

JORDAN INTER-SECTOR WORKING GROUP UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2013



I. SPECIFICS ISSUES FOR IATF/HCT FROM INTER-SECTOR WORKING GROUP (ISWG):

- RRP6 process launched. Review period between 15th October and early November. IATF will be asked to discuss Strategic Objectives, Planning Figures on 25th September, and to review the overall direction of the country chapter in early November.
- Further discussion on the Host Community Platform is required to clarify its relationship with the sectors. While some sector chairs were comfortable with the arrangement, other ISWG participants needed more clarification – in particular on areas of responsibility and points of linkages between the two structures, as well as issues such as NGO membership.

II. General / Inter-Sector Update



RRP6: The Regional and Jordan launches of the RRP6 process took place on 11th/12th and 15th September respectively. Strategic Objectives and Planning figures have been set at the country level (as of 22nd Sept). Sector Working Groups have until the 15th October to develop their sector response plans.

Templates have been established for Country Chapters, Sector Response Plans, and supporting objective, output and activity excel tables. These are all available at <http://www.data.unhcr.org/syria-rrp6/regional.php>

Prioritization remains a key issue in the RRP6 process, and will be integrated from the beginning at the sector response plan. Based on comments received, revised Prioritization categories have been developed, which are less hierarchical and include a third category of 'Resilience/Capacity' building. For the revised guidelines, see <http://www.data.unhcr.org/syria-rrp6/download.php?id=40>

Other steps being taken include strengthening the approval process of the sector response plans, engagement with the GoJ, and ensuring complementarity with the Host Community Platform.

Contingency Planning: The Contingency planning process included a workshop at the Crown Plaza, elaborating 2 main scenarios. The first focused on a large scale refugee influx into Jordan. Zaatari has developed a detailed inter-sectoral plan for reception of 20,000+. Azraq is ready to receive refugees should this be required. Sectors have developed 'contingency stock' lists. UNHCR has approached MoPIC regarding the need for emergency approval procedures or waivers for changes to projects, in the case of a large influx.

Sector Survey: Results for the sector survey have been published, with 111 respondents. See <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=2704>

III. Sector information



CASH:

Information Management: presented information on ActivityInfo and provided draft RRP6 reporting templates and examples as coordination tools.

Coverage map: The sector discussed the need for regular updates on the tabular overview and coverage map. It was agreed that this requires feedback & commitment from all partners. The context of the upcoming RRP6 was acknowledged, and proGres (UNHCR's information database for refugees) was named as a potential open tool to partners using data sets.

CA Project: presented by IRC, under umbrella of protection of women and SGBV. Priorities and objectives were outlined, such as empowerment and providing women refugees with financial means to meet basic needs. Their cash program covers 2,000 families for three months, looking at vulnerabilities as a core element.



EDUCATION:

Double-shifting schools: UNICEF and MoE agreed to double-shift some 40 schools in areas of high concentration of Syrian children, based on the joint school absorption capacity assessment and field assessments. This would benefit both refugee and host communities, with capacity to accommodate some 16,000 children.

Azraq: Two schools are in construction. School 1 is completed about 60%. FCA continues with setting up informal education centers in Village 3.

Catch-up classes: NRC in collaboration with UNICEF in Emirate Jordan Camp and Za'atari camp. The first cohort has completed and pre/post tests have been carried out. Next step is to ensure 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.



FOOD:

RRP6: The Food sector convened to discuss preparations for the RRP6 which covered the objectives, prioritisation, local community links to resilience, planning numbers, decision-making structures, formats and timeline. The need for a stronger foundation for the RRP6 was also addressed in terms of a needs and vulnerability assessment which is currently taking place as an inter-agency initiative by WFP, UNHCR and UNICEF that is focused on targeting, beneficiary profiling, and a national capacity assessment. Organizations across the sectors and other UN Agencies (namely WHO and UNDP) are encouraged to join the process.

Activities within RRP5: The sector discussed distribution figures and the RRP5 monthly reporting template. The RRP5 planning figure of 1 million refugees by the end of December 2013 was questioned, considering the ongoing low influx of Syrian refugees.

Activities outside RRP5: Quantifiable data is not consistently available; main activities involve families awaiting registration.

Protection: food sector gender focal point (Islamic Relief) with support from GenCap Advisor Merrin Waterhouse conducted the food sector-specific gender marker training.



HEALTH:

Health sector assessment updates: WHO reviewing final draft report of Health Facility Assessment

Camps updates: Gynacologue sans Frontieres (GSF) staff left Zaatari camp as of Saturday, 6th September due to French Government regulations relating to security. As a result their clinic and delivery facilities are now closed. GSF were conducting 5 to 10 deliveries a day. UNFPA supported JHAS services will fill the gap.

Vaccination campaigns: The national measles, rubella, polio and vitamin A immunization campaign has been postponed to 26th to 31st October for Za'atari and EJC camps; 2nd – 21st November for the rest of the country.

Health Coordination Meeting held in Amman on the 1st of September. Main outcomes. 1. Agencies will be invited to submit activities according to HERAMs matrix on web-based application in order to generate a more informative 4ws; 2. List of assessments will be consolidated in preparation for the RRP 6 process; 3. Development actors will be invited to reproductive health coordination meeting to capitalize on work being done in Jordan.

Nutrition Sub-Working Group

1. Planning has begun for nutrition survey later in the year; tentative date set for 1st November to begin data collection; 2. Anaemia management protocols will be developed; 3. The Nutrition working Group will try to get Plumpy Nut® (and other key nutritional products) registered in Jordan to ensure sustainability of its use (current agreement is for use only in Syrians).

Mental Health Sub-Working Group

MHPSS Assessment: Draft report of the Mental Health assessment has been received.

Reproductive Health Sub-Working Group

Near final report received of Minimal Initial Services Package in Reproductive Health assessment conducted March 17th – 22nd, 2013. UNFPA presented findings at monthly Health Coordination meeting in Amman on 1st September and at the RHWG meeting on the



Non- Food item:

Winterization: Acknowledgment of the importance of ensuring better winterization preparedness; partners requested to identify and recognize key priority areas. A combined winterization strategy has been developed and proposed by the Cash/NFI/Shelter WG coordinators.

Coordination: NRC has been confirmed as co-chair of the Sector. The importance of the Inter-agency coordination meetings and active participation was emphasized - agencies were encouraged to sign up to the mailing lists.

Emerging issues: Information was shared about coordination meetings in Mafraq, and NFI/shelter meetings which are held in Zaatari camp on bi-weekly basis. Clarification has been made re Hygiene kits and under which sector they fall.



Protection:

Camps: GoJ organized returns to Syria continue, although with a slight decrease on the average (1-12 Sept: 2162 individuals), possibly linked to alleged CW use/expected military intervention. UNHCR Protection monitors returns, provides counseling to returnees and family members, and assesses voluntariness of returns. 2,894 individuals transported by IOM to the camps during the same period.

Between 8-14 September, Homs is the main city of origin for those registered in Zaatari (27.08%), followed by Idlib (18.14%), Hama (17.53%). As per previous week, the majority (97.80%) of individuals are accessing Jordan through the eastern borders Ruwaished & Alrogban T22.

GBV Sub-Working Group

Endorsement of GBV strategy: The latest narrative was presented for endorsement by the sub-working group. Key points related to gender issues, lack of reference to other diverse groups, such as LGBTI, gaps in service provisions, and the overreaching priority of a PSEA task force.

Early marriage assessment: AYA consultancy is preparing an assessment. Discussion raised difficulties of eradicating this practice entirely; a focus on mitigating negative effects on health and legal status of family was suggested.

Child Protection Sub-Working Group

CP Contextualization Workshop: Between the 16th and 18th Sept, the sector and the National Council for Family Affairs (NCFA) held a workshop to review the Minimum standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action. Participation included sector members and Jordanian ministries and institutions active in CP. The workshop reviewed nine priority 'standards' against practice in Jordan, covering Coordination; Child Protection Monitoring; Psychosocial Distress and Mental Disorders; Child Labour; Justice for Children; Case Management; Community-based mechanisms; Education and Child Protection; Health and Child Protection.



SHELTER:

Winterization: The sector coordinators discussed the combined strategy which emerged as a result of the meets between the Cash, NFI, and Shelter Working Groups. Concerns over prefab container ventilation when being heated were raised. Need to find suitable heating systems and fire safety information.

Urban: The sector raised the need to develop shelter-specific vulnerability criteria. Figures for intervention costs and providing free rent were discussed, along with following request to map all tented settlements.

Camp: Sector is in communication with Ministry of Water regarding purchasing from the pipeline. UNHCR provided a brief update on the status of Azraq camp. NRC have contractors constructing sample shelters. Latest design of shelter raised concerns over accessibility.



WASH:

Minimum Standards: The sector reviewed and debated minimum standards in WASH applicable in humanitarian, refugee and emergency settings.

Oxfam GB EMMA assessment: Oxfam GB conducted an Assessment of the Water Market System in Balqa and Zarqa Governorates. Among the report conclusions was that the most limiting factors for people to access water are their purchasing power and access to sufficient water storage. While the market system is able to provide water and transportation services to cover unmet needs, the population is not able to afford sufficient amounts of water to reach water security.

IV. Contact

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For more information, please visit: <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/country.php?id=107>