National Protection Working Group Meeting

Time & Location	17 December 2019 / UNHCR Yıldız Kule Office, Turkey
Chaired by	Lara Özügergin – Assistant Inter-Agency Coordination Officer Johannes Van Gemund – Senior Inter-Agency Coordination Officer
Participants	UNHCR, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women, IOM, WFP, ASAM, Japan Center for Conflict Prevention Turkey, TRC, STL, Red Umbrella Association, IFRC, GIZ.
Meeting Agenda	**1.** Announcements and Updates **2.** Outcomes of Protection Coordinators' Meeting **3.** Strengthening Ways of Working in Coordination **4.** Prioritization of Thematic Areas for National PWG

Agenda Point	**Discussion**
Announcements and Updates	▪ 3RP 2020 - 2021 Turkey chapter (including protection sector narrative and response matrix) sent to region for review. ▪ Legal counselors' group (LCG) chair provided a brief introduction on their platform, members, ongoing efforts and planned activities. In summary, the LCG was established in 2019, is based in the South East and is composed of legal counselors/case workers from CARE, ASAM, DRC, IOM, UNHCR, IBC, Concern, STL and 3 legal clinics. The group has been facilitating legal trainings for case/field workers, mapped legal systems/services (legal clinics, Bar Associations, I/NGOs), undertakes systematic legal analysis, supports SET PWG upon request/need and enables sharing of court decisions towards replication of good practices. It is agreed that in 2020, stronger linkages between the national PWG and LCG will be sought. ▪ UNFPA announced two new projects: working with men and boy survivors of SGBV (2 provinces); and a project aiming to reach out to rural refugees to provide services on sexual and reproductive health, women's empowerment, and child, early and forced marriages. ➢ **Action Point:** UNFPA to share information on exact locations of mentioned (new) programmes.
Outcomes of Protection	▪ A full-day meeting was facilitated with national and field level protection coordinators (including CP and SGBV) and technical advisors of WGs. Agenda of the meeting included briefings by field coordinators on strategic objectives and prioritized areas for WGs in 2020;

Coordinators' Meeting	suggested priority areas for national PWG and support to field; strengthening national and regional coordination in Turkey; and, cross-cutting activities and multi-sectoral collaboration. Outcomes are presented below: **Common priority areas between regions** include: ▪ **Complementarity with public institutions**: support to provincial coordination mechanisms; development/harmonization of protection-sensitive tools; establishment of structured, sustainable two-way referral mechanisms; ▪ **Capacity development**: targeting sector members, other sectors, public institutions and communities; facilitation of thematic trainings (basic and advanced levels); establishment of repository of guidance and training materials; continuity and complementarity in delivery; ▪ **Collaboration with other sectors**: protection and gender mainstreaming; identification and referrals; cross-cutting issues (e.g. child marriages, child labor, social cohesion, AAP); ▪ **Information and analysis**: better understanding of protection situation (i.e. trends analysis, impact assessments); better coordination of programmes; sharing of information on needs, challenges, good practices; harmonization of information and data management to enable collaboration; evidence-based strategic planning and programming. **Areas for national level support to regional WGs** include: ▪ **Harmonization of regional approaches and sharing good practices:** strengthening linkages between regional working groups and national platforms (including PWG, STF and SRG); guidance on and harmonization of protection tools and good practices; harmonization of language (i.e. humanitarian terminology vs. national legislation). ▪ **Advocacy in support of response to regional protection challenges:** to address policy and regulation related issues that cannot be resolved at the local level; systematic communication of information from local to central level (and vice versa) on needs and good practices; strategic engagement with donors. ▪ **Continuous learning and development:** Collection and contextualization of global guidance; translation of key documents; establishment of guidance repository; delivery of tailored thematic trainings based on needs assessments; ▪ **Strategic and operational guidance related to complementarity with public institutions:** strategic and practical guidance on referral pathways and provincial coordination; case processing and integrated programming; ▪ **Information management:** capacity development (coordinators and sector members), strengthening IM linkages ▪ **Collaboration with other sectors:** protection mainstreaming; AAP; child marriages & child labor; protection-sensitive identification and referral to specialized services. On AAP: practical guidance and recommended sample toolkit on PSEA, complaints and feedback mechanisms, code of conduct, community engagement and participation, child safeguarding.

Strengthening Ways of Working in Coordination	**<u>Restructuring the national PWG</u>** ▪ Frequency of national PWG meetings changed from monthly to bi-monthly. ▪ PWG meetings to be combined with CPWG meetings and if possible, SGBV WG meetings (to be discussed with Ministry counterparts). ▪ Thematic meetings will at least last one full day, with an extension of an extra half/full day if required, to enable comprehensive discussions, meetings with other actors, consultation with communities (etc.) as deemed appropriate. 3 to 4 key thematic, strategic issues to be prioritized with national PWG members. Each thematic meeting to be followed through the establishment of smaller task teams (that report to the PWG), development of action plans and tools, as deemed relevant for each issue. It is also agreed to include short information sharing sessions prior to discussions on thematic issues. **<u>Strengthening Coordination</u>** ▪ Joint calendar to be revised to include nation-wide protection coordination meetings, workshops and trainings. Field level WG meetings will be sequenced prior to national level meetings enable information flow on outcomes of strategic field level meetings. ➢ **Action Point:** Joint calendar to be revised by coordinator and shared with members. ▪ National PWG meetings to be facilitated in Turkish, with English interpretation support for international participants. ▪ SGBV WG coordinators will advocate with the Ministry towards inclusion of I/NGOs in coordination platform.
Prioritization of Thematic Areas for National PWG	▪ Four main thematic areas are prioritized for 2020 as follows: child labor; child, early and forced marriages; AAP; and, complementarity with public institutions. Social cohesion is also suggested by members as an ad hoc topic. ▪ In case of need, ad hoc information sharing meetings will be organized.

Action Points	Focal Point
UNFPA to share information on exact locations of mentioned (new) programmes.	UNFPA
Joint calendar to be revised by coordinator and shared with members.	Coordinator