

# JORDAN REFUGEE RESPONSE

## Inter-Sector Working Group

Meeting Minutes & Action Points  
6<sup>th</sup> September 2015 • UNHCR Office, Amman



### Agenda

Action Points from Previous Meetings

Update on JRP/3RP appeal

Inter-Sector Linkages: Next Steps

Vulnerability Assessment Framework

Results of Coordination Survey 2015

ISWG Update

AOB

### **1. Action Points from Previous Meeting**

ACTION POINT	RESPONSIBLE	By When?
Potential 3RP appeal process be discussed with UNDP	Alex Tyler	By next ISWG
Sectors Chairs to send photos to UNHCR for the Sector Key Links Document	Sector Chairs	By 6 <sup>th</sup> August
Sector chairs to approach Snr Gender Advisor for potential sector-specific gender workshops	Sector Chairs	By next ISWG

**Potential 3RP appeal process to be discussed with UNDP:** See Agenda item on JRP/3RP below.

**Sector Chairs to send photos to UNHCR for Sector Key links:** One more day extension was provided, after which the sector pages will be issued as they are.

**Sector Chairs to approach Snr Gender Advisor for potential sector-specific gender workshops:** This remains optional but encouraged. The Education sector, WASH sector, and Protection sector have work

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plans for improving gender analysis and we encourage others to work with their sector gender focal points to develop one. Sarah Martin, the Senior Gender Advisor, will be away from Jordan from mid-September to late October. During this period, sectors should refer to their Sector Gender Focal Point Network (SGFPN) chairs or the co-chairs of the Network (Bertrand Blanc [blanc@unhcr.org](mailto:blanc@unhcr.org) and Maaïke Van Adrichem ([mvadrichem@unicef.org](mailto:mvadrichem@unicef.org)) for support.

## **2. Update on JRP/3RP appeal**

UNHCR briefed on recent discussions and agreement with MoPIC on the issuance of an inter-agency appeal in support of the JRP. The text of the agreement was shared and discussed. In short, the JRP will be the only 'plan'; however, UN agencies and NGOs will issue a separate resource requirement table, indicating where they would have a comparative advantage for raising funds or implementation. The 3RP will be the JRP document in its entirety, and these additional resource tables.

Once the project sheets are near completion, UNHCR will launch an inter-agency appeal process for the refugee pillar. The process will start in October, near the completion of the JRP, through Activityinfo. Sector chairs will have to review agency/NGO appeals against agreed criteria. Such criteria include that the budgets remain within the JRP project sheet envelopes, that the partner appeal is credible/based on past performance etc.

Questions included on the population figures to be referred to when budgeting, and whether the appeal structure will include a Protection / Basic Needs sector. Guidance notes on the appeal process will be circulated by UNHCR before the end of September.

Kaleem ur Rehman briefed on the JRP process in August, and the recent 3RP workshop. The timelines for both processes were outlined. For the JRP, the project sheets were to be submitted by 3<sup>rd</sup> September; the sector sub-chapters by 17<sup>th</sup> September; and a Validation workshop on 1<sup>st</sup> October. The 3RP timelines include final submission to the Regional level by 7<sup>th</sup> November.

Sector chairs who were also involved in the JRP as Task Force secretariat provided some feedback on the status of project sheets. Most have submitted project sheets, but many still required additional information on targets, budgets and indicators. WASH Sector noted that they had constructed the refugee budgets on the basis of discussions with partners. This background information could be maintained by the Ministry of Water as an important point of reference. Education noted challenges on increasing the targets for children eligible for formal education, while Kindergarten activities were almost entirely under Resilience. Protection noted that references to some protection issues had been diluted during the editing process, although there was a success in that a 'sustainable livelihood' output with a focus on Syrian refugees and Jordanians had been included in the draft submitted to MoPIC. There may be challenges to have approval of psychosocial activities. Shelter noted the positive engagement between MoI and MoPIC during the deliberations, which may help to avoid freezes on project approval, as had been the case this year. Health noted that there were three specific objectives for refugees, but that these were sufficiently broad to be inclusive of partners' potential activities. There are a number of development activities included in the initial drafts, which although important, are arguably not linked to the Syria crisis.

Several sectors noted that the resilience budgets – largely linked to government activities – were high. Questions were raised on whether these would not rather fall under the 3 year Executive Programmes

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under the Jordan 2025 vision. The Health Sector noted that the government could be approached to align the JRP/EDP in this regard, as part of the review process. It was proposed that UN agencies would ask for clarity on the EDP/JRP issue at the UNCT level.

WASH sector also noted recent discussions with the JRP Secretariat, asking whether Activityinfo and JORISS reporting would be aligned.

### **3. Inter-Sector Linkages: Next Steps**

With the final round of inter-sector linkage sessions completed, a discussion ensued on how to take forward the 'linkages document'. Suggestions included i) bilateral meetings between sectors on selected areas; ii) sectors to develop action plans around some of the proposed linkages; iii) to take the discussion back to the sector members, identify volunteers for follow up; iv) use the linkages document as both a guidance note and for development of subsequent annual workplans and other strategy documents.

It was agreed that by the next ISWG, Sector chairs would:

- 1) Share and discuss the Linkages document with their sectors members;
- 2) The sector will then identify a reduced list of priority areas, as well as volunteers from within the sector to follow up;
- 3) Depending on the priority, organize bilateral meetings, or broader thematic meetings between more participants.
- 4) The option of a recap workshop (half day) for the ISWG was proposed, later in November, during which the sector chairs would report back on areas of cooperation.

### **4. Vulnerability Assessment Framework**

Volker Schimmel presented an update on the VAF, including screenshots from the RAIS module, and an integrated visualization of VAF data by sector, atomic indicator/score, and sub-district. The new features include Batch query facility to see the info of family visited and can draw the findings, age level quick survey through which one can see the education levels, concentration areas and first/second level information by sector. There is also a refine view on VAF available to check the details using specific queries. The need for each sector to consider how they would 'operationalize' the VAF, beyond analysis and assessment, was highlighted. This may vary from sector to sector. VAF team is preparing draft MoUs which will be presented in coming Steering Committee meeting for finalization.

The VAF Team will share a paper with specific questions for sectors to consider on how the VAF could inform delivery of assistance in their sector. The questions will include on how the VAF is/could inform eligibility for assistance, prioritization, and on challenges in operationalizing.

### **5. Results of Coordination Survey 2015**

The initial results of the coordination survey were presented, with over 120 respondents. The overall scores were positive, following trends from previous years. The sector specific scores and comments will be shared directly with the sector chairs. While some comments are critical, they can be used to inform areas of improvement by sector chairs, in line with the coordination skills trainings. It was agreed that

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the survey deadline would not be extended, and UNHCR will proceed with the finalization of the public report.

## 6. AOB

Protection sector noted that a Referrals Workshop is being planned, and invited sector chairs to participate. Those interested should contact Jennifer Gulbrandson ([jennifer.gulbrandson@drc-jordan.org](mailto:jennifer.gulbrandson@drc-jordan.org)) by the end of the week (Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>).

WASH sector asked that a briefing on the Syrian refugee situation in Europe and migration trends be shared at the next meeting.

ACTION POINT	RESPONSIBLE	By When?
UNHCR to circulate Guidance Notes on the 3RP appeals process, including on criteria to be applied and a step-by-step for Activityinfo, by the end of September	Inter-Sector	By end September
On inter-sector linkages: 1) Share and discuss the Linkages document with their sectors members; 2) The sector will then identify a reduced list of priority areas, as well as volunteers from within the sector to follow up; 3) Depending on the priority, organize bilateral meetings, or broader thematic meetings between more participants.	Sector Chairs	1) and 2) by the next ISWG meeting in October; 3) by November.
VAF Team to share paper with questions for sectors to consider on operationalizing the VAF.	VAF Team	By 8 <sup>th</sup> September
Sectors to discuss within sector and respond by 30 <sup>th</sup> September	Sector Chairs	By 30 <sup>th</sup> September
Sector Survey: UNHCR to share sector specific comments and scores; sectors to discuss with sector members; UNHCR to finalize final Survey report	Inter-Sector / Sectors	By next ISWG
Sector chairs to contact Jennifer Gulbrandson on participation in upcoming Referrals Workshop	Sector Chairs	By 10 <sup>th</sup> September
UNHCR to provide a brief on trends re: Syria refugees/crisis in Europe at next ISWG	UNHCR	At next ISWG

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