

Combined WASH/Shelter Coordination Meeting

UNHCR Zahle, 18 February 2015

- IM/National Sector update on the various issues raised at the workshops, particularly AI reporting.
 - Many concerns about extra workload and limited benefit to partners
 - Please refer to WASH AI presentation (attached)
 - IAMP used for gap analysis, AI for reporting
 - Benefits
 - Monthly dashboard created against LCRP Plans
 - Primary overview report provided to high-level donors/advocates
 - Shared among all Syria Crisis Countries
 - Key to increasing sector funding
 - Useful to partners
 - Customized agency reports
 - Sector reports
 - Improved mapping
 - Send feedback through Martin/Karen or directly to national level
 - William to resend protocols for reporting on ITS with no PCode
- Brief overview of the main other topics from the workshops and how they should be handled.
 - WASH outbreak scenario from workshop was shared with health sector. Please review with Health colleagues in terms of potential to respond within your AOI.
 - Update Technical Working documents required at this stage, mostly to address gap in WASH technical information in building accommodation.
 - 26 – 02-2015 is the date for a Donor/Partner discussion on Bekaa geographic coverage, as requested at the WASH Workshop. Starting time 1pm, which is different to original email.
- Updates from National Sectors.
 - No plan in motion to update WASH technical guides
 - Requires cross-sector interaction → technical working group in place already for SSU and SSB
 - Meeting scheduled for Monday at NRC (Beirut?)
 - More information to follow
 - Individual agencies to feed field-level needs to national level colleagues for inclusion in plans
 - Local partners need to feed into national Shelter strategy
 - Draft shelter strategy has been shared for comment and a meeting will be held on 24th February @ 9.30am to discuss the strategy and Bekaa inputs.
 - Draft National WASH strategy is work in progress (timeline for completion and sharing with WG?)
- Update on Evictions in Bekaa by Protection colleagues
 - Contradictory information being received by UNHCR. Field teams actively trying to verify
 - Confirmed eviction of 4 sites
 - What do we do if large scale evictions do happen?

- If there is referral that beneficiaries have moved protection will check to make sure it is safe/appropriate for WASH/Shelter partners to implement to be given the referral. Each partner must undertake their own checks to see verify that it is appropriate to intervene without security issues or adverse impact on existing settlements.
- Martin to share more information about correspondence between protection sector and LAF
- Preparing for the next storm (yes, next storm forecast to hit Wednesday night!)
 - Strong winds, rain, snow and freezing temperatures through the weekend
 - Partners please tell Martin:
 - Who is on call? Focal point for communication and teams available.
 - Capacities – HR (who will actually be able to get in), equipment, stock, etc.
 - Estimates of potential effects and ability to meet these needs
 - Current preparedness/issues/coverage
 - GVC – no snow in the last storm, no problems currently.
 - MC – Some flooding in Maallaqa Aradi, called in for floor raising kits, Medair assisting; water pumping may be needed so please share location/availability of equipment on Google doc.
 - ACF – ERF funding for desludging, water trucking, assistance to municipalities and waste management for municipalities (Zahle, Taibe, Aarsal);
 - UNICEF – biggest need has been dewatering and desludging
 - Intersos – no problems in Aarsal in last storm; early January storm access was more difficult; provided chains and wet weather gear to providers
 - SCI – Shelter: just finished referrals from Johan; updating Google doc with responses mostly MRK, plastic sheeting, blankets; WASH partners implementing shelter interventions (plastic sheeting, etc.) please coordinate with SCI and Medair to avoid duplication; planning to continue with similar interventions for next storm
 - SCI – WASH: working with water trucking/desludging pre-storm, sending out key messages
 - Medair – Shelter: lots of referrals for drainage kits from ITS < 10 tents, floor raising kits; ITS with SI are responding better, but even those with SI are starting to struggle; be sure to deliver key messages alongside drainage kits. 140
 - Medair – WASH: business as usual; increased desludging and limited access
 - DRC – 438 drainage kits available; 1700 mattresses; 263 blankets; providing assistane to municipalities marj, bar elias, majdal anjar for road clearing etc.
 - Oxfam - Road clearing in 16 municipalities in N. Bekaa. If you have access problems in your areas please refer to Oxfam.

Info on Oxfam capacity to clear roads from the snow should another snowstorm occur. Oxfam signed contracts with eight bulldozer/bobcat operators to cover the following municipalities, but with the possibility to cover neighbouring municipalities if necessary: Sawayri, Qaraoun in West Bekaa, and in North Bekaa Britel, Haoush Dahab, Haoush Barada, Majdaloun, Saaide, Bouday, Haoush Rafka, laat, Haour Tala, Talia, Chlifa, Btedai, Hadath Baalbek, Kfarden.
 - organizing additional desludging; providing additional drinking water
 - NRC – no problems in their areas; plenty of shelter kits available in stock for referrals (200 kits going to Aarsal);

- LRC – 2 ITS in Qab Elias (blankets and tarps); referring 1 case in Joub Jannine;
 - Relief International – Welcome to their first coordination meeting and we encourage Ali to share with us the locations that they are working. RI is primarily providing Health support, but also HP, so therefore is keen to know what WASH actors are in the areas. RI will share their locations for coordination.
- Announcements
 - Partner/Donor meeting scheduled next week to address geographic areas of responsibility. Date and time confirmed as 26th February at 1pm in UNHCR Zahle.
 - Martin will be leaving on 27th February. Liz Palmer will be replacing him as WASH/Shelter lead and arrive in early March.
 - New Sector Co-Leads
 - WASH – Karen Arakelyan from Oxfam (KArakelyan@oxfam.org.uk)
 - Shelter –Nicholas Winn from NRC (nicholas.winn@nrc.no)

A very big welcome and thanks to Karen and Nic for stepping up and helping the respective Sectors for the first 6 months of the year. Please do all you can to support and assist them as they are here to do likewise for you?