

Minutes of the National Basic Assistance Working Group Meeting

Meeting Location	UNHCR, Lea Bldg. 1 st Floor	Meeting Date	17 February 2017
Chair persons	Khalil Dagher (UNHCR) & Mirdza Abele (WVI)	Meeting Time	2:00 PM
Minutes by	Mirdza Abele & Khalil Dagher	Meeting Duration	
Represented Agencies	DAF, UNHCR, NRC, SCI, WVI, LCC, ACTED, ACF, RI, IHR, UNICEF, OXFAM, MoSA, ECHO, DFID, CLMC, IOM		

Agenda:

1. Sector Updates:
 - a) Targeting Assistance
 - b) Interagency Winter Support Plan 2016-2017
 - c) 2016 LCRP: Summary achievements
2. Cash For Education:
 - a) Presentation by UNICEF
 - b) Presentation by Relief International
3. "Lump Sum Cash Assistance": Presentation by LCC
4. Outcome Monitoring Findings: LCC caseload

Action Points

- 27 out of 42 appealing agencies have completed step 2 on Activity Info for LCRP 2017-2020 targets; The remaining 15 need to complete their inputs by end of February / Targets per output per geographical location;
- Winter achievements Map to be developed by BAWG and shared;
- UNICEF to share a copy of the feasibility study for Cash for Education;
- LCC to share the reports which accompany their presentations;

Sector updates:

a. Targeting Assistance:

- 60,151 HHs reached with Multi-purpose Cash Assistance (MPC) (49,446 Syr; 9,199 PRS; 1,506 Leb);
- 20,088 Syr HHS reached with cash for education by UNICEF; These HHs are not unique and may overlap with MPC beneficiaries. The split will be made in the coming weeks;

b. Interagency Winter Support Plan 2016-2017

- 220,035 HHs or 83% of the target reached overall out of 265,260 HHs;
- 174,207 out of 218,010 HHs reached with cash (80% of the target);
- 45,828 out of 47,250 HHs reached with CRIs (96%);
- 26,000 (75,000 children) Lebanese HHs who received cash for winter from UNICEF are yet to be reported upon and will count towards the overall target;

c. 2016 LCRP: Summary achievements

Outcome 1

- 40% of severely economically vulnerable Syrian displaced households received multi-sector cash transfers;
- 90% of Syrian displaced households receiving cash assistance also receiving food assistance;

Outcome 2

- 98% of seasonally vulnerable population assisted;

Outcome 3

- 9% of socio-economically vulnerable Leb households assisted through the NPTP under LCRP;

Activities

- 79,392 out of 136,000 HHs profiled;

- 53,907 out of 124,800 Syr HHs received MPC;
- 10,730 out of 11,200 Pal HHs received MPC;
- 105.2M out of 183M USD distributed in MPC;
- 188,999 out of 210,000 HHs received seasonal cash grants;
- 103.2M out of 120M USD distributed in seasonal cash grants;
- 78,360 out of 65,000 HHs assisted with CRIs;
- 1,860 out of 20,000 vulnerable Leb HHs received MPC;
- 2M out of 42M USD distributed to vulnerable Leb;

Key Outcome Achievements

- Overall, 190,000 households (Syr, Leb, Pal) have been reached with seasonal and regular cash assistance during 2016;
- More than \$208Millions injected in local markets in forms of direct assistance;
- Deterioration of economic vulnerabilities was halted. Same poverty level was recorded in 2016 compared to 2015;
- Humanitarian actors increased the use of monetized assistance as a delivery mechanism. 15 partners implemented cash activities in 2016 compared to 9 in 2015;
- Increased levels of cooperation with NPTP; More BA / LCRP partners are approaching NPTP as the sole official poverty programme to target vulnerable Lebanese;

Challenges

- 57% of Syrian households identified as extremely vulnerable are still not receiving multi-purpose cash;
- Multi-purpose cash assistance to vulnerable Lebanese only reached 9%;
- Exist strategies for direct assistance do not exist;
- Compared to the needs; funding allows to cover a limited number of families;
- Lack of harmonized targeting approach for non-registered Syrian refugee households;

Key Priorities

1st Q 2017

- Conclusion on the appeals / referrals mechanisms for cash assistance programmes;
- Roll out / adaptation of the harmonized PDM tools developed;
- Update of the desk formula coefficients based on the most up to date data;

Foreseen gaps

- Nearly 3,800 HHs (53% Syrians; 47% Lebanese) covered by 6 partners with multi-purpose cash and funded by the Lebanon Humanitarian Fund will be discontinued as the duration / coverage of projects will finish in March / April;
 - RI will transfer their caseload to BPRM funding;
 - NRC will continue assisting their caseload from own funding for one month;
 - ACF and SIF funding ends in March;

- **Cash For Education:**
 - Presentation by UNICEF (see presentation attached);
 - Presentation by Relief International (see presentation attached);
- **"Lump Sum Cash Assistance": Presentation by LCC**
 - See presentation attached;
- **Outcome monitoring findings: LCC caseload**
 - See presentation attached;