

**Mafraq Monthly Coordination Meeting – Minutes
10.10.2016**

<p><u>Agenda</u></p> <p>Security update</p> <p>Winterization planning</p> <p>Livelihoods, work permits</p> <p>JRP updates Jordan response plan</p> <p>Education updates back to school DAFI scholarships</p> <p>AOB</p>
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Security update

The situation in Mafraq remains stable, no major incidents have taken place since the last update. On the 20th of September, SRAD opened new Zaatari Gate/ road which functions from 7 am-5 pm. Any entry into the camp after this time will have to be through the regular main gate.

On the 22nd of September, a junction was blocked by clashes and violence, the police handled the situation swiftly and everything went back to normal.

Also on the 22nd of September, UNHCR conducted a fire safety training for its Zaatari staff and the staff of partner organizations in the camp with professional trainers from the Jordanian civil defense. Fire safety training will be conducted for the UNHCR team in Mafraq SO at the end of the month (date yet to be specified) and partnering organizations are invited to participate.

Update: Fire safety Training will be conducted on the 27th of October, 2016 in Mafraq SO

Mohammad- UNHCR
SECURITY

Winterization planning

The standards placed for the winterization project for 2016-2017 are based upon 8 guiding principle taken from last year. The Winterization package will be shared with all participants via email. Cash assistance is still strongly on the forefront in terms of necessity. Case management is also highly prioritized and RAIS verification is suggested as a measure to avoiding duplication.

Difficulty in the idea of giving less, but to more people, was expressed, as many agencies want to give more. Not everyone will receive assistance and the dilemma of this issue was mentioned. With regard to those who will receive; the cost of their packages was presented to the participants of the meeting. There have been increases in the budget allocated for family packages and new categories of

Richard –NRC

<p>distribution have been prescribed for this year. Families with 1, 2 and 3 members will receive the same quantity, as it has been determined that they have the same needs, and families with a number of members exceeding 7 will also receive the same quantities. Tier one of the families were those families who had not received assistance in the past, while Tier two was for those that had.</p> <p>A new manner of distributing cash and assistance is now being employed, as IRIS scans are being used. A balance between cash and NFI has also been initiated. All that said, the ITS for Mafraq is mentioned as being of particular concern if you are in a location where you cannot get cash, especially during harsh weather.</p> <p>The issue of cash facilitation in times of emergency was also addressed. As harsh weather cannot be foreseen, no mechanisms have been employed so far dealing with the issue of acquiring urgent cash to deal with situations that may arise. NRC has not started working on this issue. Major question was, can we all start to plan ahead internally with donors within our organizations. On the note of donors, NRC also brought up the point of addressing our donors regarding their time of donating, most funding is presented in the last quarter of the year, and annual budgeting would be made easier were donations to be received throughout the year.</p> <p>*The WTF will start bi-weekly funding in mid-October</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Inter sector working group updates-Livelihoods, work permits</u></p> <p>Since the London conference and Jordan’s decision to facilitate the Syrian refugee’s receiving of work permits at the behest of the decisions reached at the conference, the issue of livelihood has been initiated and the department started functioning. The target is the creation of 200,000 job opportunities in Jordan. The importance of disseminating the fact that the Syrian refugees will be competing with other migrant workers (east Asians and Egyptians) and not with Jordanians, cannot be overstated. Likewise is the importance of informing Syrians of the procedures for work permits and the grace period granted from the MOL for the exemptions of fees till the end of this year. The government is supported in its quest to formalize work and refugees must be encouraged to formalize their work- the advantages of informal mentioned- of these more pay, more flexible. 168,000 SMSs were sent to refugees last week to inform them of work permit procedures.</p> <p>Participants are also asked to identify employers and prospective employees. The issue of minimum wages and long commutes for the refugees to get to and from work is yet to be addressed. Feedback is also required as to whether or not there is interest in working in low paying fields with consideration to the benefits. Some other points mentioned were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It depends on the municipality in terms of registering self-owned businesses- it is advisable to find local solutions to legal aspects that ought be looked into when drawing up an action plan • The nature of different types of permits was presented: In the agriculture sector- employers 	<p>Laura- UNHCR</p> <p>NGOs to play a role in child care and work on pushing the envelope of working with work permits</p>

<p>are work cooperatives, not a single employer- so the permit is usable in on all farms. The case is different in other sectors. In the manufacturing sector, it is not easy to get refugees engaged as a result of the very low pay- making them not very responsive the job offers that are circulated. Agriculture is thereby the top sector of work, followed by plumbing and waste management while human health and social work AND professional scientific and technical activities the least.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue of refugees leaving camp to work elsewhere still <u>has not</u> been solved- ILO World bank and government will work together mechanism may be worked on • ILO is now offering certification for the construction sector take a course for the duration of one month and receive an official certificate 	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>JRP updates Jordan response plan</u></p> <p>On the 27th of September, the UNDP, MOPEC and UNHCR met and arranged how a balance may be maintained between refugees, interagency appeal and the utilization of summery sheets. 3 documents for the summery sheets have been drafted for the comprehensibility vulnerability assessment/sector response plan project summery sheet and excel sheets that show descriptions of the projects by sector and objective in JRP workshops conducted in the Dead Sea.</p> <p>JRP is the Jordanian chapter of the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan interagency appeal- it supports government- This year, MOPEC agreed to cut Jordan’s chapter of 3RP. The government wants to present more work for those preparing the summery sheets with regard to infrastructure resilience; all papers must then be finalized by MOPEC by the 20th of October- by mid-December, the government must approve the government plans and figure out how the balance between refugee and resilience components may be maintained.</p> <p>Partner organizations and attendees are encouraged to delegate staff for Activity training in data entry with the JRP, which will be held on the 16th and 17th of this month in Amman and on the 19th in Mafraq- <i>more details on this training will be attached</i></p>	<p>Elena- UNHCR Coordination</p> <p>The Database requiring input will be opened for only one week following the end of the training- after that it will closed- so work and support was expressed as being greatly needed.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Education updates back to school DAFI scholarships</u></p> <p>In the application period between the 26th of June and the 30th of July, 1,700 students applied for the scholarship. 400 were shortlisted and interviewed and 200 slots of the 210 slots for the DAFI scholarship were filled. The Mafraq quota covered 38 students registered in the urban area and 36 students registered in Zaatari. A gender imbalance was noticed in application and selection, with females exceeding males on both spectrums. It was further mentioned that the quotas and selection</p>	<p>Dr. Awad, CS, UNHCR</p>

were based upon grades in each area, and not on grades in all of Jordan. For the most part, the most cooperative universities were the private universities in Jordan, as public universities were described as being very bureaucratic and therefore difficult to partner with.

Another issue mentioned was that of the Jordanian Ministry of Education’s launching of a campaign to ensure that no Syrian child will be out of school. Every child, regardless of whether or not their papers are ready will and must be enlisted in school and schools are not to refuse their enrollment – the MOE’s grace period (for the documents) extends till the end of the first semester.

Dr. Awad also pledged to assist in finding buses or bus systems to transport children for the usual cost of 10-15 jds per month (as Jordanian children pay for informal bus transport), as transportation for Syrian Children was mentioned as being too high in Mafraq and a number of cases were mentioned where parents were incapable of paying these sums for the transportation of their children.

AOB

A population of 70,000 to 75,000 refugees are currently waiting at the berm. Currently, there are discussions on the highest level of Jordanian authorities to resume providing assistance along with discussions on moving the refugee population further into Syrian territories. In the conditions where refugees are offered assistance as a result of their delicate circumstances, these will resume.

With regard to the western border/ Rumtha border, where the war wounded were transported into Jordan, UNHCR, MSF and ICRC are continuing with their advocacy for the reopening of the border point to transport the wounded, as there have been many fatalities.

With regard to urban verification and the issue of the new Jordanian Ministry of Interior cards for Syrian Refugees, 400 000 refugees have been recorded as having received their new MOI card in Mafraq, nearly 82% of the population. UNHCR continues its efforts to encourage everyone to apply and receive their new MOI card. The Process continues for those who have not yet received their documents, as they are able to apply and receive them via relatively easy procedures.

UNHCR has also partnered with Zain in efforts to increase connectivity for refugees. The Princess Basma Centers, which are set up in different areas provide different net points. Information will be provided regarding the hours when internet is offered.

Catherine, Protection
UNHCR

NEXT MEETING: 7th of November at 11 am sharp.
POSTPONED TO 08 NOVEMBER at 10am.