

Syrian Refugee Response in Jordan

Attendance			
No.	Name	Agency	Email
1	Richard Evans	NRC	Richard.evans@nrc.no
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3	Loren Hyatt	IOCC	lhayatt@ioccc.org
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11	Vincent Dupin	UNHCR	dupin@unhcr.org
12	Mohamad Mukalled	UNHCR	mukalled@unhcr.org
13	Rawan Baybars	UNHCR	Baybars@unhcr.org

Summary of Action Points		
Item	Action point	Focal Point / Organization
1.	Review and update Cash-for-Rent Technical Guidelines and reword it the legal aspect in the stamping requirement	All Partners
2.	Revision of MEB: to contact Olivia (from VAF team) and ask for the data and compare the curves from last year and this year	Vincent (UNHCR)

Meeting minutes			
Item	Discussion	Focal point/Organisation	Time
Introduction	Round table introduction from all partners present.	All present partners	5 min
Winterization Updates	<p>There has been discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of different Winterization plans. Previous experiences with Winterization plans were discussed. Limited funding available for shelter winterization plan; JRF limited funds, Basic Needs, limited fuel for those who qualify.</p> <p>The following plans were discussed; vouchers, winterization training, Cash for Rent, SOKs.</p>	Mohamad (UNHCR)	
	<p>a) Vouchers: must be linked to a suggested kit, must also include training on all the material in the kit to discourage refugees from exchanging vouchers for cash and to fully capitalize on the vouchers</p>	Richard (NRC)	



Meeting minutes			
Item	Discussion	Focal point/Organisation	Time
	<p>b) Winterization Training: training must be linked to all items attached to vouchers or SOKs. Vital component to insuring full utilization of winterization materials.</p> <p>c) Cash for Rent: There are guidelines in place, previous years of experience to draw from. Cash creates more space for individuals to provide for themselves</p> <p>d) SOK: September is too late to implement SOKs. Sector Coordinators have expressed concern in this new plan as well as a greater interest in allocating funding to Cash for Rent instead</p>	<p>Richard (NRC)</p> <p>Hasan (ICMC)</p> <p>Mohamad (UNHCR)</p>	
Sealing Off Kits	<p>There is concern that there is not enough time before winter to fully explore SOKs</p> <p>Not enough of a knowledge base is available to change sector coordinators from Cash for Rent winterization plans to SOKs. INTERSOS, UNHCR, ICMC and NRC members expressed concern on timing and knowledge of how to execute SOKs before winter. A preference for Vouchers and education was expressed</p> <p>NRC stated that the JHF is designed to try things and as the funding is only 400K we have license to experiment (within reason) with SOKs, IOCC also expressed interest.</p> <p>UNHCR members will send out information on previous winterization plans involving SOKs in Lebanon to members, this topic will be revisited at the next meeting when more information is made available</p>	<p>Elias (NRC)</p> <p>Richard (NRC)</p> <p>Mohamad (UNHCR)</p>	
JHF Updates	<p>The new call for proposal for the Jordan Humanitarian Fund, (JHF) has been launched and is attached.</p> <p>Sector Coordinators provided inputs to the sector priorities document to be used for the next Jordan Humanitarian Fund call for proposal. The sector priorities documents are available at: http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=11659 As for Shelter, the two priorities are:</p> <p>a) Cash-for-Rent to vulnerable refugee households in urban areas focusing on emergency cases. Priority will be given to projects that can demonstrate sophisticated targeting methodologies to reach those with the worst housing conditions;</p> <p>b) Sealing off Kits (SOKs) that address issues of damp and cold. Priority will be given to projects that can demonstrate sophisticated targeting methodologies to reach those with the worst housing conditions</p> <p>Interventions to be implemented in line with the revised shelter technical guidelines 2016</p>	Richard (NRC)	10 min
Municipality stamps as a Requirement in	There was a discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of requiring cash-for-rent beneficiaries to present a contract stamped by the municipality in the previous meeting.		20 min



Meeting minutes			
Item	Discussion	Focal point/Organisation	Time
Cash-for-Rent projects	<p>This is stated in the Shelter WG Guidelines as a recommendation and partners were advised to follow it, since it was considered to protect beneficiaries against eviction or rent increases, among other protection concerns.</p> <p>From a legal point of view; there are many types of binding contacts. It can be: verbal contact, written contact, and contact with witnesses.</p> <p>A written contact is the strongest among the three, but it does not necessarily mean that it is the best in terms of protecting the tenants.</p> <p>It was clarified that stamping the lease does not a guarantee that Syrian beneficiaries will be safe from eviction.</p> <p>The Cash-for-Rent technical guidelines have been reviewed during the meeting, and it was highlighted that some parts of the guidelines were not 100% legally accurate.</p> <p>It was agreed to review the guidelines again and reword and edit some parts by the Shelter WG.</p> <p>Moreover, it was suggested to consult with the beneficiaries and ask for their opinions, as it such interventions can be sensitive and perceived as risky by Syrian refugees.</p> <p>It was agreed on having a balance between following the legal aspect yet having a flexible approach that will keep the operations feasible where agencies have some space to decide based on the cases they encounter.</p> <p>Having a stamped lease from a municipality would certainly be a plus, however it may not be achievable in all the cases and it is not the only thing that makes a lease legal.</p>	<p>Firas (UNHCR)</p> <p>Richard (NRC)</p> <p>Mohammad (UNHCR)</p> <p>Firas (UNHCR)</p>	
MEB Updates	<p>The available data from 2015 will be updated using more comprehensive data extracted from VAF.</p> <p>It was noted that the average rents are considerably higher than last year.</p>	Vincent (UNHCR)	5 min
	<p>The plan for 2016 is to remove the two extremes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Severely vulnerable cases who live in inadequate shelters; - And low vulnerable cases who can afford and have more residential options. <p>The remaining vulnerable cases in the middle are believed to be more representative</p>		
AOB			
Next meeting will be on Thursday 6 th of October			