**Working Groups on Social Stability and Livelihoods**

Minutes – 27 September 2016 – Beirut

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| **Meeting** | | | |
| **Name** | Social Stability Working Group meeting | **Meeting Date** | 27/09/2016 |
| **Meeting Location** | UNDP-6th floor | **Meeting Time** | 13.00 |
| **Co-Chair person** | Bastien Revel – UNDP  Sabine Farah – MOSA | **Meeting Duration** | 1.5 hour |
| **Minutes Prepared by** | Noemie Lanternier |  |  |
| **Main discussion points** | 1. Welcome and introduction 2. Sector Updates:   a. Field Update  b. Quarter 3 progress & Dashboard  c. Conflict Sensitivity Trainings  d. Social Stability Change Stories   1. Update on LCRP Planning Process & Timeline 2. Lebanon Support Presentation – Analysis of conflict incidents in the third quarter 3. AoB | | |

**Participants:** UNDP, MoSA, UNHCR, UNOPS, AKTIS Strategy, UNICEF, HDA, SCI, DRC, Forum ZFD, MARCH, Lebanon Support, Secours Islamique, Sonbola, UN Women, International Alert, ACTED, AMEL, IOM, Sawa for Development and PU-AMI.

**Summary of discussions and action points**

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| **1.** | **Welcome and introduction** |
|  | * General welcome from the sector co-leads. * The meeting agenda was briefly presented by the National sector coordinator and validated by partners. |
| **2.** | **Sector update** |
|  | Sector Field coordinators provided field updates for their respective areas of intervention.   * **North/Akkar (Lama Srour)** * The main SoST partners are Mercy Corps, SCI, MARCH, DRC, NRC, SFCG, AND, OXFAM, ACTED, DPNA, Peace Labs, UNHCR and UNDP. * The projects implemented provide support to municipalities and host communities through the improvement of local service delivery and capacity building initiatives with the support of SCI, NRC, MC, ACTED, DRC, UNDP, AND, OXFAM and DPNA. In the field of conflict prevention, initiatives are being conducted by SFCG, MARCH, Peace Labs and UNDP while national government institutions capacities to mitigate tensions are being scaled up with the assistance of UNHCR and UNDP. * We find the highest concentration of interventions in Akkar and, to a lesser extent in Minieh Donieh and Tripoli Qazas (North). * The North LH & SoST WG regularly updates, with the support of a dedicated task force, the tension map which identifies high priority localities in these governorates.   Under OCHA 2nd standard allocation, new SoST projects were selected by HF advisory board (based on the recommendations of the sector review committee).  They will be implemented in the coming months and include the following:   * **Window 1:**   **Solidarites**   * "El Hay" Project - “Neighborhood for all: integrated multi-scale intervention for the vulnerable population of Qobbe area, Tripoli” * Duration: 12 months / Location: Tripoli, North * Objective: improving public domain within Qobbe urban area to enhance SoST (strong focus on rehabilitation of public spaces, improvement of complex access sites, etc.) * **Window 2:**   **MARCH**   * Project on "Social Stability and conflict Resolution through Art, Culture and Activism in marginalized areas” * Duration: 12 months / Location: North, Akkar * Objective: organization of theater-related activities, social media campaigns and trainings, along with the implementation of CSPs aimed at rebuilding around 50 shops on Syria Street.   **UTOPIA**   * “Citizens for Change” project * Duration: 12 months / Location: Tripoli, North * Objective: setting up and training of local committees and of 7 youths citizen action groups, creation of a volunteer network which will be involved in the implementation of CSPs.   **SAFADI**   * Street Beat "Nabadoul 7aï" project * Duration: 12 months / Location: Tripoli, North * Objective: enhancing conflict mitigation through art and music (with a focus on the training/recruitment of specialized teachers; the organization of music/dance classes for children and of a final concert).   **SFCG**   * “Establishing dialogue and local conflict response mechanisms in Lebanon” Project * Duration: 12 months / Location: Bekaa, BML, North * Objective: setting up conflict mitigation mechanisms, implementing joint community initiatives, and organizing conflict transformation trainings and coaching sessions for identified stakeholders (including municipalities). * **Bekaa (Rania Hammoud)** * The main SoST partners in Bekaa are DRC, LOST, Mercy Corps, SCI, B&Z and UNDP. * The projects implemented in the sector concern primarily the strengthening of local capacity for conflict prevention and dispute resolution and the support to local CSOs. * Projects are mostly implemented in Central Bekaa, and to a lesser extent in West Bekaa (with major gaps in Arsal - due to the security situation - and Rashaya). * MoSA and UNDP are currently updating the MRR in municipalities with the highest ratio of refugees (i.e. Bar Elias, Majdal Anjar, Zahle and Al Marj). * The Bekaa LH & SoST WG has finalized a tension map which is being regularly updated with the support of partners. It was presented at the CPWG and will be soon introduced to protection partners. * Tensions have recently increased in the region, notably in the aftermath of the Al Qaa incident. The Mayor of Al Qaa is complaining on the lack of assistance provided to the municipality by partners following the suicide bombings, showing the need for increased coordination and communication with the municipality. UNDP is already providing support through the construction of a football playground. A coordination group on AlQaa has been set up to enhance partners’ coordination in this locality and allow them to speak with a common voice to local authorities. * Partners were informed that the 3W matrix of Al Qaa was recently updated. If they are planning on intervening in this area, they should contact UNDP / UNHCR. * In parallel, a referral mechanism is being developed by the LH & SoST sectors in Bekaa, (which will be later extended to other regions). * The next Field WG meeting will be held on 11 October 2016 at UNDP Chtaura offices. * **Mount Lebanon (William Barakat)** * In BML, the SoST partners who recently reported on Activity Info are the following: ACTED, DORCAS, SIF, PU-AMI, UN-Habitat and UNDP. * Most partners are working on municipal/ local services projects and CSPs, as well as youth initiatives (with a focus on conflict prevention and resolution). * A few others are involved in conflict sensitivity analysis and in the provision of trainings. Fewer partners work on strengthening national government and CSOs’ capacities to mitigate tensions. * We find a stronger concentration of partners in Metn, Baabda, Aley, Keserwen compared to Beirut, Jbeil and Chouf. * Inputs from SoST partners have been compiled to identify tension areas in order to help prioritize future interventions. A task force was recently created which focuses on high priority localities, sources of tension, key trends and triggers.   NB: Other agencies/NGOs including protection partners have participated in this mapping exercise.  The most recent tension map of BML was presented by the Field coordinator who gave a brief overview of several of the 15 most tensed localities in the area (including Bourj Hammoud). The tension map will help partners to customize interventions and strategies based on the level of tension and specific types of tension sources.   * He also evoked in his field update the recent incidents which occurred on 20 September in Daouhet Aaramoun (Aley Qaza) and outlined the following key elements:   + The area has a long history of political/social tensions due both to its strategic location, and the number of different communities / sects present in the area. * The arrival of refugees has affected the precarious political balance. However, the media reports portraying the incidents as Lebanese/Syrian clashes are biased and misleading. In fact, while some Syrians might have played a role in the incidents, the main drivers remain Lebanese-Lebanese political divisions (notably between Future movement & Salafist groups / Hezbollah). * The next SoST WG meeting for BML will take place on 13 October 2016 in Beirut. * **South (Checrallah Abou-Jaoude)** * Ms. Iman Khatib, who was the Sector Field coordinator for the South, left UNDP at the end of August. Her position will be filled shortly. In the meantime, Mr. Checrallah Abou-Jaoude, Field officer at UNDP Tyr Offices, will be partners’ main focal point in the region. * The next LH & SoST working group will be held next week in Tyr (invitations will be sent out shortly).  1. **Quarter 3 Progress & Dashboard**   Please see PPT presentation.  The draft Q3 dashboard of the SoST sector, which summarizes key trends and progress to date, was briefly presented to WG participants.  It highlighted the following key achievements and results:   * 25 partners are currently active in 217 cadastrers across the country. * Significant challenges remain: * SoST is the most underfunded sector within the response (17m USD received so far - excluding carry over - representing 14% of the sector’s appeal and less than 2% of the total funding of the LCRP). * In 85 cadasters, the only type of support provided by partners is the MRR. * Output 1 – Support to municipalities:   + 141 participatory processes conducted, involving over 3,780 participants.   + 128 projects implemented to address local priorities, worth over 11.1m USD (representing respectively a 10% and 34% increase compared to last year).   + Trend: Support to municipalities remains strong in Q3. * Output 3 – Local capacities for conflict prevention * 24 new local dialogue/conflict mitigation mechanisms established, with 419 change agents engaged. * 133 peacebuilding initiatives for youth implemented, involving 3,317 youth and children. * Trend: Soft activities have increased by over 30% compared to Q2. * Output 2 – Support to national government institutions * The number of targeted institutions under this output has reached 35, including 2 Ministries (MoSA & MoIM), 6 governors’ offices and 27 security cells. * Work ongoing with ISF academy, MoIM on SoPs for Municipal Police. * Support to 6 governors’ offices. * Training for 27 security cells on social stability analysis. * Trend: Support to MoIM has been significantly scaled up in Q3. * Output 4 – Support to media & civil society * 4 media – 20 journalists engaged. * 42 local CSOs supported. * Trend: Support to media and civil society remains stable in Q3.   **SoST Mainstreaming**  The National Sector Coordinator presented a brief update related to SoST mainstreaming.   * Background: an inter-agency mainstreaming survey was conducted in 2015 which involved around 100 partners. It outlined a series of critical SoST needs to be addressed both within the sector and across the entire response, including best practices documentation and conflict sensitivity programming. * Two complementary graphs were shown to WG members which present the most significant types of trainings/tools needed by partners (as outlined in the survey).  1. **Conflict Sensitivity Trainings**  * In order to address the gaps identified in the IA mainstreaming survey, a series of training sessions were delivered to partners at the end of 2015. * Building on this, 5 training sessions will be conducted at national and field levels in the coming weeks by the social stability sector & Forum ZFD (dates TBC). * In addition, in-depth coaching sessions will be organized for interested organizations.   These initiatives should ensure conflict sensitivity is not only fully reflected in the SoST sector strategy but also satisfactorily mainstreamed across the response.   1. **Most Significant Change Stories (MSC)**  * The sector is collecting evidence/lessons learnt of partners’ impact on social stability. * Overall, 7 MSCs from 5 partners have been collected so far: ACTED (\*2), Solidarites (\*1), SHEILD (\*1), DORCAS (\*1) and UNDP (\*2). * Partners wishing to share additional impact stories are invited to contact the National sector coordinator. He will put them in contact with a researcher, Ms. Leila Ulrich, who will join UNDP later this week to work on the collection / analysis of MSCs. * **Action points** * The Q3 SoST dashboard will be finalized and shared with sector partners. * The dates of the upcoming conflict sensitivity trainings will be set in close coordination with Forum ZFD and invitations will be sent out. * Partners willing to share additional MSCs will contact National Sector Coordinator to be put in touch with new UNDP researcher. |
| **3.** | **Update on LCRP Planning Process & Timeline** |
|  | Please see PPT presentation.   * Following the recent launch of the LCRP planning process, a Joint Task Force (JTF) meeting was held on September 26, 2016, to officially start the process. * One first step was to define stabilization for each sector. A draft definition has been proposed by MoSA for social stability *“Establishing and empowering local and national mechanisms that will prevent or alleviate conflict incidences within host communities and improve social stability.”* * In the last sector workshop, coordinators, government lead and NGO representative started brainstorming on the evolution of the sector for the next four years. While most of the outputs/activities of the sector fall under the stabilization component of the plan. It is especially the case for the outputs 1.1 / 1.2 / 1.4, while the two remaining outputs (1.3 / 1.5) have a slight humanitarian component. For the future, there is a need to link more closely activities related to municipal support (1.1) and conflict prevention (1.2) and, similarly, to better associate these with interventions aimed at supporting civil society (1.4). The two remaining outputs, which concern the strengthening of government crisis response (1.2) and the mainstreaming of conflict sensitivity (1.5), should also be more closely combined in the next strategy. * Further discussions with line Ministries focused on the need to have more of an emphasis on work with security forces (municipal police, security cells…) and early warning. As recent incidents have shown, the political situation remains very tensed in numerous areas (including Al Qaa) => the sector will therefore need to keep on closely monitoring tension developments in the next phase, notably through the development/improvement/operationalization of strategic tools (such as tension maps, early warning system, stabilization monitoring model…).   **LCRP planning process and timeline:**   * + 2nd September: *1st Multi Stakeholder Workshop* - Lessons learnt.   + 16th September: *2nd Multi Stakeholder Workshop* (Four-year strategy & planning assumptions).     - Draft situation analysis (Core Group)     - Review Results framework (CG)   + 7th October: *3rd Multi Stakeholder Workshop* (Sector Needs Analysis & Preliminary Results Framework).   🡪 Draft Response Strategy (CG)   * + - Determine targets and budget (CG)     - First Sector Steering Committee (Sector Steering Committee)   + Week of 17th October: *4th Multi Stakeholder Workshop* (Sector Response Plan).     - Partners appeal: detailed target + appeal (at sector level)     - Sector chapters to be submitted by end of October   + 14th November: *Lebanon Chapter submitted to the 3RP* (with final targets/ budgets)     - For 2017 – detailed plan /budget expected     - For 2018 – an indicative one will be sufficient   + Week of 21st November: *Launch of the LCRP 2017‐2020 and appeal for 2017*. * The four-year plan will provide a common framework for collaboration to all LCRP partners involved within the crisis response (including line Ministries, UN Agencies and NGOs). * **Action points** * The 1st SoST Steering Committee meeting will be held in the first half of October. * The sector response strategy / budget / targets will be finalized by October 7th, with the support of the core group. * The sector chapter to be consolidated by end-October. |
| **4.** | **Lebanon Support Presentation – Analysis of conflict incidents in the third quarter** |
|  | Please see PPT presentation.   * [Lebanon Support](http://lebanon-support.org/) is an independent research centre for and about civil society, with two main programmes: [Daleel Madani](http://daleel-madani.org/) (the civil society portal), and the [Civil Society Knowledge Centre](http://cskc.daleel-madani.org/cap) (LS knowledge platform). * The Conflict Analysis *bulletin*, part of the [Conflict Analysis Project](http://cskc.daleel-madani.org/cap), is an initiative launched by LS in partnership with UNDP. It notably features visuals focusing on conflict trends mapped on a geo-located conflicts mapping. It approaches conflicts from both a security and a socio-political perspective. * The 1st visual presented to WG members showed ***1,407 mapped incidents*** in the first 4 months of 2016 (representing a 34% increase compared to same time last year). These incidents took place in 281 villages across Lebanon with 27 categories of conflict (arrest, air space violation, heavy artillery...) and involved 40 actors. * The [last issue](http://cskc.daleel-madani.org/article/conflict-analysis-bulletin-issue-3-june-2016), which focuses on the months of May-August 2016, will be publicly available on the Conflict Analysis Project page (CSKC) on Friday. It maps a greater number of incidents (***1,832***) compared to the beginning of the year. It can be attributed to the increase in raids / arrests carried out after the bombings in Al-Qaa on June 27th and to a surge in Individual Acts of Violence and Israeli Border violations. * The 2nd visual presented by LS was a frequency graph of mapped incidents by primary classification of conflict which showed that Israeli Border Conflicts and Individual Acts of Violence were the most prevalent types of conflict recently mapped. * The 3rd visual, which was published in June 2016, illustrated the 6 most mapped actors and the top 6 conflict categories. The Israeli Military is the most mapped formal/institutional actor while Lebanese civilians are the most mapped non-formal actors (and the only ones to be involved in “heavy artillery” incidents). * In LS upcoming bulletin, the third visual will focus on the el-Qaa bombings which took place on the 27th of June and on the “double tap” strategy used by the bombers.   **Discussions:**   * A “conflictivity index” is being developed by LS/UNDP to map hot spots gathering the highest concentration of incidents. This tool will enable partners to measure the concrete impact/weight of the different incidents occurring in a given area. * MOSA inquired about how much the map would reflect rumours of incidents that lead to preventive security operations. Lebanon Support answered that the conflict mapping includes “military deployment” interventions involving army staff mobilized to address potential security threats so it’s likely that this would get picked up, but in general the map captures actual events and incidents, not rumours or tensions. * UNOPS underlined that this type of tracking of incidents is critical both from a programmatic and a fundraising perspective, highlighting trends in incidents as a basis to justify the need for social stability programming to donors. * The conflict bulletins capture key figures, data and trends, and are complemented by the work undertaken within the sector field WG/task forces. The early warning system (which is currently being developed with the support of partners) will build on these efforts. * Keeping a low tension level across Lebanon constitutes the collective responsibility of sector partners and is a pre-requisite under the crisis response. * The Al Qaa incident has shown the importance of conflict sensitivity and coordination (notably to better inform local authorities on the type of support provided by sector partners). * **Action points** * Partners are invited to join Lebanon Support mailing list to receive the Conflict Analysis bulletins, by filling in [this form](http://daleel-madani.org/content/subscribe-our-mailing-list) or emailing them ([contact@lebanon-support.org](mailto:contact@lebanon-support.org)). * The last conflict analysis bulletin will be shared with partners before the end of the week. |
| **5.** | **AOB** |
|  | * ACTED: will organize a launch event next Thursday in Tripoli to celebrate to present the Strategy developed for Nahr el Istwan Union of Municipalities under the framework of their Social Stability project in Akkar. Invitations will be sent out shortly to partners. * Sahel Akkar report: UNDP released a new Conflict Analysis report, providing an analysis of the current situation and dynamic in the Sahel Akkar region. * The report is available in English and Arabic on the inter-agency webportal; * Hard copies of the report were distributed during the meeting. |

**Participants list**

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| **Name** | **Organization** |
| Madhumitha Madhavan | ACTED |
| Mayssoun Korban | ACTED |
| Lisa Bower | Aktis Strategy |
| Celine Quagliano | Amel Association |
| Dima Wehbi | DRC |
| Ines Bartolomae | Forum ZFD |
| Jeanne Kaadou | HDA |
| Layal Assaad | International Alert |
| Meghrie Djeridian | IOM |
| Rola Saleh | Lebanon Support |
| Poliana Geha | MARCH |
| Ilham Fanous | MARCH |
| Sabine Farah | MOSA |
| George Abirizk | MOSA |
| Solene Poureau | PU-AMI |
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| Tamara Ghandour | Sawa for development and aid |
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