# **REF-SGFPN**

# **Refugee Sector Gender Focal Points Network**



# **Minutes of Meeting 03 September 2020**

Date/time/venue	Wednesday, 03 September 2020 - 10:30 -12:00 - WebEx
Attendees	SGFPN Co-Chair [UNHCR], Co-Chair [UN WOMEN], Inter-Sector Coordinator, UNHCR IACU team, SGFPs from Basic Needs Sector (Terre des Hommes Italy), Education Sector (NRC and Relief International), Food Security Sector (WFP), Health Sector (International Medical Corps), Livelihoods Sector (Save the Children), Protection Sector (Relief International), Shelter Sector (UNHCR), ISWG, IACU, UN Women, Chair of Livelihoods Working Group, South Area-Based Coordinator.

# 1. Welcoming remarks by UNHCR and Introduction of UN Women as SGFPN Co-Chair

The Co-Chair of the refugee Sector Gender Focal Points Network [SGFPN], Susana Boudon opened the meeting and welcomed the audience, noting the additional importance of this meeting because this monthly meeting also has the objective of welcoming Amy Henderson from UN Women as the new Co-chair of the network. The Co-Chair presented the Agenda and recalled action points status from the previous meeting as follows:

#### Agenda:

- 1. Welcoming remarks by UNHCR and Introduction of UN Women as SGFPN Co-chair
- 2. Tour de Table for presentation of network members to the Co-chair
- 3. Co-chair presentation
- 4. Discussion on challenges faced by the SGFPs and sectors delivering during Covid-19
- 5. Changes in the structure of the network
- 6. SGFPN document deliverables: kick-off exercise Monitoring Gender Exercise
- 7. AOB

#### **Action Points:**

- 1. Monitoring Gender Exercise / Dashboard
- 2. Monitoring Survey Mid-Year 2020

### For further information please contact:

o Susana Boudon, Chair of SGFPN, boudon@unhcr.org

# 2. Tour de Table for presentation of network members to the Co-Chair

Each one of the audiences introduced themselves and provided a brief introduction on their organization, respective sectors and their role at the SGFPN.

# 3. Co-chair presentation

Amy Henderson from UN Women presented the key findings of the Gender in Humanitarian Action [GiHA] desk review and Women's Economic Empowerment in the Context of the COVID-19 pandemic in Jordan, the pandemic and the Jordanian economy.

The presentation covered the following key findings of the desk review:

- Gender analyses: has not been consistently integrated int the sector plans or JRP.
- Targeted actions: the most common focused on provision of sexual and reproductive health and GBV prevention and response. No targeted actions related to the promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment, women's leadership and participation as per the Grand Bargain.

- **Gender responsive Monitoring and Evaluation mechanisms:** are in place but not all data collection mechanisms incorporate a gender perspective.
- **Gender markers:** useful tools to systematically track gender allocations but training and monitoring are necessary to ensure compliance and vetting.
- Inter-Agency / intersectoral gender working group (SGFPN): is established but the main challenges to strengthen its impact are participation, seniority and expertise.
- Humanitarian partners: have taken steps to foster the participation of national women's organizations in coordination mechanisms (HPF) but specific initiatives at national and camps/HC level require attention to ensure meaningful participation of women refugees.

The floor was given to the participants who raised questions:

- How the inclusion of gender analysis in the JRP could be done?
- How was the gender marker has been applicable in the JRP?

#### For further information please contact:

o Amy Henderson, Co-chair of SGFPN, amy.henderson@unwomen.org

# 4. Discussion on challenges faced by the SGFPs and Sectors delivering during Covid-19

- Education Sector Gender Focal Point, Niveen Alqsous [Relief International] noted that education centres are closed, and work is done remotely and on-line. They are expecting to re-open the week of the 7 September.
- Health Sector Gender Focal Point, Ruba Abu Taleb [IMC] referred to challenges the beneficiaries suffering from the lack of accessibility of public primary health centres. In Irbid they faced challenges with urgent health cases were unable to reach the health centre due to curfew and quarantine. Three death cases happened in Zatari camp as they didn't receive timely health support.
- Education Sector Gender Focal Point, Dina Al Masri [NRC] briefed on her new role and her work on the JRP and country education strategy. The challenge is to go back into face to face learning. Zatari schools will reopen soon but for Azraq camp still unknown yet. NRC provided training for teachers on how to be safe in schools. A survey will be conducted next week on the challenges of education. NRC is Co-chairing the education sector and they are finalizing the education strategy with Education Sector Working Group [ESWG]. Dina noted that Syrian have same access to Jordan to the education services. It is an excuse of not receiving the Syrian children.
- UN-Women informed that Cash for Work Project stopped. UNW collaborated with WFP and a solution have been found.
- The South Area-Based Coordinator, Mohammad Khuran [UNHCR] held their meeting last week and received feedback from their partners related of lack of commitment of refugees, host community and private sector to the preventive measure. Syrian are not able to register their children in school due to bad economic situation and kindergarten is limited to Jordanian kids due to the capacity of their kindergarten. Lack of interest of some partners to attend their meetings.
- The Chair of Livelihoods Sector Working Group [UNHCR], noted that in their last working group meeting, UN Women presented on Women Economic Empowerment before and after Covid-19 and on gender trends. WFP presented on Gender Analysis. For future they are planning to focus on vocational training.

### *For further information please contact:*

- Niveen Algsous, Education SGFP, <u>niveen.algsous@ri.org</u>
- o Ruba Abu Taleb, Health SGFP, rataleb@InternationalMedicalCorps.org
- o Dina Al Masri, Education SGFP, dina.almasri@nrc.no
- Mohammad Khuran, South Area-Based Coordinator, khuran@unhcr.org
- Najwan Aldorgham, Chair of Livelihoods Sector Working Group, aldorgha@unhcr.org

### 5. Changes in the structure of the network

The Inter-Sector Coordinator, Susanne Butscher [UNHCR], presented the new draft TOR for the refugee SGFPN that was prepared by a group of gender experts composed by UNFPA (Pamela Di Camillo), UN Women (Rebeca Accin), WFP (Yunei Kim) and UNHCR (Tayba Sharif). The draft ToR will be circulated with the meeting materials for inputs from network members.

### Key background on the establishment of the new draft ToR:

- Requested by the Inter-Sector Coordinator.
- Gender experts from UN Women, UNFPA, WPF and UNHCR prepared the SGFPN next steps document, building on the preliminary findings of the GiHA review.
- The next steps document was shared by the Chair of the SGFPN with the SGFPs, received positive feedback but no additional comments.
- Based on this document and at the request of ISWG coordinator, an updated ToR was drafted incorporating the next steps.

#### Discussion on the new draft TOR:

- About the technical support to sectors on GiHA.
- Definition of membership seniority. Members questioned if the term seniority refers to a member's position within their respective organization, their respective sectors, or SGFPs initiatives and actions ensuring equity and equality at national and international level. Members felt that seniority should be more clearly defined. Some members expressed concern that if membership is limited to senior gender experts, the learning process through the exchange and transmission of knowledge will be completely undermined. SGFPN Co-chair explained that seniority refers to high level of expertise; Inter-Sector Coordinator mentioned seniority was not intended with high gender expertise at the network due to the rotation, seniority was defined as it is related to the subject matter of sector represented.
- The voluntary nature of the network members. Gender Experts are accountable to their paid work and the network will become a second priority.
- Network budget: the ToR lacking budget allocation will difficultly comply with the implementing Work Plan activities for example regarding the GIHA exercise. It will very hard to achieve the objectives of improving the SGFPN and building the capacity of its members without having allocated budget for too. Inter-Sector Coordinator mentioned that there is a budget under UNHCR to support the SGFPN.

#### For further information please contact:

- Susanne Butscher, Inter-Sector Coordinator, butscher@unhcr.org
- o Amy Henderson, SGFPN Co-chair, <u>amy.henderson@unwomen.org</u>

#### SGFPN document deliverables: kick-off exercise Monitoring Gender Exercise

#### **Monitoring Gender Dashboard**

The Chair recalled the key findings and objectives of this exercise giving the floor to the Information Management Officer, Gorgui Diouf [UNHCR] to provide further overview of the gender dashboard. The Gender Dashboard template presented and discussed with the network members in June 2020 will circulate again so SGFPs will start reporting on gender data from September 2020. As a complement / refreshing of the several series of ActivityInfo trainings, additional technical support was offered to the members in support of this important exercise.

### Monitoring Survey Mid-Year 2020 [REF-SGFPN]

The Monitoring Survey Mid-Year 2020 prepared and discussed with the network members, ready since June was put on hold pending the effectuation of the Co-chair role. UN Women is providing additional input and feedback in the finalization of the survey, which will be circulated in mid-October.

# **Target correspondents:**

The target respondents for this survey are regular members in the refugee networks, at refugee sectors and area-based coordination mechanisms at Jordan country and field levels.

### For further information please contact:

- o Susana Boudon, Chair of SGFPN, boudon@unhcr.org
- o Gorgui Diouf, Information Management Officer, dioufg@unhcr.org
- o Naseem Tagatqa, Assc. Information Management Officer, tagatqa@unhcr.org
- o Samira Smairat, Inter-Agency Coordination Assc. [SGFPN-Health-WASH], smairats@unhcr.org

# 7. AOB

#### N/A

Action Points	Responsible	Deadline
New draft ToR to be circulated among SGFPs for inputs with meeting materials.	Coordination	With meeting materials
UN-Women to provide feedback on the SGFPN Survey.	Co-chair	TBD
Monitoring Gender Dashboard to start reporting as of end of September.	Coordination	TBD

# **Next SGFPN Meeting**

The next meeting will take place Thursday, 1 October 2020 from 11:30 to 13:00 via WebEx