



Minutes of NATIONAL INTER-AGENCY MEETING

17 December 2021, 10:00-12:00

Remotely on Zoom

Chairperson(s)	Ola Boutros – LCRP General Supervisor, MoSA Elina Silen – Senior Inter-Agency Coordinator, UNDP Camilla Jelbart – Senior Inter-Agency Coordinator, UNHCR
Minutes prepared by	Hiba Ramadan – Senior Inter-Agency Assistant, UNHCR
Agenda of the Meeting	2022 LCRP Planning Process

Proceedings

1. Opening – *Ola Boutros, LCRP General Supervisor, Ministry of Social Affairs*

- The LCRP General Supervisor opened the meeting and thanked partners for their participation.
- The focus of the meeting is on 2022 LCRP planning where draft sector strategies are to be presented by each sector coordinator or co-lead. The draft sector strategies are to be presented to the Steering Committee for endorsement on 17 December 2021.

2. **2022 LCRP Planning Process** - *Camilla Jelbart, Senior Inter-Agency Coordinator, UNHCR and Elina Silen, Senior Inter-Agency Coordinator, UNDP*

Process to date: The 2022 planning process has included a number of key steps:

- *Sub-national level **situation analysis workshops** were held in September across the country*
- *An **LCRP Steering Committee meeting** was held 21 October to set the steer for the 2022 planning*
- ***Sector-level planning** kickstarted with Inter-Sector Planning Workshop on 25 October*
- *A **Joint Technical Taskforce 2-day planning workshop** held on 25-26 November*
- ***Sectors then updated strategies based on Joint Technical Taskforce comments***
- ***Cross-sectoral prioritization meetings** held at Inter-Sector level on 5-7 December*
- *A **simplified “Chapeau”** was prepared based on situation analysis. A Joint Technical Taskforce was held on 9 December to discuss and finalize chapeau.*
- ***Sector strategies and chapeau presented for endorsed to the Steering Committee on 17 December***

Emerging Key Trends: For the 2022 planning, the following has been identified as key emerging trends to be considered in the planning:

- *The unprecedented **multi-layered political, economic and public health crises** continue*
- *Individuals and families falling deeper into **poverty** due to currency depreciation, high inflation, rising food prices and loss of income. The **COVID-19 outbreak** has exacerbated the situation by reducing people’s access to food, dignified livelihood opportunities and basic services*
- *More recently, **gaps in fuel supply and electricity** are also impacting the operational environment, including access to services for beneficiaries*
- *At the municipal level, partners are facing **increased pressure from local authorities and communities** amid reduced state service provision and spiraling need.*



- *Early signs of closing protection space (pre-election period, stretched resources): increase in collective eviction threats.*
- *Delays with government-led social safety net schemes, but activation now appears imminent*
- *New government in place, elections on the horizon*

LCRP 2022 Results Framework, People in Need, Target Populations and Needs-based requirements: The LCRP will remain with four strategic objectives, in line with the previous framework (2017-2021) as well as the regional response framework to the Syria crisis (3RP). The six impact results will be maintained, directly linked to the strategic objectives.

- **People in Need and Targeted in 2022¹:**
 - 1.5 M Vulnerable Lebanese
 - 1.5 M Displaced Syrians
 - 29,000 PRS
 - 180,000 PRL
- **Needs-based requirements:** The overall needs-based funding requirements stand at USD \$3.18 billion, slightly higher than 2021. From the sectors, the Food Security & Agriculture Sector has the largest budget at \$975 million, followed by the Basic Assistance Sector at USD \$530 million.
- **Q&A**
 - Q: Why are the totality of the refugee populations (PRS, PRL, Syrian) found to be in need?
A: Refugee populations are all considered to be in need due to protection considerations and needs linked to their displaced status.

3. 2022 Draft Sector Strategies - LCRP Sector Coordinators

Basic Assistance Sector – Ruba Cheaib, Basic Assistance Sector Coordinator

[ELEMENTS TO BE MAINTAINED]

- **Regular cash transfer assistance**, targeting the most socio-economically vulnerable HHs
→ Multi-purpose cash assistance and other social assistance programs
- **Targeted interventions in emergencies** → Seasonal cash assistance and in-kind
- **Evidence based approach to defining transfer values** → Regular monitoring
- **Targeting will remain primary based on socio-economic vulnerability**

[ELEMENTS TO BE ADJUSTED AND/OR PRIORITIZED]

- **Scale-up other Social Assistance Programs**
- **Econometric model for targeting displaced Syrians** piloting outcomes to inform the approach
- **Strengthen targeting for Lebanese** through harmonization across partners
- **Establish relationships** between Basic Assistance partners and the NPTP FOR unified assistance cross-checking and potential integration into regular and national social assistance programs.

¹ The sector with the largest target for each population group was used to determine the overall target number per population.



- **Ensure linkages and involvement with the Social Assistance Pillar** of the Social Protection Strategy which includes plans for cash-based assistance through the NPTP as well as the roll out of social grants.
- **Conflict sensitive approaches** to determine transfer values.
- Increase efforts to **understand the accessibility of services** covered through multi-purpose cash
- Roll out **GBV and SEA prevention recommendations** and provide **Gender and Disability** disaggregation's for outcome level indicators

Education Sector – Talin Sahakian, Education Sector Coordinator

[ELEMENTS TO BE MAINTAINED]

Maintains the objectives of previous years, aligned with the MEHE's 5-year General Education Plan:

- **Increased equitable access to**, participation in, and retention of education for all learners in Lebanon, with a focus on the most vulnerable.
- **Improved learning outcomes for children and youth** through enhanced quality of education services adapted to multi-crisis situations.
- **Enhanced governance and managerial capacities of the education system** to plan effectively and manage efficiently so that resources are transformed into high-level results.

[ELEMENTS TO BE ADJUSTED AND/OR PRIORITIZED]

- A more integrated and unified coordination approach to education initiatives
- Outreach approaches that take into consideration **inter-sectoral referrals** and coordination with sectors
- Providing **learning programmes in line with MEHE's new multiple flexible pathways** to education
- Strengthen parental engagement, awareness and capacity building programmes
- Implementation of **social assistance/cash programmes** to alleviate burden for education costs
- Focus on **gender equity** while improving the quality during distance and blended learning modalities
- Focus on school **improvement plans** to provide inclusive, safe, healthy and protective environments in 1st and 2nd shift schools and regulated NFE learning spaces.
- **Prepare and mitigate crisis effects by institutionalizing crisis response and management** in education

Questions & Answers:

- Q: Even with the increase of salaries of teachers, salaries remain too low. Would it be possible for the budget to take into consideration another increase in the salaries, which would impact the rates set by child? A: The sector is looking at a new costing model that considers the inflation and exchange rate. It would be possible to maneuver within that model.

Energy Sector - Elina Silen, Senior Inter-Agency Coordinator, UNDP

[ELEMENTS TO BE MAINTAINED]

- Capital investment in:
- Decentralized energy generation capacity along with storage capacity (Outcome 1)



- Energy efficiency measures (Outcome 2)
- Associated transmission and distribution networks (Outcome 3)
- Supporting the implementation of the government's development plans for the Energy sector through increased institutional capacity and technical assistance in a gender-sensitive manner (Outcome 4)

[ELEMENTS TO BE ADJUSTED AND/OR PRIORITIZED]

- Capital Investment in the essential public service providers:
- Water: Renewable energy investment for pumping stations and wastewater treatment plants
- Education: Solar PV with battery solution for schools (c.a. \$15,000 for solar PV+batteries per school, \$10,000 for battery to the school with solar PV).
- Health: Renewable energy and energy efficient measures for hospitals (c.a. min \$100,000 to \$1,000,000 per hospital)

Food Security & Agriculture Sector – Francesca Ciardi, Food Security Sector Coordinator

[ELEMENTS TO BE MAINTAINED]

- **Provision of cash-based food assistance** (cash for food, cash for agricultural and livelihood interventions) **in coordination with other sectors**
- **Services and interventions to enhance food security and spur productivity and income generation** through a comprehensive food system framework encompassing **food production, transformation and consumption (in line with MoA's National Agricultural Strategy)**
- **Strengthen national delivery capacities in food security, agriculture and social protection** through strategic guidance, technical assistance and policy and operational support to improve current and future intervention
- **Strengthening partners' capacities through technical, operational and programmatic guidance and mainstreaming gender, GBV, PSEA, conflict sensitivity, protection, environment and C-19** in operations and programme designs.

[ELEMENTS TO BE ADJUSTED AND/OR PRIORITIZED]

- **Vertical and horizontal expansion of CVA support**
- **Identify and operationalize linkages between cash/in-kind support and income-generating and LH interventions**
- **Improve referral pathways, deduplication efforts and complementarity of programmes**
- **Strengthen agricultural productivity and livelihood capacities** with focus on boosting employment opportunities, improving linkages between small-scale producers and retailers, exporters and domestic traders
- **Improve nutrition interventions / awareness and promotion of food safety and standard practices** in coordination with nutrition, health and education counterparts
- **Increase advocacy efforts on resource mobilization** (funding shortfalls for agricultural and livelihood outcomes)
- **Strengthen conflict sensitivity, GBV and PSEA mainstreaming and do no harm approaches**

Questions & Answers:

- Q: When strengthening local agriculture by increasing employment opportunities, are you taking into consideration that landlords tend to deploy women and children (not men) in field work which is a violation of child protection notions. What would be the proper approach in this regard? A: A series of new funding assessments are taking place in regard to the exploitation of women in agriculture sector and child labor. This is an ongoing issue that FAO



has been working closely with international counterparts to tackle. Till now, the full extent of strategies and programs that have been adapted to take into consideration these challenges cannot yet be shared, but the sector could provide insights on how partners are adjusting their programs to address this issue.

Health Sector – Stephanie Laba, Health Sector Coordinator

[ELEMENTS TO BE MAINTAINED]

Following a health system strengthening approach:

- **Primary healthcare support:** Comprehensive package of primary healthcare following the LPSP. Highlight: **Nutrition**. Use of MMUs on expectational basis.
- **Hospital care support:** Displaced population (UNHCR referral care programme), PRS & PRL (UNRWA hospitalization scheme), Lebanese population (uninsured admitted under MoPH + covered by CNSS & COOP) – Focus: cases characterized by additional costs resulting from the use of material (e.g., orthopedics and cardiology).
- **Outbreak & infectious diseases control:** EWARS, contingency stock, NTP & NAP.
- **Health awareness and promotion:** Maintained and expanded at institutional & community level. Focus: Lebanese.

[ELEMENTS TO BE ADJUSTED AND/OR PRIORITIZED]

- Ensure an **equitable distribution of supported primary healthcare centers** based on needs/gaps (+251 vulnerable cadasters).
- **Hospital support** – Individual level: most vulnerable groups; institutions: based on needs. Focus: operational/crises.
- Ensure **linkages with other sectors** to mitigate risks.
- **Address aid bias** by improving communication on support to Lebanese.
- Maintain close coordination and communication with **ERP & 3RF**.

Livelihoods Sector – Carina Adada, Livelihoods Sector coordinator

[ELEMENTS TO BE MAINTAINED]

- **Technical and financial support and market linkages**
- **Financial and non-financial services** with focus on women-led MSMEs
- Support to **key value chains** in sectors with high potential for employment and income
- Access to **immediate decent employment opportunities** in labour intensive interventions
- Address **labour market gaps and increase employability** of individuals
- **Business skills training** to promote employment readiness
- **Linkages between market-based skills training and work-based learning opportunities to MSMEs**
- **Policy and strategy level support** to increase capacities of National Employment Office and implementation of the SME strategy

[ELEMENTS TO BE ADJUSTED AND/OR PRIORITIZED]

- **Expand income generating activities** in key sectors to meet immediate needs for income
- **Expand support to MSMEs and cooperatives** in key sectors to sustain their operations
- **Private sector engagement in Cash for Work and business support** to support sustainability



- **Strengthen export of local products**
- **Cluster business and value chain support**
- **Expand work-based learning opportunities** - help meet market demands and access to income
- **Stronger focus on linking vocational and on-the-job training with MSMEs and cooperatives** already supported by the partners

Protection Sector – Afaf Khalil, MoSA Protection Lead

[ELEMENTS TO BE MAINTAINED]

- **Continued priority to securing** legal residency, civil documentation and security of tenure for refugees; institutional support and advocacy on **legal residency and birth registration** (O1)
- Support for **national action plans** on child labor, child marriage, clinical management of rape. **Expand support for national action plan** on birth registration and older persons, continued sector advocacy on laws related to women, children and trafficking (O1)
- **Accountability for affected populations** through specific output on PSEA, and **expansion to include** promotion of complaint and feedback mechanisms, child safeguarding (O2)
- **Scale up case management, MHPSS, emergency safe shelters, protection and emergency cash** (O3)
- **Community-based protection** as a way of enabling at-risk individuals to protect themselves (O2)

[ELEMENTS TO BE ADJUSTED AND/OR PRIORITIZED]

- **3-pronged integrated approach to securing access to fundamental rights, an effective justice & protection system** -> (1) information provision; (2) direct access to legal aid (SGBV, CP) (3) strengthened national prevention & response system (CP, SGBV, counter-trafficking), **expanded support for national action plans** (O1)
- Emphasis on strengthening **cross-sectoral eviction prevention & response esp. shelter** (O1)
- Enhanced attention to **community-based protection for prevention and response** moving beyond information provision (O2)
- **Scale up of case management** across community groups, **MHPSS, protection & emergency cash** with improved monitoring of impact & risks; engagement with **livelihoods, FSA and Basic assistance** (O3)

Shelter Sector – Mazen Riachi, MoSA Shelter co-lead

[ELEMENTS TO BE MAINTAINED]

- **Winterization programme in informal settlements**
- **Improve the shelter conditions of vulnerable population living in urban shelters**
- **Cash for rent to mitigate eviction threats** → *close coordination with the Protection sector*
- **Continue to prioritize female-headed households, persons with specific needs and marginalized groups** → *through provision of tailored shelter assistance*



- Continue to **implement and advocate for the adoption of integrated multi-sectoral area-based approach**
- **Strengthen the ability of national institutions/organizations** to improve shelter and housing

[ELEMENTS TO BE ADJUSTED AND/OR PRIORITIZED]

- Develop integrated shelter and protection plan for **evictions and eviction threat**
- **Scale-up cash for rent to mitigate eviction threats** (all cohorts)
- Develop **evidence-based and conflict sensitive methodology** to set cash for rent transfer value
- **Integrate shelter upgrades and cash for rent programming** to enhance security of tenure
- Enhance the **geographical targeting** approach
- **Improve the shelter conditions of households living in collective shelters**
- Coordinate with PRT sector on **HLP, assisting undocumented persons, and child labor**

Social Stability Sector - William Barakat, Social Stability Coordinator

[ELEMENTS TO BE MAINTAINED]

- **Basic services and community support projects** to reduce pressure on resources
- **Participatory approaches in assessments** to ensure an inclusive needs identification
- **Solid Waste Management** with support to municipalities (**Support to Municipal police** in capacity building)
- Build on **Social Stability community groups and youth-led initiatives**
- **Training media** on positive and neutral reporting
- **Continue Tension monitoring and Conflict Sensitivity mainstreaming**

[ELEMENTS TO BE ADJUSTED AND/OR PRIORITIZED]

- **Better prioritization of areas of areas and projects** (consider tension factors and better geographical coverage)
- Emphasize innovative projects that benefit larger populations → *tackles issues around sustainability including operations and maintenance costs*
- Conduct deep dives in the **role of media and online spaces in increasing tensions**
- **Enhance relationships with authorities** including on preventing evictions, and better coordination of local level **requests for support.e**
- **Direct linkages between with Livelihoods sector** on cash for work (winterization and solid waste management)
- Improve **communication on support to the host community**

Water Sector – Michele Citton, Water Sector co-coordinator

[ELEMENTS TO BE MAINTAINED]



- **Contribution to the National Water Sector Strategy (NWSS)** Prioritize stabilization projects following the NWSS. Support MOEW in critical actions (Water Quality and groundwater monitoring)
- **Provision of WASH services in Informal Settlements** to secure that WASH minimal needs according to Sector Minimal standards are met
- Considering more sustainable sources of water in coordination with the WE's which will also allow generation of revenue to the WEs.
- **Environmental Sanitation in ISs** Continue scaling up of the WWTP pilots in ISs, reduced desludging costs and environmental impacts from ISs.

[ELEMENTS TO BE ADJUSTED AND/OR PRIORITIZED]

- Support MOEW and WEs in defining an updated tariffing system to sustain operational costs for Water supply
- Strengthen **coordination with the Energy sector** (Solarization projects), **Livelihood's sector** (Cash for WASH) **Social Stability** (Tension mapping and Solid Waste in ISs), **Nutrition Sector** (pregnant and lactating mothers plus infants and children under 2).