



Child Protection in Emergencies Working Group Lebanon National Meeting Minutes

Date : 10 March 2015, 10:15am-12:15pm

Location : UNICEF, 6th floor conference room

Participants : 34 participants, 15 organizations, 2 government ministries/councils:
Danish Red Cross, DRC, HCC, Himaya, InterAction, IRC, MAP, Mercy Corps, MoSA,
NRC, SeraphimGlobal, TdH-L, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNRWA, WCH, and WVI, plus
Education Sector Coordinator, CPIE Sector IM and Coordinator

Revised Agenda

1. Review of last meeting: action points and minutes
2. Q&A session on the MoSA National Plan
3. Evictions Update
4. Education Update
5. Presentation on Periodic Reporting to the CRC & Lebanon upcoming submissions
6. Prioritization exercise
7. AOB

1. Review of last meeting: action points and minutes

- Minutes from 10 February 2015 meeting endorsed. Final version to be circulated.
- **Action Point:** *Coordinator to circulate final minutes from February meeting.*

2. Q&A session on the MoSA National Plan

- National Plan is MoSA's plan, which is being implemented in partnership with UNICEF. Aim of the plan is to build the capacity of MOSA.
 - It is not comprehensive, some activities are done that are outside of the plan.
 - The plan is not exclusive to UNICEF partners. Implementation of activities in Social Development Centres (SDCs) needs to be submitted for clearance by national steering committee.
 - MoSA led a coordination meeting to determine who would take responsibility for certain areas. UNICEF agreed to take responsibility for SDCs.
 - Others can work in SDCs, but need to coordinate with MoSA to avoid duplication.
 - No exclusivity, just a requirement to coordinate.
 - MoSA led a coordination meeting to determine who would take responsibility for certain areas. UNICEF agreed to take responsibility for SDCs.
- Q: Can NGOs work with SDC staff? Can they pay staff?
- A: Yes, but in line with MoSA guidance, rules and SOPs.
- Any incentives for MoSA staff will be paid by MoSA centrally. Direct payments by NGOs are not permitted.
 - If staff are providing extra work or NGO is benefitting from extra skills, it is allowed to pay.
 - MoSA is drafting circulars on these issues to outline roles and responsibilities.
 - At local level, each SDC will have a six-month workplan, allowing the SDC director to manage the centre.
- MoSA National Plan not comprehensive, some activities are done that fall outside of it. The next review will expand it to make more comprehensive, into a full national plan, linking development and emergency sides.
 - Important for MoSA to reach a place that all within government know that they are responsible for the CP and GBV files, and they will lead inter-governmental coordination in these areas.
- Q: Is there a budget allocated to each SDC?
- A: There are five components to budget: two are directly allocated by MoSA (day-care, information hubs); three others are indirect: case management (USJ), PSS, safe spaces.
- There is a budget for activities, the budget will vary depending on the SDC and the package of services it will offer.
- Consultations were done at zonal level. Follow-up will be at local level on a monthly basis.

- Priority at the moment is to get local action plans finalized and implementation started. Partners wanting to discuss challenges are welcome. It is a new product and discussion and advice will help (example, incentives discussion was a results of partner questions).

3. Evictions Update

- See presentation attached.
- An estimated 80% of refugees are paying rents. Largest number of informal settlements concentrated in Bekaa, Tripoli+5, Akkar.
 - Bekaa has the highest concentration of informal settlements and the highest number of evictions.
 - Akkar have high numbers of informal settlements, but majority are very small (1-3 tents), 50% only have more than 4 tents.
- Forced evictions taking place from collective sites, informal settlements, collective, shelters and collective centres.
- Significant increase in evictions coinciding with events in Aarsal in August 2014.
- Many occur by security forces. LAF asking informal settlements in proximity to military installations to leave – what is considered within ‘proximity’ is not consistent, in practice.
- Not all notices are given in writing (many verbal) and not all are acted upon (many from 2014 were not in the end evicted – some given new notices in 2015).
- Since March, an additional 13 settlements have been given notice, some notices given in 2014 were renewed.
- Figures fluctuate for evictions based on the number of confirmations. Generally, those evicted try to remain nearby. Reporting to HCR on where they go is voluntary (so do not have complete picture).
 - 6% of population have been directly affected by eviction.
 - 10% additional have been affected by notices, most verbal.

Response

- Evictions Committees linked to PWG set-up in field to monitor and track evictions, try to intervene and mitigate evictions by civilian sources (landlords, municipalities). Try to find alternatives.
 - Will not mitigate on evictions by security forces, rather work to ensure communication lines between line ministries and LAF to allow time to plan and respond.
- To establish an informal settlement, need authorization of the governor (and municipalities). Has to be established in a particular place and a plan is required.
- Discussions ongoing with MoSA on what would be the modality to improve the informal settlements, ex. WASH facilities because they are main cause of public health hazards.

4. Education Update

- Reaching All Children with Education in Lebanon (RACE) proposal - is the MEHE education proposal for Syrian children. LCRP chapter written in line with RACE.
- RACE has an executive committee, and a project management unit (PMU) that oversees and coordinates implementation of RACE.
- On NFE and ALP classes:
 - MEHE decision that organizations are not to provide catch-up or remedial classes.
 - MEHE has its own ALP curriculum, which is finalized and certified by CERD. A pilot of the programme with 10,000 children is being planned.
 - Need to consider pathways for children who complete ALP.
- On referrals between education and child protection:
 - MEHE has set-up a hotline for cases of corporal punishment within schools. Details:
 - Hotline: 01 772101.
 - Focal point: Ms. Fidaa Abou Chakra.
 - Hours: Monday-Thursday 8am-2pm; Friday 8am-11am; Saturday 8am-1pm.
 - MEHE also has a referral form to be completed and submitted to report instances of corporal punishment.
 - No other formalized system for education-child protection referrals as of yet.
- **Action Points:**
 - *Coordinator to circulate RACE proposal, corporal punishment hotline information, and referral form.*
 - *Education update to become standing agenda item at national CPiEWG meetings.*

- *Re-engage on meeting/discussion regarding referrals between education and child protection (for case management).*

5. Presentation on Periodic Reporting to the CRC & Lebanon upcoming submissions

- See presentation attached for more details.
- Lebanon's 4th and 5th State party submissions, cover period of 2005-2014, are due May 2015.
- Request from the HCC to share all information, reports, and data to support submission.
- A hard copy letter of this request will be sent to all heads of agencies/organizations.
- **Action Points:**
 - *Coordinator to share contents/outline of submission that lists what type of information required, as well as previous reports as example.*
 - *Members to provide information they have to HCC.*
 - *Coordinator to connect HCC with IM for organization contacts.*

6. Prioritization exercise

- Follow-up from 'What If..?' discussion from February meeting: 2-3 requests from inter-agency coordination on sector priorities for funding.
- Specifically need to suggest, hypothetically, what would prioritize with first \$10m, and half appeal (~21.5m for CPiE).
- Discussion on how to select:
 - Keep case management/specialised services as it is life-saving.
 - Keep capacity building as it supports sustainability of response, especially with current NGO staffing issues.
 - For half, keep structured PSS – without education component since not currently happening. Can increase messaging and information provision in PSS activities (to compensate for quality information and community mobilization 'not' being funded).
 - Alternative suggestion, do 25% across board on all of these. Or target half.
 - Specialised services target is high (MoSA component) – suggestion to reduce and add to case management.
- Overall to select from:
 - Case management (\$5.3m) with specialized services (\$3.5m) and alternative care guidelines (<\$1m): \$10m
 - Capacity building activities (~\$1m)
 - Information and mobilization and PSS ~\$25m
 - Because there is no NFE, important to prioritize PSS, and can do more information provision within. Structured PSS component is \$15m.
- Decision, \$10m: Case management (with specialized services), and capacity building
- Decision, \$25m (roughly half the appeal): Add structured PSS, with added info provision
- **Action Point:** *Coordinator to share write-up of priorities identified from discussion.*

7. AOB

- Coaching programme: information shared with field groups, including schedule of trainings and registration form to sign-up for front-liners ToT. For more information, contact IRC.
- CM TWG: Next meeting of the Case Management Technical Working Group will be called soon. Will focus on how to roll-out the National SOP and how the Practical Guidance will feed into it. CM TWG members are those with technical expertise and capacity in case management. For those interested in joining, alert coordinator to CM TWG co-chair (UNHCR).
- PSS TF: Standardized tools under development have been endorsed by the task force and are being translated. The SDQ tool will be used to measure Output indicator 1.1 in framework. A full update and presentation of tools for endorsement will be given at the next meeting.
- **Action Points:**
 - *Members to contact IRC or Coordinator for more information on coaching programme ToT and registration form.*
 - *Members to contact UNHCR or Coordinator to join CM TWG.*
 - *PSS TF co-chairs to provide full update at next CPiEWG meeting.*

Next Meeting: 21 April 2015 @ 10am
Location tbc