MENA AAP Reference Group & DIMA Focal Points Meeting Summary Note
Subject: Transition to Global Digital Participatory Tool
Date & Time: Tuesday, 9 September 2025 | 13:30–14:30 (Amman Time)
Location: Microsoft Teams

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Global AAP Framework
3. Participatory Assessments in UNHCR
4. Regional Overview: The MENA Digital Participatory Tool
5. UNHCR Global Participatory Assessment Toolkit
6. The Global Digital Participatory Tool: Live Demonstration
7. Transition Phase: Roadmap & Next Steps
8. Questions and Closing

Speakers

- Khadija Aboulnasr – Community-Based Protection Officer, MENA RB
- Nuha Abdallah - Snr Info Mgt Assoc, MENA RB
- Aba Opoku-Mensah – Senior Protection Officer, DIP
- Tamar Suzanne Joanian – Senior CBP Officer, DIP

Key Highlights

- **Purpose of Participatory Assessments:** Structured engagement with displaced and stateless people of all AGD backgrounds to identify protection risks, community capacities, and solutions, ensuring programming is informed by community voices.
- **MENA Digital Participatory Tool:** Developed by MENA Regional Bureau to digitalize participatory assessments, improving systematization, data consistency, timely reporting, accessibility, and scalability. Currently used in Algeria, Syria, Yemen, Morocco, Egypt, Tunisia, Mauritania, and Iraq.
- **Global Digital Participatory Tool:** Builds on the MENA experience, with alignment to COMPASS outcome areas already in place. Planned enhancements for future implementation include a catalogue of questions to support planning and harmonization, an AI-supported system for systematizing consultation data, and AI-generated PA reports to ensure standardized documentation.
- **Alignment & Transition:** Post-release assessment of the Global PA Tool (Sept 2024) concluded that full alignment with the MENA tool is not sustainable due to technical limitations. Transition to the Global Tool is being pursued for enhanced functionality, global compatibility, and long-term sustainability.

Next Steps

- Country operations are expected to **consult with their Senior Management** and reflect their interest in transitioning to the Global Participatory Assessment Tool.
- They should also indicate their **preferred timeline** for transition via this **link.**

Key resources

- MENA AAP Reference Group & DIMA Focal Points Meeting **ppt**
- Recap recording: 📢 Invitation: MENA AAP Reference Group & DIMA Focal Points Meeting – Transition to Global Digital Participatory Tool Tuesday, September 9 | Meeting | Microsoft Teams
- OVERVIEW: UNHCR's programmecycle: PLAN for, GET, and SHOW Results
- Global PA Tool (MENA)
- GLOBAL PA TOOLKIT
- MENA Accountability to Affected People (AAP) Toolkit

Participants list:

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