|  |
| --- |
| **PSN sub working group meeting Minutes** |
| **Date** |  **13 May 2020**  | **Venue** | Online  |
| **Agenda** | 1. Review of action points from previous meeting
2. Updates from members
3. Review of protection analysis of impact of COVID 19 measures on PSNs
4. AOB
 |
| **Attendance** | UNHCR, HI, National Council for Older Persons, Refugee Law Project, InterAid Uganda, Disability Rights Fund, Danish Church Aid, NUDIPU |
| **Facilitator** | Gemma Woods (UNHCR)  |
| **Discussion points** | **Recommendations/Action points** | **Responsible** |
| 1. **Review of action points from previous meting**
2. Share final UNHCR protection considerations document during COVID 19 with PSN SWG members – completed; will be shared with meeting minutes
3. Share final accessible messages on COVID 19 for PSNs with PSN SWG members – pending; to follow up with MGLSD. HI explained that the messages are still in draft form, pending approval of the PS from the Ministry. HI, MGLSD and NUWODU have had a follow up meeting to discuss how to convert some of the messages; HI is working on converting some of the messages into pictoral form. To request an updated version of the SOPs from MGLSD & HI to share the pictoral messages when ready.
4. Members to update matrix with representation in other sector meetings - completed
5. Share request to PSN SWG members to input into review of Policy on Persons with Disabilities – pending; to follow up with MGLSD
6. Contact sector leads to map activities targeting / including PSNs per sector – pending; update to be shared at next meeting
7. Prepare formalised document on evidence of impact of COVID 19 measures on PSNs – completed; to be discussed as agenda item
8. **Updates from partners**

**HI:** HI is conducting a larger survey amongst beneficiaries of the impact of COVID 19 measures on them. The results will be shared with the group when ready. HI also noted the need to emphasise with all partners the need to provide accessible messaging for persons with disabilities whenever sensitisation is being conducted. There is a need for advocacy on this point from all actors across all networks and structures created for COVID 19-related coordination.**DRF:** The Special Opportunities Fund is open for application; disabled persons organisations are able to apply. DRF raised the question of how applications can be in line with PSN SWG priorities and how to avoid duplication in activities – in response; the next agenda item on the protection analysis of impact of COVID 19 on PSNs will provide guidance on key areas of concern / gaps and the mapping of ongoing activities shared through the group and available on the google drive (see below for link) can help to avoid duplication of activities.Two funds are currently open for application from DRF: to apply to the Special Opportunity Grant, one must be a DPO- Disabled People's Organization who identifies a special opportunity e.g. COVID response, floods, international conference, etc  and tailors a project on how persons with disabilities will be assisted or benefit. As DRF does not fund service delivery but rather advocacy, the DPO must explain how they will engage with the duty bearers and service providers to ensure the inclusivity of PWDs/PSN. Also, the Uganda Capacity Fund is available for application where DRF aims to identify emergent or young organizations of PWDs and fund them to grow their capacity in terms of structure and human resources, ensuring their development in their respective advocacy work. Applications normally do not exceed requests over $20,000. For more information on how to apply, please contact Solomon Collins at DRF: scollins@disabilityrightsfund.org **NRC:** NRC has shared details of their ongoing activities targeting PSNs in Kampala. 250 highly vulnerable households will be supported with cash for food and rent after verification activities are completed next week. NRC are also engaged on sensitisation on COVID 19 with PSNs and distribution of soap has been completed for the most vulnerable 1800 households.In response to questions on eligibility criteria being used to determine whether PSNs can access cash assistance; NRC clarified that they receive referrals from sources including the FRRM helpline, and also work with LCs to identify vulnerable households. UNHCR verifies that the households are registered as refugees.1. **Review of protection analysis of impact of COVID 19 measures on PSNs**

The final version of the document was adopted; a final PDF version will be shared with members for circulation.On next steps; it was agreed to map which PSN SWG members will share the document in which forums. The details of who will submit the document to which forum was subsequently shared in an email with the final document.One key recommendation is for increased consultation with PSNs, particularly within the national and district level COVID 19 taskforces. NUDIPU updated the group that the female MP for persons with disabilities, Safia Nalule, is now a member of the national taskforce; however, representation of PWDs at district level taskforces remains patchy. Whereas some RDCs allow representatives of PWDs to attend meetings, others insist that they should be instructed by the President to include them. There is therefore a continued need for advocacy on this point. PSN SWG may wish to approach representatives of PWDs in parliament in joint advocacy efforts. 1. **AOB**

NUDIPU is currently undertaking a national survey on the situation of PWDs in Covid 19 in all districts of Uganda; preliminary findings may be shared at the next PSN SWG meeting.DRF are looking for content to add to an online platform on the activities of PWDs during the lockdown; they are especially interested in positive examples of how PWDs have been supporting their communities during this period. Any partner with relevant material can forward to Solomon at DRF.It was agreed to change the time of subsequent meetings to 2pm to avoid conflict with other forums.**Next meeting: Wednesday 27 May, 2pm (online)**Link to shared Google drive for PSN SWG with minutes of meetings and key documents: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1qh4gpf2cHNFrRCvOCyXaQpgV2GByOl_6>  | Share final accessible messages on COVID 19 for PSNs with PSN SWG membersShare request to PSN SWG members to input into review of Policy on Persons with DisabilitiesContact sector leads to map activities targeting / including PSNs per sectorNUDIPU to present preliminary findings from research at next PSN SWG meeting | Emily / Ministry of GenderEmily / Ministry of GenderGemma / UNHCRNUDIPU |