



Minutes of Health & Nutrition Working Group Meeting/ South

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List of participants

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Summary of discussions and action points

No.	Issue
1.	<p><u>Vulnerability Assessment for Syrian Refugees in Lebanon (VaSyr) 2019:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Main Findings of VaSyr 2019 (health chapter) were presented to the HWG members with focus on the increase in access to both primary and secondary health care services, most common barriers in accessing services, and improvement in child health care and nutrition health.➤ A power point presentation of VaSyr 2019 findings was delivered by the Assistant Public Health Officer – UNHCR (presentation attached).
2.	<p><u>Health Access and Utilization Survey among Syrian Refugees in Lebanon (HAUS) 2019:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Main Findings of HAUS 2019 were presented to the HWG members with focus on the increase in knowledge of available services, increase in access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Services, and increase in access to medications. Major gaps and recommendations were also projected for 2020.➤ A power point presentation of HAUS 2019 findings was delivered by the Assistant Public Health Officer – UNHCR (presentation attached).
3.	<p><u>Partner Projects for 2020 and Updates:</u></p> <p><u>MSF:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ MSF coordination advisor briefed the HWG members about MSF's different sections (Switzerland, France, and Belgium) and their current work in Lebanon.➤ For South, MSF is providing home based care for elderly and bed ridden patients in Ain El Helwe camp in addition to providing capacity building and cost coverage for medical facilities inside the camps.

IMC:

- Support to seven out of nine health facilities in South will be ceased by **end of January – mid February 2020** given the conclusion of EU MADAD 1 project consortium.
- Ansar Municipality Center and Al Kayan Medical Center Marwanieh will continue to be supported till **August 2020**.
- EU MADAD 2 is not confirmed yet; IMC will inform the health sector once (and if) funds are secured.
- The Persons with Disabilities project implemented by IMC includes the following services:
 - Specialized diagnostic services for PWDs
 - Hearing aids (first come first serve)
 - Visual aids (first come first serve)
 - Rehabilitation sessions (physio, occupational, and speech therapy)
 - Assistive devices (walkers, wheelchairs, canes...)
 - Living aids (toilet chairs, bedpan, water mattress...)
 - Diapers
- The Disability project by IMC will be implemented till **March 2020** in Bent Jbeil MoSa SDC, Islamic Health Society Center in Bourj Qalaouiye, Nazih El Bizri Medical Center in Saida, Islamic Health Care Society Center in Sadiqine, and Imam Khomeini Medical Center in Maachouk. The project will be implemented till **May 2020** in Al Kayan center in Nabatieh.

ICRC:

- No reported updates for ICRC projects in 2020.
- ICRC will continue to implement the below projects:

- Support three PHC centers in South Lebanon (Maachouk and Khiam Islamic Health Society centers and Al Rahma clinic) with medications and medical supplies (if needed).
- Support three Hospitals (Ein El Helwe, LBW, and Al Aksa) in South Lebanon with emergency services.
- Support in weapon wounded stabilization in Al Rae and Hiram Hospitals.
- Run the Weapon Traumatology Training Center (WTTC).
- Support Rafik Hariri University Hospital in access of patients to emergency health care services and capacitate medical staff in the hospital.

NRC:

- NRC engages in the following sectors: Shelter, WASH, Education, and Legal Assistance (birth and death certificates in addition to marriage registration).
- NRC also has mobile units to visit persons of concern for legal assistance in case they lack documentation and can't freely move with a focus also on people with disabilities for 2020.
- NRC focal point suggested to share all health-related brochures and key messages associated to vaccination, ANC, chronic and acute diseases to be provided to frontliners who are visiting PoCs on regular basis and disseminating information.

IOCC:

- No major updates regarding IOCC projects for 2020 in South of Lebanon.
- IOCC might be involved in the measles campaign with UNICEF, WHO, and MOPH.

UNICEF:

- UNICEF will participate in the measles campaign phase 2 in South Lebanon and will take the responsibility of training the staff and supplying the vaccines.

ACF:

- The Nutrition project supported by ACF ended in December 2019; the project aimed at protecting and promoting breastfeeding in Srebta PHC center, Bissariye SDC and capacity building for health workers in the centers.
- The total reach was 388 women between Syrian and Lebanese. At the end of the project ACF established breastfeeding corners for women visiting the centers.
- ACF does not have any planned nutrition project for 2020.

IOM:

- IOM is continuing with its regular projects for 2020 which include TB and HIV diagnosis and treatment in centers and hospital located in Sour, El Nabatieh, Qarantina, Barouk, Hermel, and Tripoli.
- MSF supported IOM in finding volunteers residing in South to raise awareness about TB and HIV.

PU-AMI:

- Support to the four health facilities in South will be ceased by end of January 2020 given the conclusion of EU MADAD 1 project consortium including Khiyam Islamic Health Society center, Al Kayan Sour, Ghaziye PHC center, and Srebta PHC center.
- PU-AMI's exit plan includes mapping of services in the South and informing the beneficiaries about the termination of support in addition to referring patients to the identified PHC centers.
- PU-AMI focal point reported that the PHC facilities have witnessed an increase in influx of Lebanese communities due to the financial situation. Other partners also reported similar increase in influx of Lebanese patients.
- Same as IMC, EU MADAD 2 is not confirmed yet; PU-AMI will inform the health sector once (and if) funds are secured.

MOPH:

- MOPH in collaboration with WHO and UNICEF are currently preparing for phase 2 of the measles

vaccination campaign. Starting date is not yet specified.

Amel Association:

- Amel Association will continue providing support to refugees in Sout, Bazourieh, and Khiyam.
- Amel has added Voluntary Counseling and Testing to the service package. Health workers in all three facilities will be trained prior to implementation.
- Support for MMUs funded by AFD will continue until June 2020 in Sour and Marjaayoun (end date not fully confirmed yet).
- Amel is still providing NCD testing and treatment through HelpAge for patient above 40 years of age and psychosocial support for elderly.

WHO:

- In view of the current economic situation, WHO and interagency will be collecting data for relevant health indicators to monitor any impact on public health. The data will be shared on regular basis with health sector partners.

4.

Current Gaps in Health Services – South Lebanon:

- In light of the uncertainty regarding the EU MADAD 2 fund and starting date, support for 11 primary health care facilities in South Lebanon will be majorly impacted and beneficiaries approaching those PHC facilities will not receive subsidized services posing extra financial burden to access the services. IMC and PU-AMI were encouraged to further advocate and update the sector accordingly.
- It is eminent to mention that Secondary Health Services in South for 2020 is also witnessing a great gap including access to both urgent and non – urgent services.

The gaps are as follows:

- Coverage for NICU hospitalization fees (25% share); SAMS and ISWA are covering; more support is needed.
- Coverage for pediatric hospitalization fees (25% share); SAMS is covering; more support is needed.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Coverage for adults and elderly hospitalization fees; no NGO is supporting this age group.○ Coverage for cold surgeries – adults and elderly; no NGO is supporting this age group.
5.	<p><u>AOB:</u></p> <p>Reminder to ensure reporting on Activity Info</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Partners were reminded to report to ActivityInfo by the 5th of each month. <p>Activity Info Training for Health Partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Partners were informed that an ActivityInfo training will be held in Beirut – UNHCR office on the 16th of January 2020. An email was circulated accordingly.

Next meeting is scheduled on the 6th of February 2020. Date and time will be confirmed one week before.
For any queries, please contact:

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