

**Food Security Sector Working Group
30 January 2014, UNICEF Jordan - Amman**

Chair: WFP/JHCO

Participation: ACAPS/SNAP, ACTED, FAO, IOCC, Islamic Relief Jordan, JECRAD, LWF, UNOPS, UNHCR, WHO

STATUS	ACTION POINTS
<p><u>1. Dashboard and activity overview</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities included on the dashboard have been mostly WFP activities as partners are not always able to report. If there is nothing to report, that is fine, but if there is, it would be beneficial for the Sector as a whole to have greater participation in reporting, and so a better representation of partners on the dashboard. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Should only reporting partners be included on the dashboard, or should all partners attending the coordination meetings be included? • Activities happening out of RRP6 can also be reported as it is important to record them, and they can be included in the presentation at the monthly meetings, or even a different dashboard. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This is a good idea, especially for agencies who were not able to participate in RRP6, perhaps having finalized their projects too late. ○ WFP is not reaching the unregistered or the Jordanians, while other organizations are, and it is very important to report on this. ○ Many CBOs in Jordan who are very active in distribution and aid. How can we bring them to the table? <p>Please submit something to us when you have news.</p>	<p>Members of the FSSWG to seek active participation in reporting on their related activities.</p>
<p><u>2. Coordinated Needs Assessment presentation by ACAPS/SNAP</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACAPS/SNAP held two trainings on Coordinated Needs Assessments at the end of 2013; another session was held on 29 January 2014, as a follow-up. Although everyone is aware of the problems, it is still good to discuss and record them in a more structured manner. • Problems identified included the fact that there are no SOPs or guidance for assessments on inter-sector level, leading to many organizations conducting their own assessments, without consulting sectors, or consulting too late. • ACAPS presented some general best practices, looking at what has been done on a more global level 	<p>WFP to circulate to the sector the related workshop documents once available.</p>

(Kenya, Bangladesh and Pakistan). There was a discussion of developing standard methodology and also good and bad experiences in the different contexts.

- Any coordinated needs assessment structure in Jordan needs to be a very inclusive process; partnership between UN agencies, NGOs and national authorities is the model from other locations.
- UNHCR presented an assessment registry which will soon be up and running; it allows users to put up assessment plans in advance, indicate methods and tools planning to be used, as well as functioning as a repository for existing assessments. This mechanism, which can prove to be very useful, still requires buy-in from different agencies.
- The last item on the agenda was to create a list of problems and propose solutions and a timeframe for their resolution. There will be a group/task force responsible for developing the SOPs and guidance that is needed; previous experience from other countries shows that it is best to establish a task force or at least designate a group of people to not only establish a framework but also follow up on it.
- Finally, there was also mention of a regional process being a next step, an approach that ACAPS is also pushing for.

3. Vulnerability Criteria Process

- With WFP reaching 98% of all registered refugees every month, there is recognition of the fact that not every single refugee living in Jordan needs food assistance; some of them might have jobs, for example, and be better able to afford food. Aid needs to be better targeted, and has to be done across sectors.
- A Steering Committee comprised of five NGOs, five UN agencies and two donor representatives, has so far met twice. A decision was made to bring two people from each sector to attend a day-long workshop on Wednesday, 5 February 2014, with the goal of developing a draft list of vulnerability indicators. Nominations were invited and received from the sector, and the list of participants was being finalized at the time of the meeting.
- Regardless of whether or not people are attending the workshop, they are still encouraged to provide feedback, and there will be sector consultations for the process.
- Target timing is April 2014.
- In parallel, UNHCR is carrying out improved registration procedures including the iris scan and verification exercise, which will provide a better picture of the population in terms of number and geographical location.

4. Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Child Protection (CP) SOPs briefing

- With a large number of actors working on GBV and CP in Jordan, it became clear that there was no agreement on who should do what, where and when. The GBV and CP SOPs were developed to address issues such as what do you do if you get disclosure of violence and what should you do to be able to decrease the risk of violence against women and children, for example. Certain issues might seem evident but a number of actors are unaware or not adequately informed of correct procedures.
 - Revision of the document will occur, and there is also ongoing endorsement. Organizations who have not yet endorsed it are encouraged to do so.
 - Guidelines are national, and most of the protection services are available not only to Syrians, but also to Jordanians.
 - The SOPs are a policy document with an aim at making sure that referrals happen more effectively. They are not an assessment.
- Although initially the document was developed primarily for GBV and CP actors, it was quickly noticed that many other sectors could benefit from this information as they are also in touch with refugees, and the more in touch you are, the more likely you are to gain their confidence.
 - There is a risk of sexual exploitation in terms of service delivery and in the provision of humanitarian aid, and so the section on sexual exploitation and abuse by aid workers is very relevant.
- Trainings for field staff are conducted on the GBV and CP SOPs, and they normally start with very concrete examples of different situations, and the question: What would you do?
- Some of the trends in Jordan include: physical violence, child recruitment, verbal violence, psychosocial and mental health issues, sexual violence and harassment against children, among others. Women and girls in Za'atari, for example, have reported issues accessing services, including food distribution.
- Planning series of trainings for staff in the field, and organizations are welcome to send staff along. Training components are the same in Amman and Za'atari.
- The referral pathways explain when you can refer the case to Family Protection and when you can refer to NGOs; adults have a choice, but for children it is a little bit more complicated. The SOPs include details on how to refer cases. There is a CP referral form which can be used by anyone, even if you are not a CP expert.
- Sectors will be asked to update contacts on an online system. While this is a large amount of work, it needs to be done to ensure the referral pathways remain accurate and up-to-date. Online system will be maintained by UNHCR; someone will be brought onboard in order to keep it going.
 - Regarding the Food Security Sector, if anyone sees any information that is inaccurate, please contact UNHCR to inform them so they can update it.

Circulate dates for the planned training workshops to members.

- The PDF document is available online: <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=3143>
- What kind of follow-up exists for referrals? There is currently a task force looking at referrals across the sectors. A common complaint from people referring cases is that they do not know what happens after they refer a case. Agencies should at least acknowledge that a case was received.
 - An electronic system is being considered, at least for non-Protection cases.
- The position of the Food Security Sector on these guidelines is that they are a tool to improve the service we collectively provide, and represent the possibility of being able to better guide refugees. It is organizations' responsibility to be able to respond as best as we can, and this includes making sure staff have information and proper training.
- A much shorter, more accessible document will be developed to hand out to sectors. In the meantime, Section 3 can be photocopied and distributed, as it contains information (by geographical area) about exactly what field staff should do if there is disclosure of abuse.

5. AOB

- Next meeting will be at more of a policy level; what are the topics we would like to see being raised in 2014. The idea is to develop a TOR and work plan.
 - The work plan should include the strategic part of the RRP6, a revision of which will happen in June.
 - There is a possibility we might need to expand under the National Resilience Plan, with the Host Community Platform. These are issues that should be discussed before the next meeting; guidance from the HCT will be sought, especially as there is a new RC/SC arriving in February.
- RPP5 report has been uploaded (<http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=4082>). If anyone sees any mistakes, please let us know.
- FAO in collaboration with ACTED and Ministry of Agriculture is launching a food security and livelihood assessment for Jordanians hosting Syrian refugees, evaluating the impact of the Syrian crisis. It will be an evaluation based on a typology of livelihoods, mainly focused on everything related to agriculture and livestock, and will provide a better idea of the impact on host community.
 - The assessment will be carried out with smartphones and ODK, questionnaires, focus groups, and key informant interviews. The concept note has been shared, and tools are currently being developed. A draft of the tools will be shared with the FSSWG. The process is pending financial approval from the regional office.
- Regarding the VAM studies done a couple of years ago, is there more information available? WFP can share what they have. WFP office for VAM concentrates more on Jordanian macro-economy.
- The Nutrition Survey is still scheduled to take place in March.

Send an email to FSSWG asking who would like to be included in the mailing list for the circulation of the tools draft.