



# Minutes of INTER-SECTORAL MEETING

## Beirut, 13 June 2014

<b>Meeting Location</b>	UNHCR – Leah Building	<b>Meeting Time</b>	10:00 A.M
<b>Chair person</b>	Anne Marie Kerrigan –Deriche Senior Coordination Officer	<b>Meeting Duration</b>	1 hr45min
<b>Minutes Prepared by</b>	Lara Techekirian -Inter-agency Coordination Associate		
<b>Purpose of Meeting</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. VASyR presentation</li> <li>2. Unrestricted multi-sector cash assistance</li> <li>3. AOB</li> </ol>		

### Summary of discussions and action points

<b>1.</b>	<b>VASyR presentation by Susana Moreno – Food Security expert –WFP</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The VASyR 2014 aims to provide an updated overview of the living conditions of Syrian refugees one year on from the VASyR 2013.</li> <li>▪ Joint exercise between UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP.</li> <li>▪ VASyR 2014 will provide a basis for decision making and reviewing of programme activities including RRP6 &amp; targeting.</li> <li>▪ VASyR 2014 interviewed 350HH/region (total of 1750HH), registered or awaiting registration, from 26 May to 13 June (3 weeks).</li> <li>▪ Field data collection finalized.</li> <li>▪ Preliminary results to be shared by the end of June and the final report will be released by end of July.</li> </ul>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Unrestricted multi-sector cash assistance by Juliet Lang –Senior Cash Advisor – WVI</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cash Transfer Programming (CTP) in Lebanon can be categorised as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Conditional (e.g. cash for work)</li> <li>○ Restricted (e.g. WFP E-Cards)</li> <li>○ Unrestricted (Multi-Sectoral Cash). Often seen as UCT in documents.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ There are currently 173 CTP projects in Lebanon conducted by 32 agencies</li> <li>▪ Since 2012, there has been \$504 million in cash assistance in Lebanon.</li> <li>▪ In order to do quality cash programming: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Clear Targeting is required</li> <li>○ Clear understanding of the market and expenditures</li> <li>○ Defined value of transfer</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ According to the Targeting task Force (TTF) established in February, approximately 29% of the population make up the economically 'severely vulnerable' category using the Proxy Means Testing (PMT)</li> <li>▪ WFP has agreed to use the same targeting criteria for food as for cash (some people will get cash and food, some will only get food)</li> <li>▪ A consultancy company discussed the operational structure for CTP operational set-up</li> <li>▪ Recommendation to combine the two cash cards into a single card currently discussed between UNHCR and WFP</li> <li>▪ CWG working with sectors to understand impact cash programme will have on their sector as well as determining what can and cannot be monetized</li> <li>▪ Communications and Accountability task team within the CWG:</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Accountability strategy has been developed</li> <li>○ Mass Communications Guidelines have not yet been defined</li> <li>○ Inter-agency Q&amp;A will be conducted to reflect broad changes on assistance</li> <li>○ Video will be developed on assistance cards</li> <li>▪ Concerns raised regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The negative impact of providing cash instead of e-cards (unrestricted vs. restricted purchasing);</li> <li>○ The purchase of soap and its implication on hygiene and health should it not be prioritized (especially considering the approaching dry season)</li> <li>○ MOSA expressed concern that 12 months cash assistance will create dependency, especially as cash assistance is probably not sustainable</li> <li>○ LHIF requested that the Inter-Sector group agree a common best practice of at least 1 month notice/mass communications to beneficiaries in advance of any change in assistance</li> <li>○ Highlighting the importance of post-distribution monitoring(PDM)</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Concern also raised about including winterization in the cash component due to the specific criteria applied for winterization, i.e. altitude and shelter type.</li> <li>▪ UNHCR has decided not to continue the regular monthly distribution of hygiene kits and baby kits, after the distribution of the month of June due to the necessity to concentrate the relatively limited resources to address the needs of the most vulnerable.</li> <li>▪ <b>Note: Cash Core Group being re-elected; UNRWA declined to join the Core Group due to fact that the Cash WG is almost entirely focused on Syrian Refugees</b></li> </ul>
<b>4.</b>	<b>AOB</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The MOPH issued a new Decree that obliges medicine to be purchased from pharmacies and no longer from suppliers that will increase the cost of medicine. Advocacy ongoing with the Ministry to review the new order.</li> </ul>

#### Attachments

Document	Location
VASyR Presentation	<a href="http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=6276">http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=6276</a>
Unrestricted multi-sector cash assistance	<a href="http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=6279">http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=6279</a>