


DISABILITY TASK FORCE MEETING

22. MARCH 2018

ORGANISATIONAL DETAILS		
Date	22. March 2018	
Time	12:00-14:00	
Location	UNHCR Khalda, EMPOS meeting room	
Purpose	<u>Monthly DTF Meeting</u>	
Participants (in alphabetical order)	AHS: Annie Medzhagopian ARSC: Cecilia Trevisan HAI: Stephanie Yousef, Irina Ulmasova-Olive, Frederique Mashini, Victoriia Panehenko HI: Yahoko Asai IOCC: Afnan Luqman, Saba Almasri Mercy Corps: Maisa Asmar, Raya Freah MPDL: Maysara Salah NHF: Muamar Fuad ONG Rescate Internacional: Encaracion Guirao UNHCR, Susan Mirbagheri (Azraq), Ahmad Alsamir (Azraq), Irene Omondi (Education), Maisa Alqaisi (Education), Valerie Schamberger (CBP Amman) UPP: Esraa AlAhmad, Marta Malaspina, Clarissa Rossetti, Zahraa Eldakar; Khaled Khattab	
Next Meeting	<u>Thursday, 26. April 2018, from 9 to 11 am at the HelpAge Hub in Jabal Webdeh</u> Address: Building 43, Al-Shariaah College Street, Jabal Weibdeh Link: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1phif7t-tKtGcP8X-LSxEpCvV9TFQKJPK&usp=sharing	
AGENDA		
<ol style="list-style-type: none">UPP: presentation of good example of inclusive action, Q&A and discussion to finalize the 2 pager (30 min)Mercy Corps: presentation on inclusive education, Q&A and discussions (30 min)HelpAge International: presentation on age inclusion, Q&A and discussions (15 min)Humanity & Inclusion: debriefing of the IASC MENA consultation (6-7 March in Lebanon), Q&A and discussions (15 min)Feedback/updates from the DTF sector representatives (20 min) including nomination of the lead organization for each sector WG, steps to draft the sector disability checklistAOB (10 min)		
KEY DISCUSSIONS	ACTION POINTS	DATE
1. UPP presentation of good practice example		
UPP presented a good practice adopted in the framework of current UPP projects: Through the establishment of effective partnerships with other organizations providing services to PwDs (e.g. Al-Hussein Society) as well as effective internal coordination within UPP projects, including the promotion of referral plans with Livelihoods, Protection and Education,	<ul style="list-style-type: none">HI and AHS to review the good practice sheet and provide feedback to UPP	7. April

<p>PwDs were able to access additional services from other sectors, addressing their needs more comprehensively (e.g. while UPP Education worked on the (physical) accessibility of school buildings, school children identified in need of help also received physiotherapy and mobility aids by the Health project, whereas the protection needs identified were addressed by the Protection unit; PwDs and their caregivers were also involved in a cycle of supporting group sessions, focusing on different issues (awareness raising, PSS, gender related issues)).</p> <p>The good practice was considered as response to a number of challenges identified by UPP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater need for coordination between service providers as well as between the different sectors of organizations, aiming at avoiding duplications whilst targeting PwDs' needs more comprehensively by connecting different services and advocacy efforts (e.g. re labor market inclusion); • Lack of complete mapping of specific services for PwDs; • Lack of services that go beyond emergency healthcare, e.g. measures targeting access to inclusive education, working environments and community life in general; <p>Members agreed that the DTF should continue to produce good practices of inclusive action in a structured format (two-pager), which will be reviewed by the DTF members.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNHCR to disseminate finalized version alongside call for further good practice examples 	
<p>Briefing by Khalid, a Syrian refugee, volunteering for UPP; Khalid was wounded during the war 5 years ago and has been using a wheelchair since then; due to his personal experience he has acted as UPP Focal Point for the identification of PwDs, preparing list of PwDs in need of assistance and helping with referrals.</p> <p>Currently, he is trying to promote better inclusion of PwDs into the community. He highlighted several goals in that regard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase participation in all aspects of community life, in particular the projects that concern PwDs • Effective labour market inclusion instead of mere involvement in trainings • Pay attention to the specific needs of Women and Children with disabilities and promote their inclusion in activities • Knowledge Transfer: increase PwDs awareness about their rights (rights based approach instead of charity) • Avoid duplications of services • Strengthen the cooperation between all organisations and work on a comprehensive plan <p>DTF Members agreed to have PwDs participating in the meetings on a regular basis to gather information directly from their communities and ensure PwDs greater involvement in all measures addressing them.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All members: identify PwDs that might be interested in sharing their views on specific issues and invite them to join the DTF meeting 	
<p>During the Q&A, AHS pointed out that UPP's approach to field work, relying on local organizations' expertise already working on inclusion issues in Jordan, is crucial to provide effective and efficient (in terms of budget) assistance to PwDs as well as to guarantee the sustainability of the programs (avoiding that projects are discontinued due to staff overturn, limited timeframes etc.). To ensure that partners are working together and maximize benefits for PwDs, we could consider automated</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AHS: send key points that make UPP's action as good practice • HI: also send technical comments to help UPP finalize the 	<p>ASAP for UPP to finalize the draft</p>

<p>system to share information and good practices among service providers (reference made to a project with UNHCR in Azraq);</p> <p>UNHCR emphasized that it will be important to have FP for inclusion in different sectors (e.g. in Livelihoods) in order to establish linkages and ensure that disability is mainstreamed and considered in all their projects. This is also the role of the DTF focal points in the WGs!</p> <p>Reference was made to a good practice observed in Bangladesh, where every project proposal (from Protection, SGBV etc) had to include a section explaining how disability will be considered within the respective activity in order to be approved.</p> <p>Question was raised how the DTF can ensure that the needs of PwDs are considered in all projects/sectors.</p>	<p>good practice article</p>	
<p>2. Mercy Corps: presentation on inclusive education</p>		
<p>Mercy Corps provided a presentation on their inclusive education project, targeting Syrian and Jordanian children from KG to 18 attending public schools in urban settings and camps all over Jordan (except Aqaba, Jordan Valley and Salt). The project included the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Resource room’: establishing, renovating and equipping resource rooms in public schools in accordance with their standards (e.g. different corners for individuals and smaller groups, private spaces for physical, occupational and speech therapy; accessibility adaptations e.g. adding ‘contrast’ to rooms by painting the walls to help students with visual impairments) • Training of Teachers: train general classroom teachers on how to support students with disabilities (differentiation of teaching styles) • Involve special education specialists as shadow teachers supporting CWDs and CWD’s parents by providing regular observations, recommendations, feedback and direct services. The shadow teachers hold a university degree (BA) with a background in special education (Q&A: as the work opportunities for special education teachers are limited in Jordan, no Syrians are currently employed in such functions) • ‘Individual Support Tool Kits’, including a checklist ,goal bank, individual educational plans, scale guide and support guides etc to record students’ strengths and weaknesses in order to provide academic support in both the regular class room as well as the resource room and to complement rehabilitation services, and behavioral modification therapies. • Awareness raising activities for teachers, parents, students and the community to counteract social stigma and negative attitudes. <p>Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1963 teachers trained • 218 shadow teachers hired and trained • Furniture and Equipment (e.g. smart boards) made resource rooms attractive for students with and without disabilities <p>Challenges identified by Mercy Corps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers do not have raw materials and stationary necessary to implement different teaching methods. 	<p>Mercy Corps to share presentation with UNHCR for further dissemination among all DTF members:</p> <p> Inclusive Education - Mercy Corps.pptx</p>	<p>18. April</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little awareness regarding different learning methods and the teaching approaches needed to responds to different needs of their students. • Little acceptance within community or CwDs 		
<p>During the Discussion, UNHCR raised the question whether catch-up classes for children who have not been attending school for longer periods are inclusive and whether there are any numbers available of CwDs who reach secondary schools? It was reported that for those who dropped out of school, it might be very difficult to get in again. Remark was made that it would be important to have CwDs integrated into catch-up programs.</p>		
3. HelpAge International: presentation on age inclusion		
<p>In their presentation, HelpAge International tried to tackle the question how the DTF can include Age in its inclusion advocacy;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attention was drawn to the linkages between Disability and Age (fact that PwDs are not only getting older (currently around 13% of the worldwide population are over 60, whereas more than 46% of those over 60 have a disability) • HAI presented the Revised ‘Humanitarian Inclusion Standards for Older People and People with Disabilities’, consisting of nine Key inclusion standards as well as sector-specific standards structured around three key areas of inclusion: 1) data and information management 2) addressing barriers and 3) participation of PwDs and older people https://reliefweb.int/report/world/humanitarian-inclusion-standards-older-people-and-people-disabilities • A good practice guide will be issued on 30 March (in cooperation with disability focal point in London) • Goals are to address barriers that prevent PwDs and older people from accessing services, considering – in view of recent political developments – the affordability of health services in Jordan; Ensure inclusion of older people in humanitarian response; Promote equality. 	<p>HAI to share their power point as well as the good practice guide with UNHCR for further dissemination among DTF members alongside the HI standards.</p>	18. April
<p>HAI colleagues from Ukraine provided an input on their activities regarding older people affected by the war in Ukraine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In order to assist unaccompanied older people, HAI has been working with volunteers from communities to establish a peer to peer system. • Older people from the community who are still active support older people from the community who are alone and not receiving any assistance. • A relationship of trust is established, opening doors for humanitarian workers accompanying the volunteer, in situations, where the provision of assistance might otherwise not be possible. • In view of an insecure funding situation, it is important to guarantee the sustainability of the project when HAI leaves the community, which is why they volunteers receive training enabling them to continue their work independently; 		
4. Humanity & Inclusion: debriefing of the IASC MENA consultation		

Rescheduled for next meeting		26. April
5. Feedback/updates from the DTF sector representatives; including nomination of the lead organization for each sector WG, steps to draft the sector disability checklist		
<p>No feedback was provided from the working groups, which was partly due to the absence of respective focal points but also because focal points have not been attending their working groups.</p> <p>All DTF members agreed on the importance of attending the working groups as they provide an important platform to ensure that the needs of PwDs are considered in all sectors!</p> <p>It was emphasized that the purpose of the working groups is not just inter-agency information sharing but also a feedback mechanism for our PoCs, facilitated through the DTF FPs' attendance! Covering the working groups is therefore important to involve PoCs in the decision making process and have their voices heard.</p> <p>In addition, DTF chairs will consider a short refresher on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role of the Focal Points (what is expected from them) • DTF objectives and respective messaging <p>To increase FPs' confidence to speak on behalf of the DTF and its PoCs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All DTF focal points to attend the working group meetings and 1) coordinate attendance with other members 2) inform them in case of absence 3) report on the gaps re inclusion of PwD/OP identified in working groups • DTF chairs to consider a refresher session on FPs' role in the working groups 	ongoing
<p>Field Level update from Azraq Camp: HI trained facilitators to conduct FGD in an inclusive manner; FGD were conducted to see how more PwD/OP could participate in community activities and identify their key priorities;</p>		
<p>Regarding the nomination of a lead organization it was raised by UPP that this might shift the responsibility to one organization whereas all DTF members who signed up for the working group should feel responsible to participate on behalf of the DTF (if possible). The lead organization could therefore be understood as a facilitator, arranging for a meeting of all sector FPs before the working group to align advocacy positions and organize attendance.</p>	Decision on lead organization postponed	Next meeting
Discussion on disability check list postponed due to time constraints	postponed	Next meeting
6. AOB		
Rotation of location: DTF members decided that the next meeting will be held the premises of HAI/UPP	UPP and HAI to present UNHCR with details re location and time	Next meeting
ATTACHMENTS		
Presentations from UPP and HAI; link to presentation from Mercy Corps provided in the document.		