



## DASWG Meeting Minutes

February 25<sup>th</sup> 2025, 13:00-14:30

Location: Hybrid, MS Teams & UNHCR CO

Co-chairs: Martina Mannocchi (UNHCR) and Saba al Masri (IOCC)

### Agenda

- Co-Chairs Update
- Discussion on impact of US funds' freeze on persons with disabilities
- Workplan (WP) 2025 – Presentation of Samira Smairat, Inter-Agency Coordination Associate (UNHCR)
- Mapping of OPDs
- Revision of 4Ws
- Partners update
- A.O.B

Agenda items	Discussion	Action points
<b>Discussion on impact of US funds' freeze on persons with disabilities</b>	<p>The reduction or suspension of funds has directly affected critical health and rehabilitation services under the Protection sector across multiple locations targeting persons with disabilities, both disability specific services and general services.</p> <p><u>Affected Locations:</u> All locations - Irbid, Zarqa, Sweileh, Karak, and Rusayfeh. Amman/Swileh</p>	



	<p>IOCC (project funded by BPRM, in partnership with IHF): The project was suspended (covering Irbid, Sweileh, Zarqa, Karak and Rusayfeh) determining immediate interruption of OT, ST, Special education, Vision and hearing services, and hearing lab facilities. IOCC is trying to maintain some activities using their own fundings, but a stricter prioritization in the selection of cases should be applied as IOCC funding cannot cover the full gap left by US funding. The suspended project was 3-year project 2024-26. IOCC submitted a waiver to BPRM and is waiting for a response.</p> <p>JOHUD: JOHUD suspended the USAID-funded projects. To share by email impacted locations and activities.</p> <p>CARE Jordan: not directly affected as they did not have US funding but since it works under CARE US, CARE US is trying to cover other countries so small projects in Jordan are put on hold. CARE is also partner of IFH that was affected by the cut. CARE has shared staff across projects with IHF and it has been impacted.</p> <p>IHF: big impact of the freeze, as explained by IOCC. In addition to the activities mentioned by IOCC, also PSS, accessibility enhancement, medical consultations, provision of assistive devices, capacity building are affected. The waiting list is becoming longer and it is becoming more difficult to satisfy needs.</p> <p>Tdh: Not impacted directly, but they are seeing an increase in the referrals received for Cash for Health as there are less actors on the ground because of the cuts. Tdh has no capacity to cover all needs and the waiting list for services will increase.</p> <p>HI stopped all activities funded by BPRM.</p> <p>The same applies for cash for protection/cash assistance.</p>	
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	<p><b>Direct &amp; Indirect Impact on Population Groups:</b> The suspension directly affects persons with disabilities (PWDs), refugees, and host communities who rely on these services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Longer waiting lists for services for the service providers that are still providing services, meaning in average recipients need to wait more time to be assessed/prioritized/served.</li><li>• Lack of essential services and need to move to other locations to access services, which is a challenge in terms of financial burden, limited mobility.</li><li>• Increase of request of cash for health due to interruption of some programs.</li><li>• Missing referrals mechanisms and increase in demands for services.</li></ul> <p><b>Mitigation Measures:</b> To sustain essential services, consultation contracts will be utilized for key rehabilitation services with a structured financial distribution model. Additionally, mobile teams will be deployed to provide hearing and vision check-ups, prioritizing services based on existing needs and available capacity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- HQ funding used for most vulnerable cases.</li><li>- Try to reach out to other donors to mitigate the gap left by US funding.</li><li>- Try to find private funding, meetings with private companies that can provide medicines or items. (many companies are interested in trainings, willing to donate, awareness sessions, etc)</li><li>- Try to work in consortium with other organizations to share costs under different donors.</li><li>- Reducing the costs and beneficiary pays the basic cost of the services (5-7 JD).</li></ul>	
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<b>Presentation of the Protection Working Group Work Plan (WP) for 2025</b>	<p><u>Presentation of the 2025 Workplan by UNHCR Inter-Agency team</u> file to monitor, follow up and take timely decisions. The first point of the WP is referred to coordination: It is needed to strengthen the coordination to avoid overlapping and maximize efforts in delivering services, including monthly meetings, thematic mapping through Kobo that will be circulated to propose topics to be discussed; field updates, as well as ISWG on returns. Interagency will share and post MoM and relevant information.</p> <p><u>Area of Strategy and Planning:</u> ToR and WP to be updated, referral pathways to be updated especially in view of funding reductions, share assessments and needs prioritization, partners can access ALH (analysis and learning hub) and upload any assessment, reports, etc.</p> <p><u>Area of Monitoring and Reporting:</u> monthly update of AI, quarterly update of JRF, update of 4Ws, OPDs mapping.</p> <p><u>Area of Mapping and Analysis</u></p> <p><u>Area of Advocacy and Resource Mobilization:</u> Achievements and challenges can be shared ISWG monthly meeting; JOSH meetings. Engagement with government (govt co-chairing PWG is a big achievement to ensure localization and sustainability). In 2024, a donor mapping exercise was conducted and to be updated in 2025.</p> <p><u>Area of cross-cutting:</u> GBV, Gender, Youth, Age and Disability. Ensure inclusion of all categories and ensure gender, disability, etc mainstreaming.</p> <p><u>Area of capacity building:</u> it includes awareness sessions, workshops, ToT, etc).</p>	<p>Share WP with members for their inputs</p> <p>Kobo link for thematic mapping to be shared by Inter-Agency</p> <p>Inter-Agency to share donor mapping</p>
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	<p><u>Area of visibility:</u> It is important to reflect how our intervention contributed in improving refugees' wellbeing. Humanitarian stories, success stories, case studies.</p>	
<p><b>OPDs mapping</b></p>	<p>The purpose of the mapping is to understand which OPDs are present in Jordan, what do they do, give them visibility and increase the coordination between OPDs and other stakeholders.</p> <p>UNHCR presented the questionnaires to the members and the questions were jointly discussed.</p> <p>Question: how will be conducted the data collection?          Answer: members can share the Kobo link with the OPDs. UNHCR will try also to reach bilaterally OPDs and coordinate with HCD to have a list of active OPDs in the country.</p>	<p>UNHCR to share questionnaires to the members for further revision</p>
<p>4Ws</p>	<p>Revision of the 4Ws with members.</p>	<p>4Ws to be shared again to be completed.</p>
<p>Partners' and field updates</p>	<p>Irbid office: Protection meeting was held last week in Irbid. Plan to conduct a gap analysis for access to services.</p>	



Attendance Sheet				
DASWG monthly meeting Tuesday 25th Feb 2025 UNHCR -EMOPS room				
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