

WASH Sector Working Group – Minutes of Meeting

Purpose of Meeting	National WASH Sector meeting		
Meeting Location	UNHCR	Meeting Date	23 Oct 2013
Chair persons	Samuel Gonzaga (gonzagas@unhcr.org) David Adams (dadams@unicef.org)	Meeting Time	1310 Hrs
Minutes by	Steller Makasi (smakasi@unicef.org)	Meeting Duration	2 Hrs

Review of Last Meeting Action Points (25 September 2013)

	Action	By who	By when
1	WASH brainstorming meeting for setting outputs, activities, indicators, etc.	WVI, CISP, MercyUSA, MercyCorps, UNHCR, UNICEF	Done
2	WASH sector RRP6 briefing meeting	All	Done
3	WASH Planning Table – agencies who have not provided input to follow up with Steller ASAP to allow completion of table and subsequent sharing of this information	ACF, CISP, IR, PU-AMI, IOCC, Mada, SAWA, NRC, WCH	Some, but not all updated. Is in Drop Box
4	Assessment TWiG first meeting	ACTED, MercyUSA, WVI, MercyCorps, UNICEF, UNHCR	Done, follow up after RRP madness
5	Contingency Planning documents to be shared via dropbox	Coordinators	In Drop Box
6	Share information on Inter-Agency Weekly Report for agencies to provide input if interested	Coordinators	Done
7	Share with Coordinators summary on revising modalities for provision of H&B Kits (i.e. use of Cash system)	DRC	Mtg notes shared
8	Share with sector, for comment, issue on modalities for H&B Kits	Coordinators	Not done (covered in this meeting)
9	Flooding risks in North, raise this at the next North WASH Sector Meeting	Coordinators	Done

RRP6 review/update

- Activities under the three priority categories for RRP6 had the following percentages based on the submission; Life-saving or preventing imminent risk of harm 61%, Preventing deterioration of vulnerabilities 37% and Capacity Building / Resilience 2%.
- The current RRP6 submission requirements stand at 124,409,095USD for the first half of the year January to June and 257,119,875 for 2014, full year.
- Partners were requested to review Unit Cost figures highlighted in yellow particularly those that are too low or too high.
- The geographical representation had the following breakdown; Bekaa 82,137,056USD, Mt Leb & Beirut 60,121,195USD, North 79,349,531USD and South 35,657,093USD.
- Percentage of USD requirements per objective had 37% for Sanitation, 29% for Water and 34% for Hygiene.
- Key Interventions for Water include; rehabilitation/ Development of water sources, extension of water system, water quality intervention & storage, water trucking (extenuating circumstances), for Sanitation;

De-sludging, Rehab of septic tank, construction/ rehab of sanitation facilities and finally Hygiene has; Hygiene promotion, hygiene commodities distribution

- Unlike RRP5, RRP6 is looking to factor in more of;
 - Comprehensive WASH (looking at a full package based on needs)
 - Target communal type of Intervention (including host community)
 - More sustainable projects
 - Focused capacity Building Activities at different levels
- Unresolved Issues with RRP6:
 - Beneficiary numbers: Targeted, Max & Sum? Is it based on needs? Is it realistic?
 - Categories classification! 1.4% to capacity building (82.2% life saving) does not seem quite catchy to donors for WASH intervention
 - Hygiene kit and baby kits considered adequately distributed for current caseload.. except new comers...Hygiene promotion..
 - 60% increase from RRP5 ...strong justification required
 - Coordination with other sectors
 - No Gov't submission for WASH
 - Narrative update to incorporate all that – Word limits

Priority Interventions for Stabilisation

- The Stabilisation Roadmap Document was submitted to Finance Ministers in Washington 12th October. It's a live document to be adjusted in line with the evolving situation on the ground.
- Donors are urging GoL & World Bank to collaborate more openly with UN partners in finalising short list for candidate projects.
- GoL requested Grant financing only to off-set budgetary impacts of Syrian Crisis, rejects offer of concessionary loans but welcomes potential private sector equity investment to build/operate new infrastructure.
- The Lebanon Roadmap of Priority Interventions has 4 Tracks with a total of USD 2.85 billion;
 - Track 1: Rapid delivery, financing from Grants only – Urgent repair measures to existing public water supply infrastructure to boost supply in high impacted areas. Cost USD 60million
 - Track 2: Short-medium term delivery and impact, financing from MDTF – Assist municipal and water institutions to augment capacity to service water and sanitation needs and solid waste management requirements in communities and regions where existing operation are most stressed by incoming refugees through increased private sector engagement. Cost USD 175million.
 - Track 3: Longer term impact and delivery, financing from IFI – This category aims to mitigate the impact of the Syrian crisis on the extensive use and depletion of natural resources and physical assets. Cost approx. USD 155million.
 - Track 4: Private sector engagement – Would involve the private sector in strengthening service delivery through targeted financing, including partial risk guarantee schemes.
 - Tracks 1 to 3 alleviate impact on government's budget.
- Prioritisation; Proposed that MoEW, CDR and WE's form a Working Group to initially identify the short list of projects eligible for financing under the Stabilisation Programme.
- Stabilisation Coordination: Need to forge provisional agreement on modalities for technical coordination & liaison between and among agencies of Government, UN, INGO's, Donors and Private Sector.
- Water & Sanitation Stabilisation measures proposed to Finance Minister's meeting in Washington on Oct 12th. All humanitarian WASH measures were withdrawn from the submission at the request of the UN as this was deemed to conflict with RRP6 submissions in draft.

Hygiene Kits – strategy + modalities for distribution

- Cash modality to ensure access to hygiene items is being adopted by some agencies. However, questions and concerns remain over the appropriateness of this modality.
- The North will move to cash modality shortly and other locations will start next year.
- Due to limited funding it is necessary to consider further reduction of numbers of kits distributed and/or contents.
- Current and projected costs of Hygiene items distribution is huge;
 - Hygiene Kit Budget \$15-20
 - Baby Kit Budget \$8-12
 - Cash equivalent \$40 to all families.
 - RRP6 UNHCR Projected costs based on distribution:
 - 70% Target = \$64 million
 - 50% Target = \$49 million (this is the figure used as at 23rd Oct)
- Alternatives:
 - Targeted Distribution – based on needs assessed in the field, not %.
 - Who assesses the needs? – Field based by partners and agencies. Staff on the ground to decide where the needs for distribution are, rather than formula.
 - Funds can be used for more effective interventions and directed to those most in need.
- Proposed distribution to reflect sector needs response:
 - 100% coverage for Formal/Informal settlements, transit sites and collective shelters, coordinated between NGO's, UNICEF and UNHCR
 - 24% coverage for all others, as follows:
 - 8 % NGO's
 - 8% UNICEF
 - 8% UNHCR

Flood risk mitigation/ITS Working Group

- Flood risk mitigation measures for Informal Settlements are being undertaken in a delayed and patchy/uncoordinated manner across country.
- ITS working group is mainly a shelter sub-working group and needs more input and involvement from WASH sector.
- Preparedness
 - Mobilization needs to start early.
 - Look into having a standby contactor for emergency response
 - UNICEF through partner NGOs has identified areas of risk. Basic interventions already budgeted.

Assessments TWiG updates

- ACTED have been field testing the WASH sector detailed assessment form as part of the assessment guideline.
- Two parallel processes being followed: a) Conducting a National WASH Assessment to give a consistent overview of WASH needs for the Sector. b) Finalise the Assessment guideline to provide agencies with a Standard tool for conducting assessments.
- Proposal for a WASH Sector National Assessment has been made by ACTED.

DROP BOX

- The WASH Sector Drop Box is source of draft or working documents for the WASH sector actors only.
- Documents that are finalised and suitable for wider public viewing are uploaded on the UNHCR Web Portal.
- The following WASH sector documents have been uploaded: working draft of strategy, latest version of contingency documents, draft technical guidelines, 3W planning matrix, and maps. Click this link to access; <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/kbbxghybch4htr1/Jhhqm6dEvF>
- Please contact Steller/Samuel/David if you have any questions.

AOB

- None

List of Agencies who attended this meeting

- CONCERN, RESCATE, SHIELD, OXFAM, UNICEF, WV, RI, UNHCR, PU-AIM, SNAP, OCHA, CARE, IOCC, FRENCH REDCROSS, IFRC, CDR, INTERSOS, ACF, ICRC, DRC, UNDP, M-USA, CISP, UNRWA, MC

To Do List

	Action	By who	By when
1	Review of activities to highlight which fall under stabilization	Partners who have submitted-RRP6	Friday 25 th Oct
2	Partners to revise submission where Unit Cost was highlighted	Partners who have submitted-RRP6	Friday 25 th Oct
3	Follow up on Flood risk preparedness and mobilization, especially with ITS working group	Coordinators	ASAP

Next Meeting:
When: 1pm, 29th October 2013
Location: UNHCR Beirut