

Health Sector Working Group Meeting, October 2024

Minutes of Meeting

Date: 31st October 2024

Place: UNHCR Amman Branch Office

Chaired by: Dr. Adam Khalifa-UNHCR

Attendees: UNHCR, ECHO, RHAS, Medair, IMC, AMR, TDH, CVT, QC, IRC, HI, CDE, IRW, IOM, and SCJ.

Agenda:

- 3RP 2025 planning.
- WHO update.
- Operational update by UNHCR
- UNHCR presentation on the key findings of the HUAS 2024 in urban
- Sub-Working Groups update.
- Updates by the members of the HSWG
- A.O.B

1- Introduction and review of action points

- RHAS the co-chair of the HSWG start the Introduction for the meeting, then introduction of attendance before start of the meeting.

2- Operational Updates:

UNHCR

- ❖ Presentation by UNHCR Interagency Coordination Unit on the planning exercise for 2025. the exercise includes reviewing the health sector logframe. This revision aims to ensure that the logframe indicators aligns with sector priorities, covers the activities of all partners, enhances data accuracy, and streamlines reporting processes. Additionally, the updated logframe will reflect the strategic direction of the sector concerning localization and sustainable solutions.
- ❖ The presentation also highlighted on the recent funding appeal exercise, in which all partners are invited to share their appeal for 2025.
 - Action point: share the updated logframe with the GW strategic group for further review and confirmation.
- ❖ The latest developments concerning on the ongoing escalation in Lebanon, reflecting significant developments and challenges as of October 30, 2024.
- ❖ UNHCR delivered a presentation on the findings of the 2024 Health Accessibility and Utilization Survey for Syrian and no-Syrian. The presentation materials, which include key results and figures, are available through this [link](#).

Situation Update

- Lebanon has been under severe duress due to continuous Israeli airstrikes since September 23, with displacement orders affect over 25% of the country. On October 29, airstrike on Bekaa Valley killed 67, injured 120; casualties may increase.
- The humanitarian impact is profound, with the Lebanese Ministry of Health reporting a significant increase in casualties. Cumulatively, there have been at least 2,672 fatalities and 12,468 injuries reported.
- Displacement continues to increase. Official figures from Lebanese authorities estimate 1.2 million displaced, while the IOM DTM records 834,746 internally displaced individuals.
- Fear of regional escalation is mounting following Israel’s airstrikes on military sites in several regions of Iran on 27 October.
- The cross-border impact is notable, with approximately 440,000 individuals, predominantly Lebanese and Syrians, having fled to Syria. Additionally, over 22,498 people have sought refuge in Iraq, with the majority being women and children.
- On 24 October, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees attended the International Conference in Support of Lebanon’s People and Sovereignty in Paris. Grandi [warned](#) that a further expansion of the conflict will “broaden the humanitarian impact, far beyond the capacity of aid agencies to respond.” Participants pledged a total of \$1 billion, including \$800 million for humanitarian aid and \$200 million for Lebanon’s security forces.

Key Figures

- Approximately 1.2 million people displaced within Lebanon.
- Total fatalities reported at 2,672 with 12,468 injuries.
- Significant movements of asylum seekers and refugees include over 440,000 to Syria and 22,498 to Iraq.

Key Developments

- The Lebanese government is intensively coordinating with international partners to manage the crisis, with ongoing efforts to provide critical support such as food, shelter, and medical aid.
 - On 24 October, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees attended the International Conference in Support of Lebanon’s People and Sovereignty in Paris. Grandi [warned](#) that a further expansion of the conflict will “broaden the humanitarian impact, far beyond the capacity of aid agencies to respond.” Participants pledged a total of \$1 billion, including \$800 million for humanitarian aid and \$200 million for Lebanon’s security forces.
- ❖ We are in the final steps of finalizing the policy manual, and the next step will be to provide training for the first line staff from MOH in the PHC centers on the policy manual and the accessibility of refugees in Jordan for MOH available services.

- ❖ PHU presentation on the key findings of the health utilization and accessibility for health services (HUAS 2024) study, for refugees in urban sitting (Syrian and non-Syrian) in Jordan. (attached the presentation)

Zaatari & Azraq camp:

Zaatari camp:

- In response to needs of the PWD; KS-relief clinics has established a physiotherapy center, with rehabilitation specialist doctor. In addition, around 282 Exceptional Approved Medications EAM cases were being started to receive their medication from KS-relief clinics.
- On the occasion of the “World Mental Health Day” under the theme of: "It Is Time to Prioritize Mental Health in the Workplace.", IMC mental health team in Zaatari camp conducted awareness sessions for the NGOs staff in the camp (from 13-17 Oct) on "How to Prioritize Mental Health in the Workplace". In addition, they will conduct an MHPSS event on November 17, 2024, at the mental health clinic /District 3.
- There will be multiple events on the occasion of the “World Diabetes Day” for the DM patients at IRC clinic and SAMS (on 7 of Oct), AMR (5,6 and 7 of October) and SCJ (on 12Oct)
- 3 health (IMC, KS-relief/HA, and IRC) have participated in the in a workshop on acute flaccid paralysis organized by MoH in coordination with WHO.
- SAMS started providing ophthalmology clinic services every Sunday and Wednesday.
- WHO colleagues (Dr. Oday & Dr. Dr Ala) visited Zaatari camp on 21 Of Oct 2024; During the visit, they were given a brief about the surveillance system, RRT, the outbreak response system and the EPI, and briefed on the health services provided to refugees in the camp through the visit to the Saudi clinics and the IMC medical center.

Azraq:

- In recognition of this year’s theme, "Mental Health at Work," IMC mental health team conducted sessions organizations staff in Azraq Camp.

ECHO and Partners:

An open discussion about, what are today the critical humanitarian needs in accounts and outside of the task under the health sector? And what are your main challenges?

The Partners mentioned some challenges as following:

- The limitations of CFH programs and increase the need for health services for refugees in Urban sitting.
- The most vulnerable refugees are in the South area due to unavailability of partners covering the concerned area.

- Increase the cost for health services and limited financial and fund resources.
- Limited number of projects that covers the NCD health services involve medications and investigations.
- The unregistered refugees and the accessibility for health services (lack of data)
- Limitation of cash for health coverage and high-cost hospital admission coverage.
- The challenges in the approval process and long-time approval process.

MHPSSWG updates:

- October is the month of mental health; the theme is wellbeing at working places. There is a meeting in the KHCC they were having a full month of activity for MHPSS group.
- Capacity building on MHPSS actors on how to build the capacity of the Psychotherapist, there is application called Ameera care for building the capacity. Will share the link of the application for whose are willing to get the training.
- IMC & IRC will conduct a capacity building training activity on MHPSS services. about new approach for 4WS (collecting information on whose doing, what, where and when)
- IMC planning to do a training on MH gaps in the next year.

NCD Working groups:

- WHO is taking the lead in developing TPE curriculum, there was a two days' workshop for evaluating the curriculum in the EMRO region. UNHCR, IMC and UNRWA participated in the workshop to address the humanitarian components in the curriculum. Jordan will be one of the countries for piloting the curriculum. so a follow up one day implementation workshop took place.

AMR:

- **Za'atri Camp:**
- The Maternal and Child Health Center and Radiology services are currently suspended due to a lack of funding. We are in active discussions with our donors to secure the necessary funds for reopening.
- The QC/AMR Center continues to provide services as usual.
- The Ministry of Health (MOH) has not yet provided the QC Health Center with family planning materials.
- **Azraq Camp:**
- The Open Area Health Centers (V3 and V6) continue to provide services as usual.
- The V5 PHC is operating and providing services as usual.
- The Sheikh Jassem V2 Health Center continues to deliver services as normal.

- On 4/10/2024, Sheikh Jasem launched Breast Cancer Awareness Day and began conducting exams for women visiting the health center. This initiative will run until the end of October 2024, with gynecologists and midwives performing exams. So far, 522 women have been examined, and two cases with detected lumps (masses) have been referred for further investigation.

Action point:

- Follow-up for the family planning supply from MOH to the AMR clinic in Zaatari camp. (still pending)

Qatar Charity

- The update for the planned project for hemodialysis cases, still we have some administrative pending issue, expected to start by the end of November.

IMC:

- IMC reached 10000 deliveries in this month. In Azraq IMC hospital.
- Capacity building training for the pediatricians and nurses provided by pediatrician and 2 critical care nurses. Provided on job training for the IMC staff in both camps, and in Mafraq and Zarqa MOH staff.
- IMC Hosting a roundtable on social Health Protection for Syrian refugees. This is going to take place in early December.

IOM:

- A new project will be implemented next year (2025) about climate change adaptation and impact on health. And find out the most vulnerable and affected area by climate change.
- Working with MOH, Jordan CDC, and national center for security and crisis management NCSC on developing a national strategy for climate change specifically for health and health activities to align with most priorities. Going to be implemented next year.
- A new project with MOH about universal health coverage, including the migrant accessibility for health services.

Medair:

- Planning to conduct 2 MH gap training.
- Planning to conduct comprehensive need assessment mainly for CFH aspects expenditures, access, and utilization mainly for cash for NCD.
- Sign an agreement with RHAS for Social behavioral change activities.

HI:

- HI supported MoH in facilitation a workshop on the National Rehabilitation Platform during October and this workshop to review national rehabilitation strategy and to create a protocol on how to implement the assisted technology.
- HI will conduct 9 days training on the PSS for first line staff in MOH.

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