

Inter-Agency winterization – Meeting Action Points – 14 October 2013, Beirut

Meeting			
Name	Inter-Agency winterization Meeting	Meeting Date	14/10/2013
Meeting Location	UNHCR Leah conference room	Meeting Time	10:00 a.m.
Chair person(s)	Jean- Nicolas Beuze – Assistant Representative Coordination Charles Higgins , Snr. Supply/Distribution Officer	Meeting Duration	1hour30 min.
Minutes Prepared by	Malak Rahal, Snr.Coordination Associate, UNHCR		
Purpose of Meeting	Inform UNHCR field offices, partners and donors about winterization plans and activities in different sectors, to improve coordination		

1.	<p>Winterization preparation / implementation</p> <p>A- <u>Shelter</u> including flood prone ITS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clarifying some discrepancies on reporting on shelter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Winterization kit or sealing-off kit has been implemented since the beginning of 2012 ✓ There are 4 types of shelter kits which range from 100\$ to 400 \$ (new arrival kit) ✓ 1 shelter kit can serve up to 3 households - All families in ITS (registered and not registered) will be targeted for winterization; the actual Population living in the informal tented settlements (ITS) is 80,000 , although no exact figure has been concluded, the rate of registered refugees among squatters of informal settlements is estimated to be around 50%. - <u>Issue of flood prone sites</u> : the entire ITS are 400 and 12% are flood prone; for that matter a temporary technical committee was created , co-led by Save the Children International and UNHCR in order to categorize the flood-prone ITS : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Site improvement for ITS with potential to flood by 10-15 cm ✓ Relocation of ITS if the flooding is anticipated to be above 15 cm - <u>WASH</u> <p>WASH is not involved in winterization activities but actively intervening in flood mitigation response. Below are what is done to respond to flooding:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Sealing of septic tanks b) Planned de-sludging activities c) Free drainage facilities: construction/ rehabilitation of embankments to ensure better drainage. d) Reinforcing hygiene promotion e) Ensuring a stock of de-watering pumps, extra warm clothing, construction materials, tool kits and other relevant NFI. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CISP is the IP in T5 and Medair in Bekaa. - <u>Food Security</u>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Food voucher, normally US\$27 pp, will increase to US\$31 (increased assistance by 4\$ per person) ✓ Calorific value increases from 2,100 kcal to 2,400 kcal pp ✓ Covers 5 winter months (Nov-Mar) ✓ WFP's monthly budget \nearrow 14% than in summer months <p><u>- Child Protection / Education</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 88,000 winter kits (mainly clothing) for children in ITS (\$4.1m) ✓ Heat 365 schools & non-formal education structures (\$0.9m) ✓ 30,000 winter clothing vouchers, to urban collective shelters & collective centres across the country (\$1.4m) ✓ UNICEF's total budget: \$6.4m <p><u>Action points :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need to look for temporary relocation - Mapping out the responsibilities for ITS and aim to have 1 agency per ITS - Sector coordinators to submit the winterization note per sector - A plea to partners to send information about winterization activities and plans for the 3/5 W and for donors to know where to invest their money – Info to be sent to minuto@unhcr.org (Anna Minuto)
2.	<p>Cash Transfer Modality, winterization & beyond</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Total caseload 90,500 HH (452,500 indivs.), which is determined by combining three categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. All registered refugees considered by VASyR to be vulnerable, who also live above 500 m in elevation; B. All occupants of ITS irrespective of their nationality, registration and vulnerability status and the altitude of the ITS; and C. Other persons who do not fit into the above categories whom UNHCR or operational partners have identified as having special needs or particular vulnerability (a 10% safety margin). - UNHCR plans to support all registered refugees who are determined to be vulnerable, who are also living above 500m = 63,700 HH (318,500 indivs.) – i.e. category A – for a total cost \$43m (till end Mar 2014). - UNHCR currently has \$26M for NFI winterization – sufficient for all needs in 2013, but it needs \$17M for Jan-Mar 2014 and will implement its programme through 9 partners (DRC, WVI, SCI, Makhzoumi, ACTED, Caritas, Solidar CH, CISP, SHIELD). - 16 other agencies (IRC, NRC, SCI, Oxfam, HI, IOM, Medair, AVSI, WVI, Humedica, SIF, AMURT, CARE, Mercy Corps) are funded to cover an additional 27,900 HH for the full winter programme. - The surplus is therefore $90,500 - (63,700 + 27,900) = 1,100$ HH (but this figure is subject to change). - Other agencies have resources for part of the winter, or for one-off support (x \$150 cash) to newcomers. - - A verification exercise for the food/hygiene kit/winterization targeting is being done in Bekaa to look at each registered refugee HH that is excluded. - High thermal blankets are being distributed in-kind and the rest of the support package is given as cash. DRC has a contract with CSC Bank which will be the source of the ATM cards. A tripartite MOU will be needed between UNHCR, DRC and the other implementing partners for the distribution of the cards, for monitoring and for trouble-shooting.. - The system for managing the cards is under preparation and a template will be required for field officers to cross-check in order to prevent duplication in the provision of cards to HH, especially to vulnerable

	<p>registered refugees who live in ITS. The challenge in NFI winterization is the implementation and the issuance of cards to the beneficiaries, training them in their use and following up with an effective monitoring and evaluation system for the winterization and cash transfer programme in general.</p> <p><u>Action points</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eventually, by next year, hygiene kits and baby kits may be replaced by cash transferred through the CSC cards, and shelter may also move to this modality for 'cash for rent'.
3.	Targeting
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On-going exercise that started in September in South, Bekaa, Tyre and Mt Leb., in October targeting started in North, particularly in Akkar. - Verification exercise will start by mid-October & will be done by December; closing some of the appeal boxes by the end of the month. - Everybody living above 500 m who has been excluded from the target list will be verified. <p><u>Action points</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WFP is using bank cards, but ultimately we need to move to the same cards for all the humanitarian assistance interventions that are made by cash or voucher. - A request from area officers on vulnerable newcomers to be addressed. - Verification exercise is built to ensure that refugee excluded will be assisted under socio-economic criteria with the aim that only refugee most in need will receive food assistance.
4.	Coordination mechanisms at field level
	<p><u>Bekaa:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Coordination between local working group (WG) in addition to the sector WGs + National NGOs (feeding back into the process) + gulf country support to avoid duplication - Monthly Working groups and cross-sectoral meetings are being done - Gaps in Arsal : More efforts needed in localized coordination response <p><u>Tripoli :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - T5 is 1 month behind when it comes to targeting (T5 is composed of 6 different districts) - The challenge in T5 is overlapping winterization activities with partners in some districts , which is being worked on to prevent unnecessary tensions <p><u>Mount Lebanon</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - winterization and targeting exercise already started, implementing partners already identified - Challenges faced: families that live in a district and registered in another (ex. Families living in Jbeil & Kserwen but registered in Mt.Leb.) which puts pressure on the services - Winterization coordination in the field is done through the working groups and partners ; areas already identified <p><u>Qobayat :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Qobayat's needs are more than 9,000 H.H , but managed to increase their caseloads through UNHCR & other agencies by an additional 1,300 H.H thus the total will be 10,300 H.H - Coordination challenges : 1 implementing partner for registered refugees which is DRC - IRC, NRC, Save the children & IOM mapped out the caseloads in order to have a clear image by area or population for targeting

	<p><u>South:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very few partners working there that are not the implementing partners, there are 4 implementing partners - Caritas (440 H.H), CISP (350 H.H), Solidar Suisse (854 H.H) and SHEILD (3,665 H.H) and the implementation is done on a sub-district level, as most partners are working in more than one district. - Challenges: coordinating UNHCR's implementing partners to cover all the needs in all districts, not just of the vulnerable registered refugees living above 500 m. - Lebanese Returnees are not excluded from the programme as some of them live in the ITS, all of which will be assisted, and there is still the 10 % safety margin to cover other persons with special needs, with winterization assistance. <p><u>Action Point :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In the future there should be 1 agency both per ITS and per H.H for the cash transfer programme, for better coordination, less disruption to refugees by having on a single agency providing support and doing assessments and monitoring, and for more cost-effective interventions. <p><u>Donors suggestions:</u></p> <p>ECHO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allocating \$70 Million, a big part of it for winterization. All partners were asked to fit into the overall plan. - Most probably, no more funding is going to come till the end of the year. <p>Challenges :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Having a smooth and transparent feedback of the implementation; ✓ Interested in a strong monitoring effort in particular for the winterization as a whole. <p>DFID:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Looking for good monitoring and evaluation: It would be good to see the DPM system established. 		
5.	AOB		
	<p>Request from NRC: Provide Q&A and/or diagram for their field staff to use and explain basic information to the refugees on winterization, especially who gets it, who doesn't, and why.</p> <p><u>Action point :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agencies to send their inputs on winterization for the Interagency winterization briefing note, currently under preparation. 		
N.	Name	Organization	Email
1	Maurren Philippan	ECHO	Maureen.philippan@echofield.eu
2	Rob Dolan	DFID	R-dolan@dfid.gov.uk
3	Masami ishii	Embassy of Japan	Masami.ishii@mofa.go.jp
4	Amy Keith	LHIF	lhifcoordinator@gmail.com
5	Clare Tunbridge	Medair	cd-syr@medair.org
6	Mirdza Abele	World Vision	Mirdza.abele@worldvision.org.uk
7	Magalie Vairetto	Handicap International	coordo.lb@hi-emergency.org

8	Jad Ghosn	UNHCR	ghosn@unhcr.org
9	Thomas whitworth	SCI	t.whitworth@savethechildren.org.uk
10	Hassan El Sayed	PU-AMI	lib.hom@pu-ami.org
11	Malak Rahal	UNHCR	rahal@unhcr.org
12	Josef Lozej	DRC	josef.lozej@drclebanon.dk
13	Helen Hynes	UNICEF	ehynes@unicef.org
14	Aleksandar Radosavoer	Danish people's aid	ar@fockehjaelp.dk
15	Christian Gamperli	Solidar Suisse	Christian.gamperli@solidar.ch
16	Olivier Beucher	DRC	olivier.beucher@drclebanon.dk
17	Charles Higgins	UNHCR	higgins@unhcr.org
18	Jean Nicolas Beuze	UNHCR	Beuze@unhcr.org
19	Mohamad Mukalled	UNHCR	Mukalled@unhcr.org
20	Ola Kobeissi	UNHCR	kobeissi@unhcr.org
21	Samuel Gonzaga	UNHCR	gonzagas@unhcr.org
22	Rawad El zir	OCHA	elzir@un.org
23	Ahmad Kassem	UNHCR/MOSA	kassem@unhcr.org
24	Marc Petzoldt	UNHCR	petzoldt@unhcr.org
25	Paul Tabet	ICRC	ptabet@icrc.org
26	Khalid Mahgoub	UNHCR	mahgoub@unhcr.org
27	Gabriela Siegel	CLMC	gsiegel@eclmc.org
28	Olivia Kalis	NRC	Olivia.kalis@nrc.no
29	Mesfin Degefu	UNHCR	degefum@unhcr.org
30	Maeve Murphy	UNHCR	murphym@unhcr.org
31	Chadi Ghajar	UNHCR	ghajar@unhcr.org
32	Nada Ziwawi	GVC	gvclibano@gvc-italia.org
33	Sarah Hourany	Japanese Embassy	Sarah.hourany@bt.mofa.jp

34	Niccolo Giancarli	AVSI	niccologiancarli@gmail.com
35	Katherine Goldsmith	ACTED	Katherine.goldsmith@acted.org
36	Sylvain Lefort	SIF	cloglib@secours-islamique.org
37	Jad Ghosn	UNHCR	ghosn@unhcr.org
38	Daniella Raiman	UNHCR	Raiman@unhcr.org