

Education Sector Meeting Group (ESWG) Meeting – 02 September 2013

Time: 12:00- 13:30

Venue: UNICEF Conference Room/ 2nd floor

Chaired by: UNICEF (Eugene Ha)

Agenda:

1. Review of Minutes/Action Points
2. Updates from education partners
3. Sector Survey
4. Contingency Planning of Education Sector
5. Outcome of informal education partners meeting
6. Any other business

Minutes

Please note that previous Education Sector Working Group meeting was replaced by Gender Marker training with Education Sector participants on 19 August therefore, no minutes were produced.

1. Review of Action points from previous meeting minutes

- The meeting minutes and action points from 5 August were reviewed. With minor edit changes, the minutes were adopted by the group.
- Alex Tyler, Inter-Sector Coordinator, joined the meeting and was introduced.

2. Updates from education partners

Finn Church Aid

- In Za'atari camp, FCA has installed new prefab structure in District 8 to provide informal education services. It consists of 2 classrooms, multi-purpose rooms and indoor sports facilities as well as ICT center.
- In Azraq, FCA continues with setting up informal education centers in Village 3.
- In King Abdulla Park, FCA continues with skills training with youth.

UNICEF

- New academic year for public schools started on 28 August. There some 1.9 million school-going children in Jordan. Some 35,000 Jordanian students are reportedly moved from private schools to public schools which increased demand in public schools. As of 26 August, there are some 20,000 Syrian students on the waiting list to be registered at public schools.
- In order to alleviate pressure, UNICEF agreed with Ministry of Education to double-shift some 40 schools in areas with high concentration of Syrian students – with capacity to accommodate some 16,000 children in total. The selection of the schools is based on the joint school absorption capacity assessment and field assessments. In addition, prefab classrooms are being provided at schools to increase learning space. These initiatives will benefit both Jordanian and Syrian students together. [**ACTION: Deema/UNICEF to share the list of 40 double-shifted schools**]
- It was advised for Syrian parents to contact directly to the Directorates of Education rather than contacting schools to avoid delay in registration. Also contact Save the Children Jordan HelpDesk. Key messages on process for Syrian children's registration will be shared by UNICEF Education team. [**ACTION: Deema/UNICEF to share the key message for Education Sector partners.**]
- Home schooling option was raised by participant of the meeting.
- In EJC, the public school (jointly managed by MOE/UNICEF) opened with 1,000 children.
- In Za'atari camp, three public schools are opened and back-to-school campaign has successfully completed. Some 10,000 children are registered in two schools (School I and III).
- In Azraq, two schools are in construction. School 1 is completed about 60%.

Business Development Center

- BDC introduced its organization and projects. Focusing on entrepreneurship and employability for women, the organization is in process of designing a project for Syrian refugee in Jordan.
- It was advised to link up with relevant actors such as NRC, Save the Children International, FCA, etc after the meeting bilaterally.

NRC

- NRC continues with catch-up classes in Emirate Jordan Camp and Za'atari camp in collaboration with UNICEF. The first cohort of this programme completed and pre/post tests have been carried out. The next step is to ensure the students in the first cohort be integrated into public schools in respective camps based on the placement test which is planned to be carried out by MOE in coming weeks. In agreement with UNICEF and Relief International (another actor implementing catch-up classes), the second cohort will be temporarily on hold until the next steps for the first cohort is decided.
- NRC completed the first cohort of vocational training for youth in Za'atari camp.

IOCC

- Life skills activities started in mid-August. Provision of school uniforms/training suits is ongoing to support 26,000 children.

3. Sector Survey results

- Alex Tyler/Inter-Sector Coordinator shared a quick briefing on the sector survey and its preliminary results. The full report will be shared in coming days. Total of 11 participants participated from Education Sector (amongst largest compared to other sectors). The survey assessed the RRP process, meeting management, sector performance and sought recommendations for further improvement in sector coordination. **[ACTION: Eugene to circulate the Sector Survey Report once available]**

4. Contingency Planning of Education Sector

- Alex Tyler / Inter-Sector Coordinator shared scenarios for large influx into Jordan based on recent development in Syria. Sector leads met together to discuss potential scenarios and contingency plan (also specifically for Za'atari camp). The scenarios will be shared and as part of the contingency planning, education sector participants were requested to provide inputs for their respective contingency stock. **[ACTION: Eugene/UNICEF to share contingency scenario document and excel table of contingency stock for further inputs and compilation]**

5. Outcome of informal education partners meeting

- NRC provided update on the Za'atari level education group meeting which took place while the Education Sector chair was away in August. The last meeting was held on 28 August to discuss specifically on informal education (out-of-school children). The major outcome was to prepare for comprehensive key messages by all education actors in order to better serve refugee children and youth in the camp.

6. Any other business

- NRC updated the group on the progress of Youth Task Force in Za'atari camp TOR, which is being finalized. **[Once approved, it will be shared with Education Sector Working participants.]**
- RRP6 process is due to start in the region covering next year 2014 January – December. Further details will be provided during next meeting.
- Next Education Sector meeting is scheduled on 16 September (Monday) at 12 pm at UNICEF Office, 2nd floor conference room.