

Working Group on Livelihoods Minutes – 28 March 2014 – Beirut

Meeting			
Name	Working Group on Livelihoods meeting	Meeting Date	28/03/2014
Meeting Location	UNDP-6 th floor	Meeting Time	11.00 A.M
Co-Chair person	Shombi Sharp –UNDP Sabine Fara – MOSA Danya Kattand – UNHCR	Meeting Duration	2 hours
Minutes Prepared by	Bastien Revel		

Representative of :

- Main discussion points**
1. Welcome and minutes of last meeting (30.01.2014)
 2. Activity Info Reporting February
 3. Roll-out decentralized working groups
 4. Substantive session: Vocational Training
 5. Mid-term review RRP6
 6. Updates

Summary of discussions and action points

1	Activity Info Reporting February
	<p>The members of the LH WG received a table that shows which members have appealed for funding under the RRP6 and which have reported in Activity Info until now.</p> <p>Action Point: All non-reporting Organizations have been requested to share with the Sector Lead why they are not reporting: no funds received, funds received but implementation starts later, other reasons.</p> <p>Action Point: Since Activity Info is only a 'net-reporting' tool, ongoing project activities are not being recorded. Therefore all organizations are asked to share their ongoing activities with the Sector Lead in order to capture important developments in the monthly narrative.</p>
2	Roll out of the decentralized working group
	<p>The outreach with the UNHCR field offices has been completed. The conclusion is that the situation at the local level is diverse. For the moment there are only LH WG in the Bekaa and Qoubayyat. The overall objective is to improve coordination throughout the entire sector. UNDP and UNHCR will move forward on this and subsequent updates will be shared when they become available.</p> <p>ACTED underlined that there is a need for strong link between the CSP committee and the LH local Working Group, which should be easy considering that representatives to both meetings are generally the same. Participants discussed to what extent the CSP committees could fill in the gap in the absence of SC/LH WG at the local level. However, it was pointed out that these committees are mainly a funding mechanism, not a coordination and planning body.</p>
4	Substantive session: Vocational Training
	<p>Mr Ziad Kawash from IRC delivered a presentation on key considerations for vocational training. The 3 keys messages of the presentation were:</p> <p>→ Vocational Training programmes should be at least 6 months – 3 months is too short to be beneficial.</p>

	<p>→ These programmes should be based on a market survey. → There is a lack of real survey in Lebanon on job market needs.</p> <p>ILO informed participants on their competency based training starting in the South.</p> <p>GIZ is also implementing a programme on highly formalized vocational education sector, which started in 1995, a good illustration of how long it takes to set up a system.</p> <p>Mrs Fontaine from GIZ underlined that the purpose of vocational education is not to keep people busy, it is to serve the economy – in Lebanon a lot of people need to be inserted in a market that is suffering. The solution is not to put people in three months courses, or they will be back home within a couple of days after the end of the training because of the lack opportunity.</p> <p>GIZ approach is in line with the German system – 50% in school, 50% in a company to make sure people are properly inserted in the job market. GIZ did not do short term training because people end up highly skilled in a very limited area which limits their insertion in the job market. In the current context, the Syrians are willing to work for a salary not competitive for Lebanon which introduces distortions.</p> <p>Q/ACTED: there seems to be a significant drop-out rate from vocational training in Akkar. What are the main causes? Potential solutions? Maybe a source of income while training? A: There is an issue with trainings programmes that no one is interested in because one can work in some sector without training.</p> <p>ILO created link between training and employer with students going to work for a month for an employer. 60% trainees ended employed there. But you need to include that in the training budget to give an incentive for the employer for short training courses.</p> <p>GIZ pointed out that for long term training there is no need for incentive.</p> <p>Q/AlMajmoua: Al Majmoua is doing very informal short term trainings leading to entrepreneurship. They are trying to find the best value chain for these kinds of solutions to either place the person or lead to entrepreneurship. Additional recommendations: (1) find the market before setting the training. (2) Selection of participants crucial – the interest should come from them to avoid drop out. (3) Split the skills training in different modules with basic/advanced/professional. (4) you also need life-skills training as part of the programme. (5) You need to follow up with the trainees. (6) Micro-credit as end of the value chain: 65 out of 400 beneficiaries of AlMajmoua programmes took a small loan to purchase the material to start an activity.</p> <p>Participants then discussed how to take this discussion forward UNHCR suggested a joined workshop with the Education Working Group. ILO pointed out the sensitivity of giving vocational training in the current context and the need to closely tailor definitions within the government.</p> <p>Action Point: Chairs will reach out to Education WG to see how to organize a joined workshop. Action Point: MOSA to prepare a presentation to clarify their position.</p>
4	<p>RRP6 Mid-Term Review</p>
	<p>The timeline of the RRP MTR was presented. The members were informed that the revised financial submissions will be done through a new module of Activity Info. All members will receive training during the month of April on how to submit their financial proposals. The Activity Info system will be open from 1-9 May to make the submissions.</p> <p>The members agreed to maintain the strategic priorities as they were defined for the RRP6. Those priorities will be presented during the Inter-Agency meeting of April 4.</p> <p>Action Point: The Sector Lead will provide updates when they become available</p>
4	<p>General Updates</p>
	<p>- MSNA: All members who have contributed in the drafting of the Social Cohesion chapter of the MSNA process have been thanked. The deadline to provide inputs by sector members is 28 March 2014. This document will be the</p>

	<p>basis to start the RRP6 MTR.</p> <p>- INQAL: UNHCR has launched the process to produce 'Interagency Questions and Answers on Humanitarian Services and Assistance in Lebanon' which can be seen as the 'Yellow Pages' of the humanitarian operation in Lebanon. Action Point: The Sector Lead will share draft questions with the members of the LH WG to ensure that all essential questions are captured.</p> <p>- VaSyR: The Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees will take place in May. Action Point: The focus group and household survey templates will be shared for inputs with the LH WG members.</p>
5.	Next meeting
	The next meeting is tentatively planned for April 30.

Participants list

Name	Organization
Shombi Sharp	UNDP
Afke Bootsman	UNDP
Bastien Revel	UNDP
Marina Iannissotto	ACF
Inaki Sainz De Rozas Pertejo	ACF
Jake Peters	ACTED
Hart Ford	ACTED
Alia FARHAT	Al Majmoua
Mihaela Campean	Amel Association
Rasha Shuk	Amel Association
Jimmy Geagea	Caritas Lebanon Migrants Center
Karam ABI YAZBECK	Digital Opportunity Trust
Leila Solh	DRC
Jean Stephan	FAO
Ani Nedkova	FAO
Maria Abdulrahman	Heartland Alliance
Joumana KARAME	ILO
Nathalie Bekdache	International Alert
Alexa Swift	Mercy Corps
Fatme Masri	Mercy Corps
sabine Farah	MOSA
Isabelle Pelly	Save The Children
Danya Kattan	UNHCR
Serge Berthomieu	UNHCR
Elena Guseva	UNHCR
Jessica Moufawad	UNIDO
Nada Sabra	UNIDO
Peter John Grzic	UNRWA
Brett Hanley	WFP

