

Shelter / NFI / CCCM National Cluster Meeting Minutes

10:00 – 12:00, Wednesday, 2 October, 2013

UNHCR Office, YGN

Attendees: AusAID, TIKA, Shelter Cluster Coordinator for Rakhine State, CCCM & NFI Cluster Coordinator for Rakhine State, ACTED, DRC, Lutheran World Federation, UNHCR Information Management Officer, UNHCR Senior Programme Officer (SPO), Save the Children, HelpAge & UNOCHA

Unable to attend: Relief International

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action / Actor / Date
Actions from Previous Meeting	The Cluster Lead had to take responsibility for the fact that minutes from the previous meeting had not been drafted. The Cluster Lead could only apologise and state that they would be available for the next meeting and in the usual way, verified whether each agreed action point had been addressed.	CC to ensure minutes from the meeting 4 September were made available at the next meeting and action points cross-checked.
Update on the Situation in Thandwe, Rakhine State	<p>Though not on the original agenda, noting the increasingly worrying situation in Thandwe an update on the Thandwae situation in Rakhine was given by the Cluster Coordinator (CC).</p> <p>Chronology of Events</p> <p>Saturday, 28 Sep 2013: Angry exchanges between a Muslim shopkeeper and a Rakhine Buddhist motorist in Thandwe Town; the shopkeeper was arrested on account of using defamatory remarks against Buddhism.</p> <p>Sunday, 29 Sep: Muslim shopkeeper was released on bail in the evening. Between 2 to 5 homes, including the home of the shopkeeper, were burned in Quarter 3 of Thandwe by an angry Rakhine mob.</p> <p>Monday, 30 Sep: Confrontation between Buddhist and Muslim communities in Shwe Hle and Tha Byu Chaing. 3 Rakhines arrested but later released. 5 Muslim houses were burned in Nga Kyaw Thaung Dwe district (close to Thandwe).</p> <p>Tuesday, 1 Oct (Based on the latest update as of 18:00hrs by OCHA): Muslim source (unconfirmed), Muslims in ward 1, 2, and 3 of Thandwe Town were surrounded by “thousands of Rakhine people who can</p>	

	<p>attack at any time". The police were forcing Muslims (who took refuge in the Mosque) to come out by themselves, otherwise they will use the force to evacuate the Mosque. Unconfirmed reports of 9 Muslims dead. AP correspondent currently in Thandwe said one elderly Muslim dead and also spoke about scores of injured (stabbed). The situation worsening and Muslim now reportedly saying that "if the Rakhines fight we will have no other option but to fight back".</p> <p>The CC also had a map of Thandwe and would seek to share this in soft copy.</p> <p>Analysis and Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tensions have been high in the area for quite some time and it is unclear <i>if</i> the situation has reached a point of rupture due to these preceding weeks of tension or is this is an opportunistic event enacted just before the President's visit. Note that the President (delegation including two Ministers of the President's office, including U Soe Thein and Ministers of Border Affairs, Defense and Home Affairs) is reportedly expected to visit Thandwe tomorrow. Reports are circulating that this event should be read as an attempt to discourage any agreement by the President with OIC for a possible OIC delegation to visit Myanmar. Statement/press release would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Deplore the violence; b) Call for investigation; c) Call for additional deployment of security personnel; d) Request continuous access of people to services (especially emergency medical assistance); e) Offer assistance and ask for access for team to assess the situation/provide assistance. f) Urgent/swift deployment of adequate number of security forces (possibly Army, considering the low level of confidence towards the Police by Muslim elements) to calm the situation is urgently required and swift investigation of events is warranted. g) Negotiate immediate access for a team to assess the situation of displaced (if any) - both at Rakhine (OCHA-led) and Union level (HC/OCHA with MoBA). The team would possibly have to be dispatched from Yangon should logistics be easier from that end. h) Ensure continuous contact with authorities at all levels and through all channels, expressing concerns till the situation is resolved. 	CC to circulate soft copy of Thandwe map
Information Management		
<i>a. Kachin Camp Profiling</i>	<p>Profiling of the camps in Kachin has been finalised and the data will be made available on the website at the following link:</p> <p>https://www.sheltercluster.org/Asia/Myanmar/RakhineAndKachin/Pages/Kachin-campprofilling.aspx</p>	Camp profiling data to be made available via Cluster

	<p>This will include a one page summary of the data per camp, displayed in infographic form, the format finalised after consultation with the Cluster, and some camp profiling analysis. Noting that the internet is very unreliable in Kachin, the aforementioned data will also be available via flash drive for all Cluster partners and there will be a printed booklet, which will have all the one page infographics and the camp profiling analysis. A working draft version of the <i>Kachin & Northern Shan States, June-July 2013, Camp Profiling Analysis</i> was shared partners were requested to give their feedback. Additionally DRC and the UNHCR IMO agreed to meet bilaterally to discuss this document and other camp analysis issues.</p> <p>It was reported by one of the partners that there are gaps in the data. The CC fully accepted that the data is not perfect and there are omissions. However, it still served as the first and extensive profiling of the majority of camps in GCA and NGCA areas in Kachin, plus Northern Shan, hence a vital reference point or as he liked to phrase it, “flag in the ground”. When errors or omissions were found, partners were requested to either share this with IM officers in YGN or Kachin and the data could be rectified and/or refined.</p> <p>Discussion then moved to frequency of updating; while no firm decision was reached some expressed their view that it needed to be updated in its entirety, all 126 camps every six months. Others suggested it should be done on a rolling basis.</p> <p>On the subject of Kachin, the CC stressed frustration that only one Cluster member had attended the most recently scheduled Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster meeting in Kachin, 27 September. The meeting was cancelled. UNHCR’s SPO noted that the demands on local NGOs (LNGOs) in Kachin was immense, reputedly double-digit numbers of coordination meetings they were being requested to attend. The CC noted that having a Cluster Coordinator in Kachin who spoke Myanmar was an effort to find a more suitable profile for coordination requirements in Kachin and the new Shelter Expert, soon to be deployed, Zaw Winoo (ouo@unhcr.org), equally could conduct meetings and consultations in Myanmar, plus having been directly involved in the Shelter Cluster response in Rakhine. While modest inroads had been made with Shalom and Metta at the national level, still the CC wanted a more collaborative approach with LNGOs, which he would continue to try and make progress with. The issue</p>	<p>website</p> <p>Cluster partners to give their feedback to the CC on the <i>Camp Profiling Analysis</i> and UNHCR IMO and DRC to meet bilaterally.</p> <p>Cluster members to contact Vincent Ricouart (ricouart@unhcr.org) in YGN or Phone Thant (thantp@unhcr.org) in Myitkyina when errors or omissions were found in the camp profiling data.</p> <p>CC to explore more channels of engagement with LNGOs at the national level and communicate some of these key issues to Cluster Lead colleagues in Kachin.</p>
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	<p>of unrealistic demands on their resources was equally noted and taken on-board.</p> <p>ACTED also informed the participants that a number of families had left their homes in Kachin and were “hiding in the bush”. These people need assistance. No more details were available but if they were, the CC would draw them to the attention of the Cluster in Kachin.</p>	As possible, ACTED to share more details of this displacement with CC.
<i>b. Website Update</i>	Using the projector the CC showed the latest layout for the website, designed to make it more user-friendly and reflective of this particular Cluster structure and its operational focus. <i>This</i> new template went live 30 th September. Further modifications are planned but it was hoped this new design would help users. The CCCM & NFI Cluster Coordinator for Rakhine State asked if there was any information as to how frequently the site was accessed. The CC agreed to follow-up and revert by the next meeting.	CC to determine through managers of Cluster website how frequently it is being accessed.
Cross Cutting Issues		
<i>a. GBV</i>	CC explained that the Humanitarian Protection Working Group activated a GBV-sub-working group under the leadership of UNFPA in coordination with all relevant actors, to initiate a national multi-sector coordination for prevention and response to GBV in the current humanitarian setting. Workshops are being organized to call all relevant actors interested in taking part in the GBV-sub-working group to define areas of work, sensitize on the current responses in Kachin and Rakhine, and define the way forward for the GBV coordination.	
<i>b. Age</i>	CC welcomed the presence of HelpAge for the second Cluster meeting in succession. HelpAge gave a brief presentation and informed of their planned mission to Rakhine, aided by this Cluster. The intention is to visit some camps to get a sense of the situation of older people. HelpAge aims to support camp management structure to better understand the needs and capacities of older people and also ensure their participation and representation. HelpAge will also propose training to interested agencies on mainstreaming ageing in humanitarian response, with a special focus on shelter and camp management (based on the findings of the visit).	
Kachin		
<i>a. ECHO mission to Northern Shan</i>	CC noted a meeting he had had with ECHO the day before and they gave their feedback on their recent mission to Northern Shan:	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Welcomed what was happening in terms of this Cluster's coordination efforts in Northern Shan, particularly in terms of shelter and CCCM knowledge Cluster Coordinators at the Kachin State level had obtained; ii. Some camps were noted of significant concern, notably St Thomas' Church no 1 (Nam Hkam), both in terms of the quality of the shelters and seeming lack of urgency or recognition by the camp manager that things needed to be improved; iii. The role of certain local non-state actors; iv. The lack of a mechanism such that if/when there are problems in a certain camp, where/whom does one contact within the local humanitarian community or other to try and address these matters; v. Errors in some of the camp profiling data, plus that they advised the Cluster that were it possible, there should be a photo of each camp with the individual camp profiling data. Doing this for 126 camps would not be easy plus if the photo was relatively small, it may offer little added value in terms of helping neither determine the camp nor give a decent visual sense of the camp. However, the Cluster would seek to do as much and an extensive collection of photos from the Cluster's Shelter Expert based in Myitkyina had already been shared with the UNHCR IMO in YGN. 	
<p><i>b. Overall Update:</i></p> <p><i>i. Shelter</i></p>	<p>The CC was in Kachin the week before and while getting a firm and clear grasp on the needs remained hugely challenging, slowly the baseline data was getting better. Renovation of shelters is happening but it is slow. The focus is on <u>strength/safety</u> and <u>size</u>. The Cluster was keen to engage with UNHabitat at the Kachin State level but thus far this had proved unsuccessful. Other challenges was what to do when the shelters IDPs were in are totally inadequate but they do not wish to move to another and perhaps more remote location, with less access to services. Also concerted efforts were underway between WaSH and this Cluster to coordinate more closely. On the issue of shelter standards, this Cluster via its</p>	<p>CC to make contact with UNHabitat in YGN to cement contact between Cluster Lead and UNHabitat at Kachin State/field level.</p>

<p>ii. <i>NFIs</i></p> <p>iii. <i>CCCM</i></p>	<p>Technical Working Group (TWiG), which was now meeting regularly in Kachin, intended to generate a leaflet on shelter standards.¹ Kitchens remained a serious concern, plus lack of communal spaces in camps. Finally there was the matter of boarding schools, which the CC needed to raise with protection and education sectors in terms of division of responsibility.</p> <p>The need for suitable items in terms of the soon approaching winter season was a concern, symptomatic of the wish to see what flexibility there was to modify the agreed NFI Cluster standard for 2014.</p> <p>Concerns in terms of camp managers that were <i>not</i> elected, the need for more engagement with the authorities plus non-state actors, notably the KIO. Also, how sustainable was camp running costs in 2014, now being met by Cluster member UNHCR for over 130 camps? Plus the need to release the camp profiling data, forthwith. The latter point had been addressed earlier in the meeting.</p>	<p>CC to meet education and protection sector leads.</p>
<p>c. <i>CCCM (NFIs) Cluster, Strategic Operational Framework, Kachin and Northern Shan States</i></p> <p>d. <i>Shelter Cluster, Strategic Framework, Kachin and Northern Shan States</i></p>	<p>Both these documents, in their latest incarnation, were being driven from the Kachin State level. Modifications were being made but the intention was to finalise these latest versions and have them available and online by the end of <i>this</i> month.</p>	<p>In consultation with Kachin-based Cluster Leads, CC to ensure the latest versions were finalised and online by the end of October.</p>
<p>Rakhine</p>	<p>Both the Shelter and CCCM/NFI Cluster Coordinators for Rakhine were present at the meeting and gave a brief overview on the situation.</p>	
<p>a. <i>CCCM & NFI Cluster Coordinator for Rakhine State – Jolanda Van Dijk</i></p>	<p>While CCCM still remains in its relative infancy, it is slowly getting more operational. Priorities are to ensure there are international or national camp management agencies for all priority camps, plus establish representative camp committees. Noting the movement of IDPs, a tracking form for movement of IDPs has been produced and will be put on the website, there for all camp management agencies.² On the specific issue of Myebon, DRC asked what the latest situation was noting its chronic status. The CC noted the fact that he had been informed following efforts to discuss the matter through</p>	

¹ For minutes of the Kachin TWiG forum see: <https://www.sheltercluster.org/Asia/Myanmar/RakhineAndKachin/Pages/Kachin-meeting-minutes.aspx>

² For an example of this form see *Rakhine CCCM Cluster IDP Movement - Tracking Sheet Template, October '13* at: <https://www.sheltercluster.org/Asia/Myanmar/RakhineAndKachin/Pages/Rakhine-documents.aspx>

<p><i>b. Shelter Cluster Coordinator for Rakhine State – Richard Tracey</i></p>	<p>this forum, it would be addressed at the Rakhine State level, led by OCHA. He was very concerned to hear that no tangible progress had been made and asked that OCHA follow-up with their colleagues in Rakhine to determine the latest status.</p> <p>Most of the shelters have been built and Shelter Cluster is now supporting the CCCM Cluster with camp infrastructure and camp maintenance.³</p>	<p>OCHA to follow-up with Rakhine based colleagues and revert with agreed actions.</p>
<p>6. AOB</p>	<p>-A new Cash Transfer Working Group (CTWG) has been initiated. Particularly this new forum was interested in:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Whether any agency is currently using cash in their sector activities and if yes, for which type of activities? 2) What common challenges the agencies are facing when it comes to the use of cash programming? 3) What type of support the agencies would like to receive from the CTWG? <p>Those who would like to feedback on all or any of these questions or know when/where the forum is meeting should contact Jessica Chaix at: jessica.chaix@gmail.com. Also note that a Cash Learning Partnership level 2 training will be organized in Yangon on November 4-8. More information can be found at the following link:</p> <p>http://www.cashlearning.org/upcoming-events/training-event-listings/event/59-calp-level-2-training-yangon-myanmar--4-november-2013</p> <p>-On a broader shelter issue, the Government has reputedly signed a MoU with the Chinese Government to provide 3,350 modular housing units. To-date, 350 units have been received and the breakdown of distribution is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Mandalay 150 units -Sagaing 48 units -Naypyitaw 2 units (one for demonstration and one for Naypyitaw Council) -Rakhine 150 units. <p>-As of 24 September due to sustained heavy rains, 16,161 people were relocated across seven states/regions due to flood conditions, according to the attached RRD report. Local authorities are</p>	

³ Note that the *Shelter Cluster Coordinator for Rakhine State* was present at the previous national Cluster meeting and for more details on the current situation, see *Shelter-NFI-CCCM YGN Cluster Meeting Minutes 2.10.'13* at: https://www.sheltercluster.org/Asia/Myanmar/RakhineAndKachin/Pages/Meeting_Minutes.aspx

	providing for basic needs to the displaced people. RRD has requested that we share the flood updates with the humanitarian organizations and will request assistance if needed.	
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For next YGN meeting partners were encouraged to check the http://themimu.info/Meeting_Schedule/index.php. Also nearer the time the CC would send an email confirmation and as usual, an agenda.

Documents shared in hard copy with the participants at the meeting or in soft copy to all Cluster partners:

Map of Thandwe in relation to recent violence, October '13

Camp Profiling Infographic example, Tat Kone Baptist Church, Myitkyina Tship, Kachin State

Myanmar Shelter-NFI-CCCM Cluster website usage, April-September '13

Inter-Sector-Cluster Meeting, Minutes, 8th August '13

Inter-Sector-Cluster Meeting, Minutes, 13th September '13

Kachin & Northern Shan State, June-July 2013, Camp Profiling Analysis - draft

Kachin & Northern Shan States Shelter Cluster Factsheet, 1st September 2013

UNOCHA UPDATE ON KACHIN CROSS-LINE MISSIONS (3 October 2013)

UNOCHA UPDATE ON KACHIN SITUATION AND RESPONSE PLAN (September 2013)