

ISWG Meeting Note

July 2023



Inter-Sector
Working Group
Jordan

ISWG Meeting Note and Action Points

Date / Time / Venue	Wednesday, 09 July 2023, 14:30 - 16:00, UNHCR office
Attendees	Inter-Sector Coordinator, Sector Coordinators, Leads/co-leads of the Health, Protection, Economic Empowerment, Shelter, WASH, Food Security Basic Needs and Education sectors, Disability and Age, and Sexual and Reproductive Health sub-sectors, JIF, Senior Protection and Senior Gender Advisors, UN Women Gender expert, UNHCR Transition and Development Officers and UNHCR Statistics and Data Analysis Officer

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND OUTCOMES

- **The sectors to actively engage in the upcoming JRP process**
- **An occurrence of legal aid projects rejected by the GoJ to be explored**
- **The sectors to initiate discussions on the challenges of reprioritization and submit three top sector areas to ISWG**
- **The sectors to include operational updates in the sector meetings**
- **The ISWG Advisors to avail themselves to the sectors' discussions to mainstream protection, gender, resilience**

SECTORS' OPERATIONAL UPDATES

The Health sector has been collaborating with the Ministry of Health (MoH) to include refugees in the national health system. As part of this collaboration, the MoH will be launching a Hakim application, developed in partnership with the Public Security Department and the UNHCR DAG unit, which will demonstrate refugees' accessibility to primary and secondary health facilities in Jordan. The Hakim application will begin piloting in PHCs and hospitals. As for the ongoing Health Access Utilization Survey (HAUS), it has completed data collection and initiated data analysis.

Through the joint efforts of the MoH, WHO, and other agencies, the Country Health Assessment is in its final stages. This assessment aligns with the recommendations of His Excellency to the Health Development Partners Forum.

The Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) sub-sector has successfully piloted a safe delivery application in Za'atari camp. The MoH is interested in scaling up this application to the national level.

The Shelter sector has harmonized methods of linking with national systems to avoid parallel systems. In line with the strategic directions of sector reform, the sector has expanded its partnership footprint.

Regarding Food Security and Basic Needs, efforts are being made to address funding shortfalls in collaboration with WFP and UNHCR. A retargeting methodology has been developed in collaboration with WFP which will affect both Syrian and non-Syrian refugees in urban areas. The eligibility criteria are being reviewed, and the value of

WFP assistance packages will be reduced. Consultations with refugee communities will begin, with these retargeting changes set to take effect in September.

Within the ESTIDAMA ++ framework, Economic Empowerment partners are engaged in consultations on extending social security as part of the country's medium-term development agenda. There is support from partners for inclusion activities. MOPIC has resumed attending Economic Empowerment sector meetings.

The Protection sector is focused on addressing challenges resulting from decreased funding and phasing out of partners. Efforts are being made to strengthen communities as agents of change and optimize partners' resources to fill gaps in certain geographical locations. The GBV and DA sub-sectors are updating referral pathways, and the CP sub-sector is preparing advocacy papers on child labor and child marriages.

The Education sector, represented by the Ministry of Education (MoE), is engaged in the joint annual review of the Education Strategic Plan. The limited participation of partners in the event has been noted.

The WASH sector has observed some partners closing their humanitarian programs, but there is a growing interest from development partners in attending sector meetings. There is an overall trend towards a humanitarian and development nexus in programming.

VAF Q1'2023 RESULTS

The VAF Q1'23 report has been finalized. It provides a comprehensive analysis of the socio-economic situation of Syrian and non-Syrian refugees in urban and Syrian refugees in Za'atari and Azraq camps, specifically focusing on the changes in vulnerability. The report offers opportunities for the deeper sectorial analysis and usage of the findings. The sectors are currently engaged in the review of the VAF questionnaire for the upcoming survey in urban areas.

For more detailed information please reach out Abdel-Latif Ghatasheh ghatashe@unhcr.org .

PRESENTATION BY UN WOMEN-SENIOR GENDER ADVISOR'S TOR AND GENDER MAINSTREAMING PILOT

The Inter-Sector Working Group (ISWG) has initiated the piloting of an Inter-Sector Gender Advisory Team (ISGAT) led by the UN Women Senior Gender Advisor (SGA) and by UNHCR. Throughout the rest of 2023, the ISGAT will focus on enhancing gender mainstreaming across the Refugee Response in Jordan. The group of gender experts who are eager to join the ISGAT will provide technical support and capacity development to the sectors, ensuring accountability, sustainability, and the integration of gender equality commitments within the ISWG structures.

AOB

JORDAN RESPONSE PLAN 2024 – 2026

The JRP structure for 2024 - 2026, developed by the MoPIC, has been shared with JOSH for comments and received feedback. The general comments on the JRP have been approved by the Government of Jordan (GoJ). The JRP consists of ten areas, which are mostly aligned with the 3RP sectors. The relevant ministries will lead the JRP task forces, involving UN agencies, partners, and donors. UNHCR has been identified as a member of all task forces. Each task force will have a UN agency serving as its secretariat and supporting the shaping of the JRP. The secretariat's responsibilities may include drafting narratives for the task forces (discussion is still ongoing re that role).

MoPIC will soon invite participation from UN agencies, donors, INGCs, and NNGOs to contribute and engage in the process. The ISWG has shared the list of sector areas with MoPIC. A kick-off meeting for the JRP is expected to take place in July.

Engaging with the JRP offers sectors valuable opportunities to contribute their technical expertise to the process, aligning with the Inter-Agency response by utilizing sector log frames.

REPRIORITIZATION

In light of the decline in funds for Jordan, the JOSH (Jordan Strategic Humanitarian Committee) held a special meeting on July 3rd to address the challenges of reprioritization. During the meeting, the JOSH facilitated a discussion on how different agencies perceive reprioritizing. There has been a concern within the JOSH regarding why sectors are not engaging in such discussions, and whether they have the capacity to do so.

The ISWG has recommended sectors that sectors replicate this discussion. It is understood that each sector is unique in terms of their scope of delivery. However, sectors are encouraged to demonstrate their operational capabilities, discuss critical needs, and highlight them in their operational updates, rather than solely focusing on processes. The ISWG and the UNHCR Inter-Agency Coordination Unit are available resources for sectors to delve deeper into these discussions.

Sectors are advised to prioritize the subject of operational challenges and gaps at the core of their sector discussions and consider involving the ISWG Advisors in these conversations.

To facilitate this process, the ISWG is initiating a coordinated reprioritization exercise, urging sectors to identify their top three critical needs, including any existing gaps and required resources. The ISWG has developed the "Challenges of Reprioritization – Special Sector Discussion Template" to guide sectors through this process.

In September, the ISWG will organize a coordination training session that will engage Sector (co)Leads and the agencies' country directors in a transparent dialogue about coordination approaches and implementation.

Further to the active discussion of the above, overall, the meeting participants concluded the followings:

- Sectors to check availability and interest of gender experts across the response to join the gender mainstreaming pilot
- Sectors to start consultations on reprioritization
- Sectors to centre discussions/meetings around operational updates
- The ISWG and the IACU are the resources to support the operational discussions
- ISWG Advisors to avail themselves to the sectors' discussions
- Upon the official call by MoPIC, sectors to take active part in JRP

ROAD MAP OF ISWG DEADLINES

Based on the above, the road map of the key actions and the respective deadlines were updated:

Action Point(s)	Timeframe	Focal Point(s)	Status	Note(s)
Explore the challenge of the legal aid projects being rejected	asap	Protection sector		

Share the SGA TOR and the concept of the gender mainstreaming pilot	asap	ISWG	done	
Check availability of gender experts to join the gender mainstreaming pilot	July	Sector (co)Leads, ISWG	ongoing	
Send the reprioritization template to the sectors	asap	ISWG	done	
Start consultations on reprioritization	asap	Sector Leads		
Share link to the VAF Q1'23 results	when published	ISWG	done	
Share 4Ws link	July	ISWG		