-Focus” Briefs, Simona provided an update:

- The “In-Focus” Briefs are concise analyses focusing on five priority themes.
  1. Gender and Evictions - September 2023
  2. Women’s Employment and Economic Empowerment - End October 2023
  3. Older Women and Men - December 2023
  4. Girls (and boys) Child Labour – February 2024
  5. GBV and Trafficking – April 2024
- The briefings are produced every three months and involve consultations with key partners. They are developed based on data collected by LCRP partner assessments and databases. The process includes brainstorming, drafting, integrating existing data, and finalizing documents.
- Focal points for Gender and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) have been appointed in all sectors, and a joint initiative has begun. In addition, training, technical support, and funding are available to support gender mainstreaming efforts.
- Sector Coordination Teams were invited to a lunch and debriefing session from on Friday 8 September 2023 (invitation sent from Inter-Agency Coordination mailbox [lebbeia@unhcr.org](mailto:lebbeia@unhcr.org)) where they will have the opportunity to exchange with their sector’s gender and GBV focal point on key priorities, technical tools, and capacity building initiatives on gender and GBV. This event will offer an opportunity to reflect on gender and GBV risk mitigation priorities and support needed in 2024.

#### Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) Situation Update

Stephanie Laba, Inter-Agency Coordination Officer (UNHCR – Inter-Agency)

For the LCRP Situation Update, Stephanie presented the skeleton noting that:

- The document will focus on the current operational environment in Lebanon and will consolidate analysis from various data sources.
- The document will have multiple sections, including:
  - Impact of the Socioeconomic Situation
  - Protection Environment (Legal Residency, Rent and Eviction, Education, Child Labor, and Exploitation, Increasing Tension and Restrictive Measures)
  - Social Tensions and Community Insecurities
  - Access to Basic Services (Fuel, Electricity, Health, Nutrition, Education, WASH)
  - Impact on Women and Girls
  - Critical Funding Gaps

*Note: Please refer to the presentation slides [here](#) for more details on each section.*

- Attendees were encouraged to provide input and feedback on the proposed structure and content. The discussion included the following suggestions:
  - Additional focus on food security / food access within the "Impact of the Socioeconomic Situation" section.
  - Including minimum proficiency levels of grade 2 and grade 3 students in reading as it reflects the impact of interruptions in education.
  - Adding a brief summary of the end-of-academic-year data regarding the number of school days and average attendance.



- Coordinating at the national and subnational levels for input from area managers and heads of offices.
- A draft document will be shared with participants for further review and input at a later stage noting that the document aims to be concise, analytical, and data focused. It is intended for operational partners, NGOs, UN agencies, donors, and management staff.

#### 4. Lebanon's Integrated Micronutrient Anthropometric (LIMA) and Child Development Survey

Amirhossein Yarpavar Nutrition Sector Coordinator (UNICEF)

Regarding the LIMA and Child Development Survey, Amir explained the following:

- The latest nutrition survey in Lebanon was conducted in 2021, focusing on major manifestations of malnutrition using rapid blood tests. It revealed over 40% of anemia in the country and raised concerns about other hidden forms of malnutrition.
- The need for comprehensive data on micronutrients beyond children under 5 was raised leading to the redesign of a new survey for the current year to address Lebanon's specific data needs.
- LIMA, conducted for the first time in September 2023, combines data collection on micronutrients, anthropometry, and child development.
- A nutrition task force led by the Ministry of Health was formed to address various national nutrition issues and to ensure that the LIMA survey met the necessary quality standards. The task force included UNICEF, ACF, other UN agencies, NGOs, and nutrition academies.
- The survey's primary goal is to gather current and credible data on various aspects, including micronutrient status, malnutrition indicators, non-communicable disease risk factors, early childhood development, salt iodization program effectiveness, dietary patterns in young children, and underlying causes of malnutrition and developmental issues.
- The survey covers diverse age groups and populations, involves specialized data collection teams, and maintains a 70% household response rate.
- The LIMA survey results are significant for nutrition response planning, early childhood development data, and decision-making support.

*Note: Please refer to the presentation slides [here](#) for more details the sampling approach, field work preparation and implementation, laboratory analyses, timeline, and progress.*

#### 5. Tensions Overview

Elina Silen, Chief Technical Advisor – Crisis Response (UNDP)

Hassan Baalbaki, Conflict Associate (UNDP)

In reference to the Tensions Overview, Elina and Hassan focused on the relation between public services and tensions, including perceptions of services and their impact on relations. They discussed the following based on data findings:

- Negative perceptions of public services are increasing, with electricity being a major concern. Electricity is perceived as "poor" by almost the entire population since 2020.
- Electricity and medical care are the top services in need of improvement with some regional variations (example: water in Mount Lebanon and banking services in Bekaa).
- Economic competition has increasingly become a tension driver in intracommunal relations among Lebanese.
- Perceptions that displaced Syrians strain Lebanon's resources remain consistently high.
- There have been various incidents related to tensions, including clashes, riots, and violence, in different regions with a continuing risk of tension escalation.

*Note: Tension drivers per service sector (Water, Education, Electricity, and Solid Waste) were discussed, please refer to the presentation [here](#) for details.*



## 6. AoB: Inter-Agency Photo Repository

Jana Nasr, Senior Inter-Agency Coordination Assistant (UNHCR – Inter-Agency)

For the Inter-Agency (IA) Photo Repository, Jana introduced the tool:

- The IA Photo Repository has been designed to streamline the collection and use of images for various purposes, making them readily available for interagency products like dashboards, strategies, and reports.
- Key features of the tool include organized photo uploads by partner and sector, inclusion of image captions and credits, and the ability to add comments.
- Bulk image uploads are possible, but images are to be numbered in this case to match the captions.
- The repository is accessible through a [Collection Link](#) and a comprehensive [Guidance Note](#) with step-by-step instructions will be provided.
- Clear guidance on copyright and confidentiality will be provided, and credits for each image are mandatory.

**Action Point:** Sector Coordinators to encourage their sector working groups to actively contribute to the Inter-Agency Photo Repository. A standard email will be prepared and sent to Sector Coordinators from the Inter-Agency Coordination mailbox [lebbeia@unhcr.org](mailto:lebbeia@unhcr.org) they are kindly requested to disseminate it among their sector working groups.



## Annex 1

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