



Inter-Sector Working Group meeting minutes

Friday, 5 April 2024

Present in person: Monica Andonie, Ana Cosma, Simina-Maria Costea, Marius Chiricuța, Sebastiaan Der Kinderen, Lucian Silviu Dinu, Ylenia Franco, Ștefan Lorint, Victoria Morén, Cristian Musat, James Weatherlake

Present online: Reme Al-Kofairi, Pedro Munoz Alonso, Andriana Cosciug, Ahmad Zia Furmolly, Andreea Furtuna, Matthias Lansard, Ștefan Leonescu, Gabriela Leu, Jean-Benoît Manhes, Victoria Schiere, Horațiu Tatar, Gheorghe Trofin

Regrets: Cristina Adam, Simona Boanca, Alberto Bolzán, Jorunn Brandvol, Razvan Cateriniuc, Elena Larisa Cofaru, Mihai Copaceanu, Jonjo Cordey, Luminita Costache, Alina Gârleanu, Silvia Gatscher, Marilena Ene, Loredana Urzica Mirea, Eugen-Bogdan Preda, Emma Smith, Irem Umuroglu, Mihai Vilcea, Kylie Alcoba Wright, Wendy Zillich

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Discussion on the future of RRP coordination

Jean-Benoît Manhes highlighted potential roles of coordination groups, as per the global cluster approach:

1. To support service delivery
 - a. Provide a platform for ensuring that service delivery activities follow a strategic vision.
 - b. Develop mechanisms to eliminate duplication of service delivery.
2. To inform the international stakeholders for decision making.
 - a. share information about situation and strategic orientations from government or international response.
 - b. Support or share needs assessments and gaps analysis (across and within sectors).
 - b. Identify and find solutions for (emerging) gaps, obstacles, duplication, and crosscutting issues.
 - c. Formulate priorities based on analysis.
3. To plan and develop strategy
 - a. Develop sectoral plans, objectives and indicators that directly support realization of the response's strategic priorities.
 - b. Apply and adhere to standards and guidelines.
 - c. Clarify funding requirements, help to set priorities, and agree cluster contributions to the HC's overall humanitarian funding proposals.
4. To monitor and evaluate performance
 - a. Monitor and report on activities and needs.
 - b. Maintain knowledge base.
 - c. Measure performance against the strategy and agreed results.
 - d. Recommend corrective action where necessary.

5. To encourage participation.

a. Let all partners participate and be listen to regardless of size or capacity.

6. Advocacy

a. Identify concerns that should be raised with government.

Discussion identified that:

- We could look at the structure and see whether structure is fit for purpose – whether we need all WG's in the future. We have the ISWG to look at broader issues.
- A core role that WGs and the ISWG can/should play is on advocacy. We have a unique position able to talk to civil society and government to help shape ideas. Convening power of the RRP. We need to come up with a strategy and to map coordination.
- Coordination should go beyond information sharing – WGs should develop conceptual documents. Perhaps there should be two-speed WGs according to need.
- A way forward is on being more specialized along thematic areas. We need more specialized activities, more technical discussions, more targeted approaches. Better planned meetings.
- WGs have worked mostly on humanitarian work; from the legislation point of view – starting in July there will be greater focus on integration rather than humanitarian. The role of civil society organisations and the role of advocacy should be underlined.
- In terms of advocacy and resource allocation: importance of partners to report on funding. We have anecdotal feedback on underfunding but no data to present to donors. Funding of local partners needed for localisation.

3. Social Cohesion

Working session on social cohesion: outline of a RRP framework/a RRP definition of social cohesion.

Slides shared (see attached) to support the discussion – looking at common values associated with social cohesion and various dimensions of social cohesion. **Social cohesion** is a related concept that parallels that of social integration in many respects. A socially cohesive society is one where all groups have a sense of belonging, participation, inclusion, recognition, and legitimacy. Such societies are not necessarily demographically homogenous. Rather, by respecting diversity, they harness the potential residing in their societal diversity (in terms of ideas, opinions, skills, etc.). Therefore, they are less prone to slip into destructive patterns of tension and conflict when different interests collide.

For a definition; several options presented in slides and online:

https://www.un.org/esa/socdev/sib/inclusive_society/social%20cohesion.html. Overall feeling that write-up of the values and dimensions are critical to support the RRP definition.

Action: IA will prepare a working definition to discuss at the ISWG on 19 April 2024.

In terms of programming:

- Discussion on some Romania examples of programming around “policy”, “programming” and “mainstreaming” of social cohesion.
- At EU level, there are policy examples: https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/information-sources/publications/reports/2022/eighth-report-on-economic-social-and-territorial-cohesion_en

- For programming, important to take steps to diminish social distance – we have tools in the box for partners working directly with refugees. We embark on events that bring refugees in front of the public – awareness-raising and familiarity with the topic.
- Mapping of interventions needed along a matrix (policy/programming/mainstreaming).
Action: Inter-agency to develop matrix and start pre-populating with information available from operational updates.
- We should collect good practices and share with those in various platforms (including the DSU one). There is a need to collect experiences.

4. Any other business

- Services Advisor will be available in Romani language from 8 April (International Roma Day).
- The next ISWG meeting will take place on from 1 to 5 p.m. on Monday, 15 April. It will be a working session on **the Multi-Sector Needs Assessment questions**. The questions will be shared with ISWG participants prior to the meeting.