

## Protection Working Group Jordan

**Date:** 2<sup>nd</sup> of March 2021, Teams online meeting

**Agencies present:** Humanity & Inclusion, APS, AVSI, care International, DRC, HelpAge International, IFH/NHF, IMC, INTERSOS, IOM, IRAP, JOHUD, JRF, LWF, Medair, NRC, RI, save the Children, SAS, TDHL, UNDP, UNHCR, UOSSM, Vento di Terra, World Vision

**AGENDA:**

- Update from the Co-Chair
- Update on the access of non-Syrian to Education services in Jordan
- Briefing on the work of IRAP (RefugeeRights) in Jordan
- Update from PWGs in the field and the Sub Working Groups of SGBV/CP/MHPSS/PWDs/CFP TF/PSEA.
- Update from Partners

Agenda item	Discussion points	Follow up action and focal point
<p><b>Update from the Co-Chairs</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Welcoming participants and discussing the agenda.</li> <li>- Sector lead discussed the PWG by theme as following:</li> <li>- Legal Assistance: UNHCR, NRC and ARDD will be presenting their best practices in providing legal Aid and Legal assistance to refugees in Jordan. This team will write concept notes highlighting gaps and challenges to be used by donors for fund raising and generating new projects.</li> <li>- Services for non-Syrians including those in the south, emphasizing the one refugee approach. Advocating for one refugee approach to be discussed with the government.</li> <li>- Protection monitoring: partners with Protection Monitoring background such as DRC, IRC, UNHCR and others will work on establishing a protection monitoring modality to collect all the existing mechanisms of the organizations through which monitoring is undertaken and develop one common monitoring tool through which relevant information and data will be collected on certain protection issues. Partners who have conducted protection monitoring assessment can share it.</li> <li>- Protection mainstreaming in other sectors and the coordination with other sectors. Partners who are willing to volunteer were asked to conduct this exercise.</li> <li>- Coordination with the government. We have 11 Partners interested in PWG-MOSD TF.</li> <li>- In July 2021, will conduct Participatory Protection Needs Assessments to highlight protection gaps and services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>MoM will be uploaded on UNHCR data portal:</b> <a href="http://data2.unhcr.org/en/workin-group/50?sv=4&amp;geo=36">http://data2.unhcr.org/en/workin-group/50?sv=4&amp;geo=36</a></li> <li>- <b>Presentations will be shared with members</b></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Enhance community mobilization and community engagement with PWG. As suggested in the Protection Strategy, we need to develop a task force on community mobilization and participatory approaches, to develop PWG guidance note.</li> <li>- Trainings and capacity building for protection sector and other Sectors: Development of training calendar based on PWG needs (with SWGs). The team will present their training plan next month. The training team will use suggestions and training that were shared while reviewing the protection strategy. Refresher trainings on GBV resources and tools and sharing training materials. Training on PSEA that will be provided by INTERSOS and UNHCR on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March 2021. Provide protection mainstreaming trainings to other sectors. Training on SGFP by UNHCR and UN Women.</li> <li>- Advocacy: On the 25<sup>th</sup> of February 2021, the PWG Co-chairs briefed the HDPG on implementation of National Social Protection Strategy highlighting the role of PWG partners in supporting and engaging with MoSD through the enhanced coordination modalities between Protection Sector, MoSD and other government entities. In addition to ensuring complementarity and harmonization with MoSD engagements in promoting data collection and assessment result sharing to minimize protection gaps; and providing technical support that is related to the inclusion of refugees in national systems including supporting the development of protection related policy frameworks and strategies. This presentation is part of the PWG advocacy with donors, other sectors, and key stakeholders to include protection as a key priority for normal situation and emergency response. The presentation called for supporting the MoSD plan for moving to the medium- and long-term objectives pertaining to the response to COVID-19 situation, with regards to refugee economic empowerment and employment due to the financial strain caused by COVID-19. Support MoSD’s alternative care program targeting orphans and children with no family support (Jordanians and Syrians). Support MoSD led social cohesion programs between refugees and host communities; support community-based interventions through; Rehabilitation and construction of centres including MoSD community centres and shelters; Strengthen partners’ social protection interventions in the south through engagement with Government, regular missions, and mobile teams</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Update on the access of non-Syrian to Education services in Jordan</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Access to Education for nationalities other than Syrians:</li> <li>- Education Strategic Plan (ESP) for 2018-2022: the ESP is committed to advancing quality education, including for vulnerable Jordanians and refugees (SDG, EF).</li> <li>- The Accelerate Access Initiative (AAI), as key funding mechanism supporting vulnerable groups, including Refugees, has initiated a successful transition to its phase II, which will be aligned to the Education Strategic Plan (ESP) – A&amp;E</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Transitioned to medium-longer term approach to reach all children regardless of status or nationality. The AAI phase II now shows the transition from funding mechanism as well to be fully aligned to and directly supporting a sector plan.</li> <li>- <b>Theoretically:</b> refugees and asylum seekers, other than Syrian nationals, fall within the scope of the Residency and Foreigners Affairs Law 24/73 in Jordan. Refugee and asylum- seekers students (other than Syrians) must have a residency permit and demonstrate that their parents hold a work permit to access school. Non-Syrians do not typically meet residency requirement.</li> <li>- <b>Transition:</b> August 5th, 2020: MOE issued a circular exempting all Iraqi students from providing residency as a requirement for school registration. October 1st, 2020: MoE issued another circular exempting all non-Jordanian students from providing proof of residency or work permit for registering in public or private schools, suggesting they will have to rectify their legal situation and provide the required documents during academic year 2020/2021.</li> <li>- Jordan county report on OOSC: A total of 112,016 children in Jordan are not attending Grades 1 to 10. More than 50,640 Syrians, 39,830 Jordanians and 21,530 children of other nationalities are estimated to be out of school.</li> <li>- MoE’s medium term vision: Extend Exemption, inclusion of Non -Syrian refugee students in all learning loss recovery programs and inclusion of children of other nationalities in MoE NFE programs (9-12 catch up &amp; 13-18 dropouts).</li> <li>- Higher Education: Valid passport&amp; Tawjihi certificate, international student rates, at higher education institutions level, further advocate for access to quality education, aadvocacy on reduced tuition fees and advocacy for increased scholarships for all nationalities.</li> <li>- <b>Questions:</b></li> <li>- Q: reflecting on the opening of education access on the Oct 1st MOE circular, can you speak about the possible extension of access to future school years/semester?</li> <li>- A: Yes, according to MoE, they are committed to extend access at least for the upcoming year.</li> <li>- Q: Can you confirm that all non- Syrian student do not pay for fees and Books?</li> <li>- A: so far Non-Syrian students are paying the fees but similar to Jordanians. MoE has mentioned that there might be a re-assessment.</li> <li>- Q: what about the non-registered students who are non-Syrians (there are 7.000 as of July 2020)?</li> <li>- A: ESP applies to all children in Jordan regardless of their situation and nationality.</li> <li>- Q: Any information about the numbers of out of school children during COVID-19?</li> <li>- A: UNICEF and MoE reports have numbers before COVID-19. Statistics were not released yet for the period of post and during COVID-19.</li> <li>- Q: What can be done for Syrian girls from camps who are out of school due to COVID-19 situation?</li> </ul>	
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<p><b>Briefing on the work of IRAP (RefugeeRights) in Jordan</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The International Refugee Assistance Project Resettlement and Complementary Pathways Free Legal Aid Support.</li> <li>- Origin &amp; Strategy:</li> <li>- IRAP is founded in 2008.</li> <li>- Amman Jordan: US Special Immigrant Visa-Iraqi, US Military or Diplomatic Corps affiliated.</li> <li>- International Refugee Assistance Project: Virtual Public Interest Law Firm. 2,000+ Law Student and Pro Bono Attorneys. In-house Representation. Systemic Advocacy and Impact Litigation. Train then extenuation of human rights advocates</li> <li>- For publications check the following link: <a href="https://refugeerights.org/publications/">refugeerights.org/publications/</a></li> <li>- Services that IRAP provides in Jordan: Direct Legal Aid: provides free legal assistance to some refugees that qualify for our limited services. IRAP is not part of any government, IOM, or the UNHCR. IRAP cannot make decisions to grant refugee status, speed up cases, or resettle refugees. IRAP do not provide financial assistance, find or pay for housing, or find jobs. Referrals &amp; Vetting Process.</li> <li>- Case Types: US Refugee Admissions Program. US Immigration Visa for qualifying refugees. UNHCR-Reunite Family. Humanitarian visa. Limited UNHCR Protection. Interview prep.</li> <li>- Employee attorneys in Jordan who can assist in several case types.</li> <li>- I-130 and direct access.</li> <li>- <b>Questions:</b></li> <li>- Q: Do you have a referral mechanism to other organizations for cases that do not fall under your mandate like refugee registration issues under the Jordanian law?</li> <li>- A: For legal requests IRAP approaches relevant national organizations like ARDD or JLCA depending on the case.</li> <li>- Q: Are there Jordanian lawyers in IRAP to provide legal counseling? Is IRAP registered with Mol or MoSD?</li> <li>- A: lawyers are not Jordanians; they are US attorneys. The line ministries are MoSD and Mol not MoJ.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Update from PWGs in the field and the Sub Working Groups</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>GBV SWG:</b> finalizing the GBV strategy of 2020-2022 that is aligned with the JRP and based on gap analysis and other assessments.</li> <li>- Released 16 days campaign report that is uploaded on portal, it summarized the efforts on GBV at national and subnational levels.</li> <li>- A panel was created to discuss the innovative response, UNDP, ARDD, JRF and INTERSOS are in the panel. Those recommendations were added in the guidance note.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>GBVWG Strategy 2020-2022:</b> <a href="https://data2.unhcr.org/en/docu">https://data2.unhcr.org/en/docu</a></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- International women’s day on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March, this year’s topic is “women in leadership: achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world”. A TF was created, and it gathers over 25 members to discuss activities. Messages were created to cover the GBV side and a template was circulated with GBV SWG to see what activities will be implemented. An invitation will be shared with the PWG.</li> <li>- <b>CP SWG:</b> consolidated priorities for CP and it was shared with MoSD. Still working on the work plan and it will be shared once finalized with members. Will have a generic review for CP.</li> <li>- For CPIMS: no major updates, finalizing the CPIMS, during the meeting in February, challenges, recommendations, and trends were discussed. Information sharing protocol, finalizing the first draft of it. Will reach to CP SWG for updates on annual reports.</li> <li>- <b>MHPSS:</b> regular meetings. Social determinant for resilience by the University of Jordan that gave aspect of refugees’ experience. Updates from different locations and there is an increasement in anxiety especially in the camps due to COVID-19. Feedback on action plan of MHPSS, with the support of MoH and MoSD. Tue due date is this year and will have an updated action plan after the discussions with different partners.</li> <li>- <b>The Disability and Age Task Force (DATF)</b> held their monthly meeting in February during which members of the task force endorsed the DATF’s TOR and the Disability and Age Focal Points TOR. The focal points will be appointed to the sector working groups to mainstream disability and age inclusion into the refugee response. Additionally, HelpAge International presented a health needs assessment targeting 1,718 older Syrian refugees and Jordanians. Using the Washington group questions, this assessment showed that the disability prevalence among the surveyed population was of 98%. UNHCR’s education unit presented their special education project that is being implemented by JOHUD. Co-chairs updated the final draft of PWG strategy and work plan for 2020-2023. DATF co-chairs had a meeting with an independent consultant hired by DFID/FCDO to evaluate Humanity &amp; Inclusion’s DFID/FCDO funded project “Safety and Dignity for Syrian Refugees and Vulnerable Jordanians with Disabilities”. Updated services mapping (4Ws and 1H). Followed up with sectors working group chairs to set up bilateral meetings to present the work of the DATF and discuss areas for collaboration. DATF next monthly meeting is on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March.</li> <li>- <b>Cash for Protection TF:</b> finalized the work plan. Continuous efforts and new sections were added to the guidelines like forms of CFP, types of targeted cases, sicarios and other sections based on MEB. A copy will be shared with members who can provide their feedback. Planning to have a training on cash for protection for all members of the TF.</li> <li>- <b>PSEA TF:</b> trainings and coaching sessions were provided on PSEA in January. An invitation on PSEA training will be sent to PWG members. Focus on production on sexual exploitation and abuse animation, will be presented to PWG in April. This animation will be used for activities, trainings, and other purposes. Next meeting will take place end of March.</li> <li>- Q: will the PSEA TF provide trainings for other sectors and working groups?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="https://dat.a2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/85107">ments/details/85107</a></li> <li>- <b>16 Days Campaign Report 2020:</b> <a href="https://dat.a2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/85140">https://dat.a2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/85140</a></li> <li>- <b>Guidance Note on GBV Service Provision during COVID-19:</b> <a href="https://dat.a2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/85141">https://dat.a2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/85141</a></li> <li>-</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A: PSEA will offer trainings to all sectors and will start with the PWG.</li> <li>- <b>Irbid office:</b> participants from persons with disability SWG shared their work in Irbid and some partners are running an elderly people club. Rehabilitation services are available by some partners, capacity building for NGOs and CPOs. Disability matrix will be prepared. For Irbid coordination WG, DRC provided cybercrime trainings, CP and GBV SWGs invited service providers to share their services.</li> <li>- <b>Azraq camp:</b> last meeting UNICEF had a presentation on CP during COVID-19, Plan International and IRC had also presentations. Trainings for different topics for children to be aware of the challenges that they can face. IRC will present the GBV TF report. Focusing on back to school to make sure that children are safely returning taking into consideration safety measures, mental and physical health. Working with UNICEF to monitor children returning to schools.</li> <li>- <b>Mafraq:</b> coordination WG meeting in February, that focused on education and UNHCR presented messages shared by UNICEF regarding children returning to school and distant learning. Discussion on challenges that students face including access to internet and school materials. GBV meeting focused on planning for trainings. CP WG meetings were updated and shared with members.</li> <li>- <b>Zatari camp:</b> hotline is operational in Zatari, focusing on documentation issues. During February meeting, the focus was on child marriage. Protection WG members presented the support provided and links with other sectors. Review committee finished reviewing IBV cases, some were blacklisted and waiting to receive reports from other organizations. Awareness raising sessions are conducted.</li> <li>- <b>South coordination group:</b> shared a training opportunity on service advisor done by IACU. Concerns related to livelihood especially in Wadi Mousa and Petra particularly on financial assistance.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Update from Partners</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- JOHUD: components:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assistance to refugees and asylum seekers with specific needs (Azem project)</li> <li>- Community Support Committees (CSCs) Component</li> <li>- Education Assistance for Refugees in urban settings in Jordan</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>In Feb 2021, JOHUD started the implementation of the psycho-social support activities targeting Syrians, Non-Syrians, and Jordanians. Provision of several services for persons with disabilities. Supporting the Non-Syrians students through providing them with the school kits and covering the school fees. Preparing for other services and activities to be implemented soon, such as homework support classes for non-Syrian students. JOHUD continues to receive referred PoCs who are in need for services. JOHUD updated the 4Ws and 1H sheet in cooperation with UNHCR through the monthly conducted online meetings in Amman, Mafraq, Irbid, and the South. Updates the contingency plan in case of any lockdown, in order to avoid any interruption of the services and activities provided for the PoCs.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>DRC:</b> activities remained the same, a new assessment on the impact of COVID-19 was shared with members. Main findings are related to the increase in PSS needs, people losing their jobs, issues with access to education. DRC will present findings in the next PWG.</li> <li>- <b>AVSI:</b> ongoing activities, sport activities, implementing activities for persons with disability. Positive parenting awareness sessions. Counselling beneficiaries is still ongoing.</li> <li>- <b>Humanity and Inclusion:</b> rehabilitation strategy for Jordan and final strategy is endorsed. HI established intervention units in Irbid, Zarqa and Amman in collaboration with MOSD. Community based volunteers in Irbid, Zarqa, Mafraq and Amman conducting awareness sessions that are limited due to COVID-19. Training for PHC on early detection in collaboration with MoH.</li> <li>- <b>TDH-L:</b> interventions in Emirati Jordanian Camp targeting children, adolescence, and youth through MHPSS. Relaunched activities in Zarqa focusing on GBV against children. Training rehabilitation centres in collaboration with MoSD.</li> <li>- <b>SOS:</b> protection program for children and youth. Launched a new project in which shelters for women and children are available in Amman and Irbid. Shelters are inside SoS villages.</li> <li>- <b>JRF:</b> activities remained the same, helpline is 110 and JRF was reached out by vulnerable cases. Announced GBV safe referral and CP safe referral trainings on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of March.</li> <li>- <b>Jordan paramedic society:</b> received protection induction program training and can identify main principals. Trainings on GBV and sexual exploitation. PSEA campaign is launched, access to report any complains. Working for the CBCRM referral mechanism, PSEA refresher training in March.</li> <li>- <b>IOM:</b> conducting joint GBV risk assessments on behalf of the GBV WG. The next location is still to be confirmed but most probably will be the Emirati Jordanian Camp, will be asking partners working there for their interest in participating.</li> <li>- <b>INTERSOS:</b> hosting a webinar on fostering protection and durable solutions together with ICVA, through legal aid in humanitarian settings on the 4<sup>th</sup> of March 2021 from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm (CET). This is RSVP basis and interested members can send their information to <a href="mailto:secretariat@icvanetwork.or">secretariat@icvanetwork.or</a></li> <li>- <b>Save the children:</b> protection programming tailored for children, child labour intervention and a free zone for children to participate in activities. GBV intervention that will end late March, 2 hubs in Mafraq and Zarqa that advocate for adolescent girl's needs. Cash assistant for children out of school. Preparing to provide trainings for frontline staff. Intervention in partnership with MoSD MoL and juvenile police regarding children in streets.</li> </ul>	
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