BML Social Stability WG Minutes of Meeting			
Name	Social Stability WG / Coordination Meeting	**Meeting Date**	8th August 2024
Meeting Location	UNDP Qubic Business Center	**Meeting Time**	11:30 am till 12:45 pm
Chairperson	Marianne Al Haibe/ UNDP Amir Mounif / MoSA Farah Omar / MOIM (no) Karlyn Maamari /UNHCR	**Meeting Duration**	One hour 15 minutes
Minutes Prepared By	Marianne Al Haibe / UNDP		
Participants 11 Organizations	Zeina Tannous / **Intersos** – Stephanie el Rayess / **UNOPS** – Marwan Nasser / **SBT** – Rosy Cherfan / **Dorcas Tabitha** – Janine Chehade **/ Right to Play** – Karlyn Maamari / **UNHCR** – Amir Mounif / **MoSA** – Abbas Fadlallah / **AVSI** – Joanna Hamour / **Nahnoo** – Wissam Abdo / Right to Play – Rawad Zakhour / **UNICEF** – Hoda Khatoun / **Amel Association**.		
Meeting Agenda	- Welcome and Introductions - Challenges, lessons learned, BCP, contingency planning - AoB		

Summary of Discussion Points

I.	**Welcome, and Introduction:**
	The meeting started with a round of introductions for all attending partners.
II.	**Challenges, lessons learned, BCP, contingency planning**

	• **Youth Empowerment and Mobilization:**
	
	   ○ **Challenges:**
	   - One partner mentioned that they had to switch some of their activities to an online modality due to the current situation, which is not a recommended modality.
	   - Restricted movement of Lebanese due to security and Syrians due to restrictive measures and security.
	   - If transportation fees are not provided participants are committing less.
	   - Short-term projects do not contribute to the needed results.
	   - Local authorities are not always supportive of activities targeting non-Lebanese.

- Low participation in male youth as their priority is income generation keeping higher female participation.

   o **Best Practices and Recommendations:**
   - Using hybrid modality.
   - Change the location of sessions so that they are closer to the houses of participants.
   - Engagement of local authorities in youth committees since the beginning of the process
   - Provide transportation means for the youth.
   - Using a participatory approach increases ownership of community members
   - Play based approach is appealing to youth
   - Ensure engagement of youth in the planning process

- **Dialogue and Conflict Prevention:**

   o **Challenges:**
   - Challenges in outreach as the interest of the community changed – people are more interested now in income generation activities and safety.
   - Commitment in long programs is being challenging as people have other commitments such as work, university, and schools. Additionally, time tolerance is shorter.
   - People can sometimes come for transportation incentives and financial compensation decreasing the interest of people in the activity itself.
   - Increase in rejection and intolerance to dialogue with displaced Syrians in addition to dropping out from similar activities.
   - Decrease in capacities of local authorities leading to challenges in scheduling meetings for coordination and decrease in functionality to receive data from local authorities.
   - High political influence on taboo topics blocking and delaying implementation of activities.
   - Low capacities of NGOs regarding response in emergency situations.
   - Funding limitations and rigidity leading to misopportunities in responding to needs.

   o **Best Practices:**
   - Engagement of stakeholders is leading to a decrease in challenges sometimes.
   - Increase in localization as each area shall be treated differently based on needs and culture.
   - Ensure community engagement.
   - Ensure high visibility by continuous sharing of success stories and challenges with the local community.

   o **Contingency Planning:**
   - Shift to online modality – shift to safer areas – shift money to humanitarian intervention.

   o **BCP:**
   - Had to postpone some meetings.
   - Trying not to do large-scale events now.
   - Postponed some workshops due to their sensitivity and to the security situation.

- **CSPs and BS:**

   o **Challenges:**
   - Difficulty in scheduling meetings with municipalities especially when they are resigned and organizations have to coordinate with Qaemaqams. Qaemaqams are very busy and do not know

the needs of the local community and municipality.

- Decrease in funding and increase in needs. There is a need to engage municipalities in selecting the most urgent needs.

- Lack of technical expertise in municipalities to identify the real needs. Partners are trying to ask municipalities to engage more technical personnel from the community.

- Operations and management as municipalities lack resources within the municipality to respond. By that, they are implementing projects with minimal needed operations and management in addition to training municipalities on how to ensure operations and management.

- Access problems in critical zones such as Beirut Southern Suburbs.

- Many municipalities have multiple actors with multiple points of view and they do not communicate and share information with each other leading to the need for partners to conduct continuous meetings to ensure information flow among different stakeholders in the areas of implementation.

- o **Contingency Planning:**
  - Several scenarios have been put and one plan would be to shift to life-saving activities (distribution of dignity kits, WASH activities, etc.)

Partners were requested to update the BML activities Tracker using the link Below:

[2024 BML Livelihoods, SoST, and Municipal Requests - Google Sheets](#)

o	**AOB**	
	- **Activity Info reporting and Service Mapping updates.**	
	- **Next BML SoST WG will be on Thursday 5th September 2024.**	