

MEETING MINUTES

National Sector Working Group:	Site Management Support (SMS)
Date:	25 August 2016
Venue:	UNHCR Office – Athens Towers
Chair:	Dennis Moroni (National SMS Coordinator)
Participants:	
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Agenda:

1. Review of action points from previous meetings
2. Cash WG Coordinator: introduction on WG activities, latest updates and linkages with SMS WG
3. Updates from National Coordinators on Islands-Mainland referrals and winterization planning
4. SMS Minimum Package
5. AOB

1. Review of action points from previous meetings

- OXFAM to start sending weekly updates on Epirus sites to IOM for submission of weekly reports to WG Coordinators → **Pending.**
- IOM to start submitting weekly reports on Epirus sites to SMS WG Coordinators → **Done.**
- Dennis to see whether the findings of the UNHCR security assessment on Leros can be shared → **Assessment report not available.**
- Francesco/Dennis to finalize SMS activity checklist and circulate to WG members → **Done. SMS Activity checklist with Minimum SMS Package included in the zip file with all the tools/templates which Dennis has been circulating to WG members. Green color in column “Package” (column C in excel sheet) indicates minimum package activities.**
- Dennis to request IACU to share the Response Capacity Assessment report and share it with WG members → **Pending. Final version made available this morning. It will be shared shortly.**
- Francesco/Dennis to circulate Asimakopoulos assessment report to WG members → **Done.**

2. Cash-Based Intervention planning (Carla Lacerda – Cash Working Group Coordinator)

- Agencies doing ad hoc CBI since November 2015 → Need for harmonization, especially in terms of amount. MC, SP and Caritas first to start providing cash assistance in Greece.
- The Greek government also has a programme to provide a safety net to poor Greeks, therefore need to provide cash which is not above the safety net cash by the Government.
- 4 agencies are currently doing blanket cash distribution: MC, CRS/Caritas, UNHCR (through relocation programme), IRC. 3 more are planning to start.
- In some cases there have been one-off cash distribution from different volunteer groups, but they do not coordinate.

For clarification on the content of these minutes, please contact:

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- CWG's focus is on unconditional multi-purpose cash assistance, although there are other forms.
- MEB (Minimum Expenditure Basket) is proportional to the size of the target families, but weighed in a way which does not exceed the minimum cash support provided by the Government.
- Plan for blanket distribution (no targeting) in all the sites. The first month in each site both pre-registered and non-pre-registered will receive. However, from the second month onwards only pre-registered refugees will receive cash. People able to show evidence they are in the process of registering will be considered for cash distribution.
- Cash Cards will differ in color based on the distributing agency and its financial service provider.
- Distributions are monthly.
- UNHCR will be provider of last resort and step in in every site where there is a gap.
- The only non-harmonized package at the moment is the IFRC one which is mixed (NFIs, food and cash)
- Impossible to cover all sites with CBIs at the same time. As things stand now, the CWG has decided not to retroactively distribute cash in the sites where cash distribution will start later. **Potential major security issue.**
- MoMP in the North said that no cash distribution will be allowed until cash actors figure out a way to start concurrently in all the sites.
- Need to figure out how to integrate arrivals from the islands into the CBI system.
- NFI WG working on monetizing NFI needs for winter. Most likely people will receive an additional lumpsum of 200 Euros/person one-off while for Children U5 will be 1/2) – the lumpsum calculation does not include blankets (distributed by UNHCR) and shelter winterization kits (hammers and nails). The distribution of the lumpsum is planned for November and will be for everyone (in camps and out of camps).
- List of sites and cash agencies finalized (July – late October to start CBIs; average duration: 3 – 6 months)
- Messages on cash drafted in cooperation with CWC WG
- A lot of people moving from sites to relocation scheme. UNHCR will cover cash for people in relocation programme. Challenge: UNHCR often unaware of people put into the relocation programme and receiving cash by other agencies doing cash in the sites → Risk of distributing twice to the same beneficiaries.

→ **Action Point:** Carla will share a SOP for Cash with SMS WG for inputs

3. Updates from National Coordinators on Islands-Mainland referrals and winterization planning

- **Islands/Mainland referral:** effort by ISWG to come up with a document suggesting solutions/procedures for referral – Workshop held last week for brainstorming around the issue. Not particularly result-oriented. Follow-up workshop planned for 29th August.
- **Winterization:** the Government have developed their own plans for winterization (container design). Reportedly for every site the Government has come up with site plans and their engineers will visit the sites with the UNHCR site planners to try to reach a common understanding on it. **Problem! Some agencies already have tenders in process with container specifications different from the government's.**

4. SMS Minimum Package

- RRMRP Document: "80% of sites with SMS minimum standard package is implemented" (available at <http://www.unhcr.org/partners/donors/577220cf7/regional-refugee-migrant-response-plan-europe-january-december-2016-revision.html?query=RRMRP>). Since there are only 4 months left in 2016, shortly the SMS SWG will start monitoring the implementation of the minimum package in the sites where SMS agencies are currently operating. The SMS minimum standard package is based on the SMS activity checklist endorsed by the WG about a month ago:

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Greece Response -
SMS Agency Activities

Please see “Review of action points from previous meetings” section in this document for an explanation of how to use the checklist

5. AOB

- Spontaneous arrivals at sites in Attica. However, they are provided with a food card or shelter space. This then creates issues within the sites.
 - Anyone wanting to take over SMS in Trikala (Central Greece – between Larisa and Ioannina), please contact Dennis. Trikala info: 237 POCs / capacity 260 POCs. Dennis can provide name and number of the current site manager from the Army.
 - Agencies on islands coming up with localized solutions (cash, NFIs, etc.) for refugees travelling to the mainland. Need for harmonization.
 - 120 Greeks hired by the Athens municipality. They will need to be trained in SMS. Not sure where they will be assigned (Eleonas or other sites/urban as well?) Difficulties with Aghios Andreas municipality. They are not accepting any NGOs. The Army superseded that. HSA asking for a meeting with municipalities, but they have refused
 - Introduction of Mahmoud – UNHCR SMS for Attica (covering Elefsina, Sisto and Eleonas)
 - Urban response WG (inter-sector) in the pipeline → First meeting will be held soon.
 - Dennis has been working on multi-sector Rapid Needs Assessment form for sites and shared it with other coordinators for contribution. Once it is finalized, it will be shared with SMS SWG Members
- *Action Point: Dennis/Francesco to bring up at next ISWG the need for improved coordination/harmonization on packages of assistance provided on the islands to refugees travelling to the mainland*
- *Action Point: DRC to check if the authorities are planning to hire additional staff for Skaramangas as well*
- *Action Point: Dennis to share finalized multi-sector RNA form with SMS SWG members.*

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