



<b>Minutes of Inter-Sector Meeting – 11 September - Beirut, Lebanon</b>			
<b>Meeting Location</b>	MOSA's office- seventh floor	<b>Meeting Time</b>	09:00 – 12:00
<b>Chairperson</b>	Mario Abu Zaid - MoSA Margunn Indreboe – UNDP Carol Ann Sparks – UNHCR	<b>Meeting Duration</b>	3 hours
<b>Minutes Prepared by</b>	Oula Ibrahim – Senior Coordination Assistant		
<b>Agenda of the Meeting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arsal update</li> <li>• Impact of underfunding</li> <li>• LCRP planning</li> <li>• AOB</li> </ul> <p><b>The PPT presentations are attached to the meeting minutes.</b></p>		
<b>Participating Organizations</b>	MoSA/NPTP, UN HABITAT, UNDP, UNHCR, OCHA, LHIF, IMC, UNFPA, WFP, WHO		

<b>1.</b>	<p><b>Arsal Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Current situation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There are currently around 40,000 registered refugees and an estimated 8,000 to 10,000 unregistered refugees living inside Arsal.</li> <li>- Since February 2017, two movements have happened from Arsal to Syria. UNHCR was able to monitor the second movement where between 4250 and 5100 individuals moved back to Idlib.</li> <li>- Individuals who have returned to Syria claimed that the main reason for return was due to lack of services in Arsal as well as fear of security deterioration prior to the last military operation in the outskirts.</li> <li>- Lack of services in Arsal is impacting the perception of Syrian refugees there and is at there and is at times considered a push factor. Syrian refugees have the impression that humanitarian actors along with the Lebanese government are putting some pressure to return to their homeland. Lack of services in Arsal is directly linked to this perception.</li> <li>- 571 individuals remain in Wadi Hmeid (not all of them are refugees), who will need to move to Arsal soon as per the new instructions of LAF that nobody is allowed to stay in the outskirts. MoSA, NRC, along with the municipality of Arsal are trying to find places for those persons.</li> <li>- Stabilization projects led by UNDP are planned for Arsal with a view to improving its economic situation.</li> <li>- Maintaining and enhancing Arsal specific coordination was noted, as such a coordination meeting at Arsal level will take place as soon as the security situation allows.</li> <li>- As of end August, the UN had improved access to Arsal. UNHCR has drafted a protection strategy for Arsal, as basis for discussion with PWG Bekaa. UNHCR has a protection strategy in place for Arsal.</li> <li>- Access to businesses are slow to restart due to the presence of mines in the outskirts.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b>Stabilization</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- UNDP presented the stabilization and peaceful coexistence plan that they are looking to implement in Arsal.</li> <li>- Job competition between Syrian and Lebanese in Arsal, as well as the ownership of Syrians of large number of shops is most likely to create further tension that will need close monitoring by humanitarian actors</li> <li>- As the main (local) livelihood activities are run in the outskirts, safe access to the area through LAF checkpoint should be improved</li> <li>- There are fears of the Lebanese host community taking advantage of the fact that Syrians no longer have the back-up of militants living in the outskirts in situations where disputes arise</li> <li>- The results of a survey conducted by a local NGO shows there are many cases of multiple mixed marriages; a significant numbers of those marriages are not registered in the municipality registry.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>Updates :</b></li><li>- A humanitarian action plan for Arsal is being discussed and agreed upon by agencies on the ground. It is envisaged to be ready by mid-October, needs will be gauged and service delivery gaps identified, the plan also aims to avoid duplication, and improve coordination in close consultation with refugees and hosting community. Peaceful coexistence and stabilization are core elements in the action plan. Figures will be shared with interested donors at Beqaa level.</li><li>- UNHCR/BA sector in Beqaa, in coordination and cooperation with UNHCR/BA in Beirut, will initiate communication with several banks in the area to explore the possibility of an ATM machine in Arsal.</li><li>- A meeting was called last week by Ras Baalbeck municipality in participation with the Lebanese farmers recently affected by the military operation in the outskirts. Participants agreed to get the Higher Relief Council engaged to support and assist the population affected.</li><li>- UNHCR has initiated some communication with some banks in the area to see the possibility of establishing an ATM machine in Arsal.</li><li>- UNHCR is about to launch a field campaign for documentation and recording during the coming two months to make sure every Syrian individual in Arsal is recorded.</li><li>○ <b>Next steps:</b></li><li>- UNDP suggested to look at a quick and direct humanitarian intervention to support Arsal and its surrounding areas. UNDP also announced that communication with the Lebanese council for development and reconstruction has started along with line ministries to engage them all in the development and reconstruction interventions in Arsal.</li><li>- Social stability aspect will be considered and closely monitored by humanitarian actors, as some inter-community tension is expected at time of the upcoming elections.</li><li>- UNHCR and its partners will monitor the relation between the two communities to track the impact of events on the social stability in Arsal.</li><li>- UNHCR will install prefabs to serve as protection desks to respond to protection-related queries by Syrian individuals. The prefabs will be installed next to the SDC of MoSA in Arsal.</li><li>- Registration team in Beqaa will start calling Syrian individuals identified as not yet recorded or registered, to ask if they are willing to be recorded.</li><li>- Needs assessment and focus group discussions to be conducted soon with Syrian and Lebanese families in Arsal to outline existing gaps and needs.</li><li>- Analysis of outcomes will be reviewed and validated by sector coordinators, final results will feed into the larger action plan for Arsal.</li></ul>
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<b>2. Impact of underfunding</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The inter-sector coordinators shared a draft document on key messages on the consequences of underfunding in Lebanon.</li><li>- Participants were requested to provide feedback to by the end of the week</li><li>○ <b>Discussions:</b></li><li>- From an advocacy perspective, a recommendation was made to highlight the achievements thus far on the level of cross-sectorial initiatives as well as partnerships with local NGOs</li><li>○ <b>Next steps:</b></li><li>- The draft will be discussed at the next HCT for validation</li><li>- Sectors' coordinators to share their feedback as soon as possible</li></ul>

<b>3. LCRP planning</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- the LCRP planning process for this year will be considerably lighter than last year, with a focus on updating the contextual analysis, conducting a strategic review and reviewing the sector's log frames per the new M&amp;E</li></ul>



	<p>framework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Key dates were circulated ahead of the meeting.</li> <li>- The first official LCRP workshop will take place beginning of October (exact date TBD).</li> <li>- The LCRP guidance note will be shared soon.</li> <li>- MoSA raised concern that municipalities throughout Lebanon lack information on LCRP. Engagement of municipalities is a must in 2018.</li> <li>- A Q&amp;A document will be prepared by the Inter-sector team to inform present and future actors involved in LCRP, outlining minimum required commitments, expectations and responsibilities of various actors.</li> <li>- Engagement of line ministries and key stakeholders at an early stage of the LCRP planning process is beneficial, as well as consultations with municipalities during the planning process.</li> <li>- The <b>Results-Based Framework workshop</b> will take place on 10 October 2017.</li> <li>- Note: please refer to the presentation attached.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b><u>Graduation of beneficiaries from humanitarian cash based assistance towards more self-reliance:</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A thorough discussion is taking place between Basic assistance, Protection, Food security, Livelihood and social stability, on the graduation of beneficiaries from humanitarian cash-based assistance towards more self-reliance in order to have an inter-sectoral approach in 2018.</li> <li>- The Graduation project will be looking at the three components (job creation, technical vocational training and cash assistance) existing in 3 different sectors, and will make sure to link those components programmatically and how they are linked from inter-sectoral perspective under the LCRP.</li> <li>- Graduation approaches are inter-sectoral in nature yet require further discussions at different working groups to test their feasibility. The LCRP 2018 will be mentioning Graduation as of the future approaches, alternative to direct assistance where possible.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b><u>Discussion:</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For mutual understanding among all actors involved in LCRP, a Q&amp;A document outlining minimum commitment, expectations and responsibilities of different actors involved, will be drafted by the Inter-sector team</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b><u>Next steps:</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Document about graduation to be circulated to grant common understanding of terminologies</li> <li>- Workshop on guidance from M&amp;E perspective</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ <b><u>LCRP 2018 planning timeline:</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recommendations and deadlines from regional level for LCRP:</li> <li>- Draft of different sectors to be ready by October 27<sup>th</sup></li> <li>- Expression of interest, clearing new partners and capacity assessment to be done prior November 10<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>- 1<sup>st</sup> draft country chapter to be submitted by October 31<sup>st</sup>.</li> <li>- Final chapters' draft to be submitted by November 23<sup>rd</sup>.</li> <li>- Steering committee to endorse the plan after November 23<sup>rd</sup></li> <li>- Analysis and updates to be done in September</li> <li>- 2 workshops will be held soon for negotiation and strategy design, inter-sector discussions</li> <li>- M&amp;E framework to be finalized and incorporated in the log-frame</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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4.	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inter-sector M&amp;E specialist Jean-Charles Rouge has recently joined the LCRP inter-sector team. He will hold bilateral discussions with every sector coordinator</li> <li>- M&amp;E officer will be recruited for MoSA, and will be dedicated to map resources, implementation of activities, etc.</li> </ul>
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Link to the presentations: <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=14382>