



Minutes of the Inter-Agency Meeting – 19 May 2017 Beirut, Lebanon.

Meeting Location	MOSA 7 th Floor	Meeting Time	10:00 A.M.
Chairperson(s)	Mario Abouzeid - MoSA. Sander Van Niekerk - UNHCR. Bastien Revel – UNDP Anne-France White - UNOCHA	Meeting Duration	1.30 Hrs.
Minutes Prepared by	Niamh O’Brien (Inter-Agency Coordination) - UNHCR		
Agenda of the Meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Protection update 2. Riyak evictions 3. THRIVE presentation 4. Job creation under LCRP 5. AOB 		
Participating Organizations	WHO, MOPH, UN-HABITAT, UNICEF, Concern, IRD, TOH IT, OCHA, UNHCR, MOSA, Caritas, FPSC, WUL, UNDP, Dorcas Lebanon, WFP, CISP, Fair Trade Lebanon, LHIF/ NRC, ADRA, British Council, RDPP, Caritas Migrants, MSF, COOPI, Balamand University, MOE, Green Globe, WRF, World Vision		

Summary of Discussions and Action Points	
1.	Protection Update (UNHCR).
	<p><u>Legal Residency</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping of GSO practices at field level shows inconsistency and further deterioration in the standard practices by GSO with respect to the application of the waiver. These include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Charging a lump sum for the period overstayed with expired visa ○ People suspected of working were being charged a different fee (sometimes investigations were carried out to determine the working status) • Impact on renewals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 27% were able to renew ○ 33% did not approach GSO due to the lack of information and fear of approaching the GSO ○ 40% were unable to renew, the reasons being: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Large number told to come back – capacity issue ▪ Did not have all required documentation ▪ 57% of reasons for refusal of renewal are linked to working status ○ The rate of appointments is typically 4-15 people a day per office <p><u>Surge Project for UNHCR reception centers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ UNHCR is boosting capacity in reception centers to ensure that as many refugees as possible benefit from the legal residency fee waiver. This includes processing 150,000 refugee certificate renewal benefitting 600,000 persons and issuing 350,000 housing attestations. • 95 new staff hired with the goal of reducing backlog of renewals in 6months • Due to the rise in hostile rhetoric, petitions, videos going viral, evictions and the closing of shops, UNHCR is coordinating a media campaign with the Ministry of to counteract growing negative perception and xenophobic tendencies exhibited toward Syrian refugees.



2.	Inter-Sector updates:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New M&E framework – will be reviewed (by all sectors) to demonstrate how we make difference by including impact statements and inter-sector outcomes.• External Expert coming on 28th of May and on 2nd of June there will be an Inter-sector workshop with sector leads, GoL, and INGO and NGO representatives• Full time Senior M&E expert person coming in august• Initiated stabilization monitoring framework, which is a perception survey tracking stability indicators,<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Looking for and collecting solid data on changes surveying 5000 every 3 months observing the trends of key indicators and will be presented to Inter-Agency
3.	Job Creation under LCRP:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Results from the Livelihood sector and in job creation last year were limited (due to a funding issue), yet important to acknowledge the impact all other sectors had. Thus an attempt was made to quantify this:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Difficult to quantify and estimates were done using full time jobs so it is very likely that more people received some kind of employment for some duration of time. Data for INGO staff came from Leaf and more than 50 partners reported on this.○ The assessment looked at jobs created before 2016 and maintained during 2016○ See PowerPoint for figures on jobs created• Pre-crisis economy was making 4000 jobs, 6 times this was needed to absorb the crisis. The current number of jobs created is only satisfying the pre-crisis needs and therefore need to massively scale-up.• Target for next year is to double this – create 8000 jobs<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Only about 1 quarter of jobs created are in the private sector, the rest are NGO and GoL staff• Job training is sometimes done in sectors that the Lebanese already work in, therefore should be training Syrians in sectors such as recycling to stop the concurrence<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ GoL is monitoring the competition for jobs and there is a significant rise in informal sector work increasing tensions.○ GoL and Ministry's main objectives are to initiate large infrastructure projects which generates work for Lebanese and Syrians.○ The approach needs to focus on sustainability rather than crisis mitigation, so for example developing SME's which supports long-term needs of Lebanese and temporary work for Syrians○ Further labour market studies are needed to target sectors where training and vocational education is needed.<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The Ministry invites people to meet with it on this as it is in progress of doing a mapping which will launch a new effort to analysis the labour market▪ Need to have specific numbers of Syrians and Lebanese particularly for temporary work○ An assessment was done for green jobs in Lebanon and there is potential there.<p><u>Next steps:</u></p><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communicate and coordinate with UNDP with ideas and suggestions• Add indicators in other sector logframes to better track and refine analysis<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Livelihood logframe has been modified to better track jobs created and maintained• Efforts to move to stabilization i.e. including the private sector and Minister of Economy is reinvigorating SMEs• I/NGOs can nationalize positions instead of bringing in international staff• All sectors to present an action plan to support job creation<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Education can support vocational training, with MOSA and MEHE working together to scale it up• Difficult for all sectors to stimulate job creation<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ For example BA and Food assistance are more visible at macro level as cash assistance stimulates the



	<p>economy and Lebanon's GDP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Information on this is key and would be good to study the multiplier effect of the 1.2bn already injected in cash form ● Include in the new M&E framework a methodology to track every sector's job contribution ● A study is needed on the national market sectors to understand the economy, the effect of the informal work and to see how many jobs are needed and track interventions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MOSA will communicate with the Minister of Economy and Trade, then move the discussion to the Inter-sector level (as work is already being done by some NGOs) with the aim of making a national study ○ The next steps will be to communicate with line ministries to see how the study can be implemented, then organizing a workshop with the private sector within the next 3 months.
4.	<p>Riyak eviction update:</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Total impacted population: 2,160 households(HH)/12,655 persons and 285 sites <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 142 sites have received eviction notices ○ Relocation of 777 HHs (approx.4,428 persons) has been verified ● Estimate number of 6,262 persons remain in evicted area who are considered the most vulnerable ● It has been helpful that the implementation of the eviction orders have been delayed in order to provide refugees with more time to find alternative accommodation, including in areas such as Bar Elias. ● Most households have been able to find new accommodation on their own but for those that remain, they may present certain vulnerabilities which places limitations on their ability to find accommodation. Also, the issue of resources and the lack of approval from LAF and Municipalities to move to new locations creates challenges. ● The potential number of persons affected by evictions could be potentially greater than those within the 9x6 rectangle, since eviction orders have been issued for ISs outside this perimeter. (see presentation) ● Protection conducts referrals to WASH and Shelter sector for necessary assistance in new locations. During protection monitoring, needs of vulnerable individuals are assessed and a legal approach is also being initiated to assist refugees who paid rent in advance and now need to recuperate their payments. These evictions have had financial implications, which could not be foreseen earlier in the year. <p><u>Looking forward:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● At national level the response includes, in addition to continued advocacy, the development of an Evictions Guidance Note. The Note will include both legal considerations and also provides minimum standards for the response. The Note will first be reviewed by the Protection Core Group and then shared with other Sectors in order to inform the humanitarian response portion of the document. ● Ongoing discussions with LAF and Municipalities to reduce the impact or stop evictions from happening is an important factor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The response needs to be proactive, as further evictions may take place due to factors working at the Municipal level. ● Inter-Sector in Bekaa is commencing with an assessment on the impact of the evictions and has reached out to sectors for their inputs. ● Necessary to consider the secondary people affected, as when people move other communities and their resources are affected i.e. WASH and social stability.
5.	<p>A.O.B.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contingency Planning workshop held on 23.05.2017 with UN agencies, I/NGOs and donors which will feed back to the GoL at a later date.

Link to the presentation:

<http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=13554>