

## Jordan Child Protection Sub-Working Group

### Meeting Minutes

**Date and time:** 5-April-2021/ 10:00-12:00

**Location:** Online Zoom meeting

**Co-Chairs:** UNICEF/ UNHCR

**Attendance:**

**Agenda:**

- Greetings and Introduction
- Stock tacking on update of Work-Plan, 4Ws and Referral Pathways
- Introduction of GAP analysis and expected steps and tentative timeline
- UNICEF Presentation on VAC SOPs
- WARCHILD Presentation on Family Intervention Project
- Partner updates
- AOB

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Point
<b>Greetings and Introduction</b>	- Welcoming participants and discussing the agenda.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MoM will be uploaded on UNHCR's data portal:</b>  <a href="#">Working Group: [Protection]</a>  <a href="#">Child Protection Sub Working Group - Jordan</a>  <a href="http://unhcr.org">unhcr.org</a></li> </ul>

<p><b>Stock tacking on update of Work-Plan, 4Ws and Referral Pathways</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Workplan was updated and will be finalized and shared with members along with other documents.</li> <li>- 4Ws and referral pathways: did not receive many confirmations, members were requested to provide their inputs by the end of the week. If there are no inputs co-chairs will finalize these documents. Filling the 4Ws and referral pathways is important to confirm activities and it is also linked to funding.</li> <li>- JHF funding:</li> <li>- Will check requests from members against referral pathways to see if it's within the scope.</li> <li>- Regularity of attendance to the CP SWG is an important actor.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Referrals (EN):</b> <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/18XLp0pQebvKzU7pMujM1VyW_AxeQxipm/edit">https://docs.google.com/document/d/18XLp0pQebvKzU7pMujM1VyW_AxeQxipm/edit</a></li> <li>• <b>Referrals (AR):</b> <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vxJ250am1mxntHJXE0k_3-qQuirNYqmN/edit#">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vxJ250am1mxntHJXE0k_3-qQuirNYqmN/edit#</a></li> <li>• <b>4Ws:</b> <a href="https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1OBlAU1MwgPx1unhZQEx5NUo1Qhy55qrc/edit#gid=3104759">https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1OBlAU1MwgPx1unhZQEx5NUo1Qhy55qrc/edit#gid=3104759</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Introduction of GAP analysis and expected steps and tentative timeline</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Working on updating the GAP analysis since the last update was in 2019. Co-chairs are planning to have an online workshop by dividing members into groups and each group will have a facilitator to guide the discussion. After that there will be a discussion amongst all groups so that all members can be involved.</li> <li>- Various topics and concerns will be discussed such as child labor and child marriage in addition to coordination modalities and other topics.</li> <li>- Facilitators' role will be important, members who are interested to facilitate were asked to participate, otherwise co-chairs can nominate facilitators.</li> <li>- Planning to have a preparatory meeting with facilitators to discuss their roles and tasks before the workshop.</li> <li>- Finally, co-chairs will collect information and share it with members.</li> <li>- The workshop will take place around the second half of June.</li> <li>- More emails on that will be shared with members.</li> <li>- Will use standards and indicators from 2019 and build on them.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Members who are interested to facilitate the workshop can send an email to co-chairs</b></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Co-chairs will share 2019 GAP analysis as a reference. It is important to reflect COVID-19 situation. Email will be shared to call for facilitation nominations.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>UNICEF Presentation on VAC SOPs</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A guide to educational procedures to deal with cases of domestic violence, child protection and school violence.</li> <li>- This guidance aims to confirm and complete what was accomplished nationally, it was prepared based on all national procedures and protocols that are related to dealing with cases of violence in all its forms.</li> <li>- <b>Procedures guide goals for MoE:</b></li> <li>- Finding a work directory that enables workers in the MoE to respond to the needs of cases.</li> <li>- Find a common language between workers in the MoE and partners.</li> <li>- Define roles and responsibilities for all workers in MoE according to a multi-enterprise approach.</li> <li>- Saving time and effort.</li> <li>- Facilitate review and audit process.</li> <li>- Facilitate means of partnership between service providers by using specific modules.</li> <li>- Enhance quality of services.</li> <li>- Facilitate providing the needed data.</li> <li>- <b>Targeted groups according to the MoE:</b></li> <li>- Educational guide.</li> <li>- Safe School Environment Council Coordinator.</li> <li>- School principal.</li> <li>- Department of Educational Guidance in the Directorate of Education.</li> <li>- Directorate of Guidance and Guidance in the Ministry's Center, "Department of Educational Guidance, Department of Protection and Safe Environment" in the Ministry's Center.</li> <li>- <b>Methodology for preparing the Ministry's procedures:</b> to deal with domestic violence cases, a "Procedures Manual" was prepared by MoE in partnership with NCF and UNICEF. A committee that represents directorates was established in the MoE.</li> <li>- <b>Policies and legislation:</b></li> <li>- The Jordanian Penal Code.</li> <li>- Education law.</li> <li>- Protection from domestic violence law.</li> <li>- Juvenile law.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Presentation will be shared with members</b></li> </ul>

- Civil services system.
- Student discipline instructions.
- Functional codes of conduct for civil services employees.
- National Standard Operating Procedures.
- Accreditation standards and quality control.
- **There are paths of procedures for MoE employees.**
- **Child protection cases categories:**
- **1. Child protection during emergencies and crisis:**
- Protecting children against armed activities.
- Unaccompanied and separated children.
- Human trafficking.
- Birth records.
- Child marriage.
- **2. Child abuse cases inside or outside the family:**
- Physical violence.
- Sexual violence.
- Psychological violence.
- Ignorance.
- Educational service providers must take into consideration cases that need a legal notification to family protection directorate.
- **Some of the cases that need immediate protection:**
- If the violence is happening.
- Using of weapons or sharp objects.
- Perpetrator within the school environment.
- Sexual abuse or suspect of sexual abuse.
- Obvious physical injuries.
- Direct life threat.
- There are tracking procedures for dealing with domestic violence, child protection or violence in school at: the counseling and monitoring directorate, directorate of education, schools, from a student to a student or from a student to a teacher in schools and from a teacher to a student in schools.
- **Questions:**
- Q: is the MoE connected to a tracking system?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Yes, the tracking system is connected to the MoE to make referrals easier.</li> <li>- Q: there is a fixed case management system in Family Protection Directorate, will you have the same system in MoE?</li> <li>- In the future there will be a fixed system.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>WARCHILD Presentation on Family Intervention Project</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The project aims to develop and evaluate a family-focused systemic approach in Hashmi, east Amman.</li> <li>- It is for families who are identified as needing higher levels of support and families who have multiple and complex challenges.</li> <li>- Way of working: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Community advisory board and local study advisors.</li> <li>- Participatory research and co-design principles.</li> <li>- Longitudinal- follow families over time</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Rationale for Nurturing Family Intervention: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A nurturing family environment is essential for positive child development and wellbeing. Various stressors in the family system influence individuals and relationships. Poverty, intimate partner violence, and parental mental illness. Programs working at the individual child level, while important, do not address complex family challenges. Systemic family approaches are seldom conducted or evaluated.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Study design: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Phase 1: Formative Work Dec'20-Apr'21.</li> <li>- Phase 2: Case studies Jul-Oct 21.</li> <li>- Phase 3: Feasibility Study Jan – Sept'22.</li> <li>- Phase 4: Structural integration and dissemination.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Phase 1, Preliminary Qualitative Findings:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The most prominent “challenges” mentioned through the interviews pertained were situational, and largely made up of structural barriers.</li> <li>- Support is limited and often offered by NGOs and CBOs, it is however still limited in duration, targeting, and sustainability.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Social challenges:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conservative Culture, Females restricted in movement, especially young girls. ▪ Size of families quite large. Some interviewees had 8 Children. ▪ Opinion on discrimination and stigma varies, some will say they didn't feel it at all while others will talk about it as quite</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Presentation will be shared with members</b></li> </ul>

traumatic. ▪ Integration and belonging: The perception that they're guests within community, even if experience is pleasant sometimes prevents families from growing roots within community.

- **MH and Psychological Challenges:**

- Trauma: particularly within Iraqi and Syrian interviewees, but also within Jordanian families.
  - Often repressed or not addressed in the right way, ➢ Parents try to shield their children from it, not always in the best way. ▪ Shame: in general, but particularly within men, largely intertwined with gender-normative concepts pertaining to roles, inability to fulfill them, and not knowing how to deal with resulting frustration, and feelings of ineptitude. ▪ Parents feel the need to shield their children from these difficulties, as such parents don't expect any kind of emotional or psychological support to come from their children. Except maybe for some of the older children. ▪ Unsurprisingly, the more functional families found it a lot easier to take about these issues at length. ▪ They also perceived each other as sources of support rather than distress. Isolation: Fear for safety of selves and family from the community. ▪ In some cases, resulting from sense of shame and inadequacy. ▪ Frequent mention of mental exhaustion or fatigue, ▪ All of this resulting in pressure build up within families that less functional families would cope with negatively through a variety of behaviors including (but not limited to): ➢ Neglect of children, ➢ Early marriage, ➢ Child Labor, ➢ Substance abuse, ➢ Family violence. ▪ Exacerbated and compounded by COVID-19.

- **Trends within more functional families:**

- Better communicators with one another, decision making, and planning takes happens on a collective or at least dual level between mother and father.
- Better coping strategies relying on communication, healthy processing of emotions through dialogue, artistic outlets, exercise, and reliance on healthy support figures and groups within the family, the extended family, and the community.
- Notions of patience, acceptance, and endurance largely intertwined with religious beliefs.

- **Community input:**

- There's a need to remind people that positive coping mechanisms exist and can help them better adapt to some of life's recurring challenges.
- Finding a way to talk to children and adolescents about the family's problems would be very helpful in relieving the stresses they feel.
- CoVID presenting us with chance to be with our families, but they don't know what to do

together that is healthy and all-inclusive. Quality family time is something we need to work on.

- **Proposed intervention rationale:**
- Will focus on the internal family functioning and ability to support each other and work together, while considering the multiple and complex challenges that families are facing and their impact on individuals and the family system.
- Will make sure that counsellors are able to link families to services they need.
- Will make sure that we will acknowledge the challenges families are facing.
- **Structure of intervention:**
- Family systemic approach.
- Non-specialist facilitators.
- Trainer/supervisor will be licensed psychologist.
- 'Modular approach'.
- Core family component Different 'modules' or sets of sessions on relevant topics, depending on what family needs.
- **Long term outcome:** "Reduced distress/dysfunction within the family system (individual & relational level)".
- **Inputs needed in:**
- Other relevant findings from experience from Hashmi context.
- Mapping of relevant actors.
- Approaching families and navigating the issue of adopting CP-focused negative coping mechanisms.
- Guidance/ resources/ tactics/ opinion on talking to adolescents about burdens experienced by family, without inducing stress.
- **Questions and comments:**
- Q: men are feeling ashamed is it because they don't have a job opportunity?
- A: many reasons, one of them is lack of job, availability to perform and provide for their families and other factors like how to behave, traumas, etc.
- Comment: for CP cases like neglect, child marriage and child labor, we can link War Child with IMC to have referrals and get case management services.
- Comment: rapid needs assessment done by ICMC. Asked to have the presentation to provide a feedback before finalizing the needs assessment.

<p><b>Partner updates</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>ARDD</b> is currently implementing a project funded by OCHA titled “Enhancement of the Protective Environment of Syrian and Jordanian Boys and Girls through Legal Support and Cash Distribution” from Dec 2020 until Oct 2021. After Eid break, we will start distributing Cash for Legal Protection for the children who conflict with law or have any of their legal rights violated. ARDD coordinated with the Cash SWG and will share lessons learned toward the end of the project with all. Currently, ARDD can’t receive referrals for this component as already there is a waiting list of identified cases, but we will update organizations if we can accept referrals at a later stage.</li> <li>- <b>UNICEF:</b> regarding early marriage in camps, UNICEF with sharia court in Azraq camp and soon will have a joint meeting between PWG and CP and GBV SWG. IBV’s code of conduct touched basis on that and will develop a plan to decrease the number of early marriages. Looking into courses to reduce early marriage.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>AOB</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Might replace the working group with the GAP analysis workshop. Members will be informed.</li> </ul>	