

JORDAN INTER-SECTOR WORKING GROUP UPDATE



November/early December 2013

I. For the specific attention of the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF)

- Review of the Inter-Sector Working Group (ISWG) Terms of Reference.
- Call for advocacy and policy advice on how to address the issue of refugee livelihoods, beyond cash assistance
- Progress on winterization to be reviewed, including level of actual responses, noting need for GoJ approval of projects.

II. General / Inter-Sector Update



Vulnerability Targeting: Reflecting the commitment in the RRP6 to strengthen targeting based on vulnerability, discussions have begun to agree on a mechanism and criteria to identify, assign and track changes in vulnerability at the household level. Building on initiatives in the Cash and Health Sectors in mid-2013, ACAPs has been engaged to facilitate the process. This will include an inclusive consultation process with all RRP6 partners, and at the sector level, into early 2014. A steering committee is proposed.

CP/GBV Referral SOPs roll-out: SOPs have been rolled-out and training sessions will take place over December to all sectors, staff in camps, with regular trainings across the governorates. The SOPs cover best practices, ensure cohesion across partners and agencies, and clearly identify referral pathways for staff working in any sector should they encounter a CP or GBV case. Partners wishing to endorse the SOPs should contact the project manager (amanda.melville@savethechildren.org).

Referral Mechanisms: In parallel, a series of discussions have been taken place in urban areas to map out services for referrals between sectors beyond CP & GBV – for instance, between Shelter and Cash. An initial meeting took place in Irbid in mid-November, with a follow-up meeting on 10th December. A specific module has been set up in Syrianrefugeeresponse.org to allow partners to map out services on-line – building on the information already available in the CP/GBV referral SOPs.

Winterization: Sectors have been discussing their interventions for winter and are inputting their activities online into a dedicated section on ActivityInfo. RAIS is being used as a tool for coordinating activities and tracking assistance given to refugees. Distribution of NFIs and Shelter is taking place in Zaatari, with requests for wet weather NFIs.

RRP6: All sectors have now completed their submissions of RRP6 activities and the submissions are currently being reviewed. Geneva and Jordan launches successfully completed. Available on line at <http://unhcr.org/syriarrp6/>

Co-ordination Training: Sector chairs have attended two 2-day workshops on co-ordination standards, skills and best practices in November and early December. This is part of a Co-ordination capacity-building project organized by UNHCR. Conclusions for the Jordan sessions are intended to help sector chairs improve their own co-ordination of their sector, and are feeding into ISWG discussions on common processes; minimum standards in co-ordination; use of information management capacity; and clarifying roles and responsibilities.

III. Sector information

CASH:

Cash strategy 2014: Cash strategy workshop held on Nov 18. WG discussed lessons learnt from 2013, vulnerability criteria, co-ordination of assessments, establishing SOPs across WG, and combined monitoring and evaluation tools. Outputs include: categorization of level of assistance- possibility of way to build basic unit to identify what families should receive; definition of assistance level based on assessments; DRC will draft a self-assessment document along Oxfam & IFRC to assess the quality of the work that was done by each partner.

Winterization: RAIS access has been given to all who signed the user agreement. The following agencies are providing cash winterization supplement: HCR, CARE, IFRC/SRC, HI in addition to AVSI and Caritas (cash vouchers).

RRP6: The country chapter is consolidated and submitted with rounds of validation in Dec & Jan. Total cash submission is \$91,490,634 to be split into 60% (\$55,980,780) in the first half of 2014 and 40% (\$35,509,854) in the second half.

EDUCATION:

National Response Plan: Sector coordinator updated on status of needs assessment analysis. Draft document produced by Education task force shared with UNDP and MoPIC. Through NRP process, national NGOs have been incorporated into development planning process and are included. The need to ensure INGO and NNGO were part of process was recognized.

Transport Working group updates: Group of agencies working in offering transport to vulnerable children (WarChild UK, HI, Mercy Corps, THD-I and DRC) met and drafted two guidance notes for both camps and host communities. Roles per agency were as follows: HI - technical aspect when working with children, pick-up points, types of buses; Mercy Corps - compiling list of children in camp and share the list compiled by WarChild UK; WarChild UK - looking for company that can provide a bus with basic needs, ramp, and place to store wheel chairs inside.

Zaatari: Teacher training is ongoing. Registration of students in schools is still ongoing 19,571. The current attendance is 10,700. In school 3, interviews for Syrian teachers are underway.

FOOD SECURITY:

Food security: The Food Sector has been renamed to Food Security Sector Working Group (FSSWG), which will include self-reliance and livelihood support for Jordanian host communities. The RRP6 FSSWG budget is US\$322 for 23 organisations.

E-Voucher: The WFP e-voucher pilot in Jordanian communities began with initial distributions starting in Mafraq, Amman and Zarqa for 135 households and 188 households in KAP. Feedback received so far is that the refugees are happy with the flexibility of the card and not having to come to monthly distributions. The pilot revealed that 6-10% of the families have problems reading information provided. Therefore, sensitization sessions and advocacy material have been amended to include more images. In January 2014, WFP will begin transition from paper to e-voucher in selected governorates.

Zaatari: WFP was the first agency to distribute to a reduced camp population after the initial UNHCR verification exercise. WFP have distributed partial vouchers and dry rations to 77,730 beneficiaries in second cycle of November equivalent to 74% of previous cycle plus 3,408 newly arrived beneficiaries. 15 local CBO shops in Za'atri camp continue supporting the WFP voucher programme, whilst construction has started on two large-scale supermarkets, which will join the voucher programme in January 2014.

Food Security Monitoring: WFP began the Comprehensive Food Security Monitoring Exercise (CFSME) on 24 November with nearly 50 ACTED staff spread across Jordan to survey the food security status of more than 7,000 households.



HEALTH:

Polio update: Campaign extended until 26th Nov; some schools not covered. Training for post-campaign evaluation held on 27th Nov. 1.1 million Jordanians, Syrians and other nationalities vaccinated against polio; more than 3.3 million vaccinated against measles and rubella (nearly 100% of target); 700,000 children received Vitamin A. Next round of campaign: 21st December, maximum 3–5 days, only children 0–5 years, only polio drop.

Community Health: IFRC presented on Community-based health and First Aid (CBHFA). Main outcomes of project: National RC society capacity building; community system strengthening; knowledge increase; behaviour change. Agencies interested in the Task Force will set up meeting to discuss (IRC, IOM and FRC with Jordan Red Crescent and the Federation).

Zaatari: MdM France under negotiation to open fixed immunization center in District 4. MdM will begin a series of capacity-building sessions on management of communicable diseases in coordination with DoH, Mafraq governorate. This will include sharing experiences working with outbreaks for health staff who work at MoH level outside of Zaatari.

Nutrition Sub-Working Group

Co-Chair: Save the Children Jordan has been selected as co-chair to the Nutrition sub-working group.

Nutrition survey: Approved by MoH. Study protocol has been drafted and circulated and SWG now waiting for feedback.

Anaemia Task Force: Task force formed for revision of anaemia in pregnancy and SAM and MAM protocols; MAM will be reported by WFP on monthly Food dashboard.

Mental Health Sub-Working Group

Protection SOPs: Presented to SWG. Any agencies who want the SOPs can contact Mary Jo Baca (mjBaca@internationalmedicalcorps.org) or Zein Ayoub (AYOUBZ@jor.emro.who.int) for more information.

Case management: CARE will be doing case management, ensuring vulnerable cases are managed and have access to services; Triangle G H will be conducting activities through Bright Future.

Reproductive Health Sub-Working Group

RH services: Gynaecologist and midwife distributed RH kits for all agencies who requested. Joined IFRC on a one-day mission to Zaatari.

RH services mapping: Started to map RH services, found that few services are provided in the South but interested in knowing scope of services provided by primary health clinics.



NON- FOOD ITEM:

Reporting on activities: WG discussed need to have an overview of distribution activities in a more comprehensive way in order to better coordinate and intervene. For next meeting members focus will be

on identifying needs and coordinating interventions in urban areas. ActivityInfo will be updated with winterization form as well as with distribution of core items.

Clothes distribution: 2000 family packages of winter clothes have already been distributed to Zaatari camp. Distribution capacity for babies, children, male and female adults will reach the 25,000 packages.

Zaatari: Distribution of high thermal blanket commenced in November - this is the first distribution to be run by NRC using the new VAC system. Urgent request from Zaatari to WG for distribution of rain coats and boots. WG will continue handling (jerry cans, hygiene kits and also diapers) in both camp settings and for urban cases where feasible.



PROTECTION:

Presentation of CP/GBV SOPs: Presentation made by Save the Children, Ms Amanda Melville, to IATF, and by Steering Committee to the informal donors group (9th Dec). Three ToTs will take place over coming months with the next taking place 16-18 December. Regular training on the SOPs will also be conducted at the governorate level (Irbid, Mafraq, Zarqa).

Inter-sectorial referral mapping: UNHCR in collaboration with other partners are mapping referral mechanisms in urban areas. Initial meeting held in Irbid and one will take place over next couple of weeks in South.

Zaatari: During RRP6 process, national inter-agency project proposal made to develop a Jordan-wide complaint mechanism to Prevent Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA). The project will start in early 2014. In the meantime, existing complaints mechanisms are being strengthened, and will then become integrated into the main PSEA mechanism in 2014.

GBV Sub-Working Group

16 Days of Activism: Began on 25th Nov. Theme of campaign "Safety in schools: teachers and students unite to make schools violence free".

SGBV Mainstreaming focal points: Next steps to reinforce system include: Appoint member of GBV SWG to liaise with each WG; develop ToR for focal points; organize a one day workshop. WG suggested connecting with the existing sector gender focal points. Gen-cap advisor has offered support.

Strategy to engage with home-bound women and girls: Community focus group discussions planned to explore refugee and host communities' roles, how they perceive the problems and solutions. SWG to discuss developments from these consultations.

Child Protection Sub-Working Group

SOP Roll-out Update: ToT for CP and GBV sector group members took place 10th to 12th Nov. UNHCR has provided orientation to protection staff and police in Zaatari. Training for national authorities to take place 9th to 11th Dec. Invitations have been sent to relevant ministries; MoE, MoI, MoSD, MoL, FPD and JPD.

Child Labour Assessments: Data collection began for assessment led by ILO. Inception reports approved and ILO hopes to present findings by end of Dec. with a final report in Jan. 2014. ILO have supported the MoL to develop a database on child labour and require more numbers on age groups, sex and type of labour. CARE Jordan may also conduct an assessment on child labour in Jordan including urban informal sectors.

UNICEF/Education on PPT Teacher Training: UNICEF is working with MoE to establish Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) in schools. Code of Conduct component for teachers is under review and is planned to be finalised in Dec.



SHELTER:

Winterization of tents: Heaters in tents are not advised and not endorsed by Shelter WG. The distribution of porches for the winter of 2013/14 is strongly advised. Safety leaflets and briefings upon distribution exist to ensure people aware of risks of heaters in tents. Protective screen device to protect tent and beneficiaries developed by NRC - WG discussed pros and cons regarding the device.

Distribution of porch kits: 2,582 families still in tents. New arrivals mean 75 tents are distributed daily meaning that by March 2014 there will be 9,000 families in tents, however if 50 caravans are distributed daily this figure will be significantly reduced. Shelter WG estimate a planning/ budgeting figure of 4,000 porch kits required.



WASH:

WASH minimum standards: WG developing a document on WASH minimum standards to be used as a guidance document for partners. Monitoring of WASH standards taking place in camps and Host Communities and will be reported on in next WG meeting.

Zaatari: WG saw presentation on challenges of WASH in camps: uneven distribution/growth of camp; congested areas; lack of rule of law/vandalism; water distribution; grey/black water infiltration. WG discussed and update on wastewater treatment plant: likely to be operational in 5-6 months. Update on water network: Oxfam finalizing network design.

Azraq: WG viewed presentation on lessons learnt from Azraq and how they are incorporated into WASH design and implementation, changes incorporated to WASH blocks to alleviate high O&M costs. Water network in Azraq is facilitated by 20 storage tanks at 1,900m³, 27 km of pipe, and 2,700 septic tanks at 8m³ each.



ZAATARI:

Facilitating return of documents to returnees and camp: Protection has supported authorities to locate envelopes that need to be returned to refugees before travelling to Syria, and enter information into database. 590 documents in 222 envelopes belonging to 389 individuals were marked as returned. 69 documents belonging to 49 individuals in 19 envelopes were marked as returned to Zaatari.

Drainage: Contractor began constructing culverts, opened central drainage ditch for storm water drainage. WVI engaged surveyor to demark drainage and roads alignment in West. Progress has been made in addressing surface water drainage in south of Zaatari ring road. UNICEF concerned about lack of drainage, UNHCR requested to take lead. ACTED, JEN, Oxfam offered to assist by providing tools (JEN) etc. for inter-district drainage, under UNHCR coordination. Non-response will result in flooding of privately-dug pits (potential 11,700).

IV. Contact

For more information, please contact: Snr Inter-Agency Coordinator:
Alex Tyler tyler@unhcr.org ; +962 (0) 79644 3479

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