

COVID-19 CWC Task Team – Minutes of Meeting on 08/06/2020

Main Points of Discussion	Action Points
<p>1. COVID-19 Insight from Refugee Community Leaders (Ground Truth Solutions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ground Truth Solutions (GTS) aims to understand views of people affected by crises and share with humanitarian actors to integrate these views / perceptions into humanitarian programming. Current focus is on COVID-19. • In-depth telephone interviews were conducted with 30 refugee leaders (50% female, 50%male) in 10 settlements in April 2020. Leaders interviewed were those with whom GTS already had an established relationship. This round was experimental, but sample size will be increased in future data collection. • Some highlights of findings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Information: Most community leaders said there is excellent outreach using different channels. Concerns that not all refugees have access to phones and radios and about the spread of rumors. Community leaders believe they are the most trusted information source. - Behavior: most people interviewed said that the community members were taking guidance on COVID-19 seriously. Specific measures that people have adopted: increased hygiene practices, keeping a distance, only leaving house for critical tasks or not leaving the house at all. - Accessing health services: Refugees continue to access health services. Extra layer of difficulty due to restrictions on movement and not everyone lives close to health centers. Fear of contracting COVID-19 is also a concern. - Economic Impact: People indicate to be worse off, due to loss of job/income, inability to access shops and price increases. - Trust: Overall, people in the community trust the COVID-19 measures. - Social relationships: Negative impact on social relationships. People unable to visit each other, and most vulnerable were forced to fend for themselves. • Next steps: COVID-19 humanitarian staff survey will be conducted. Three more rounds of data collection are planned, with the first one starting this month. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GTS has shared questionnaire for future data collection with the Task Team members for any comments or input by 15 June to GTS. (kai.kamei@groundtruthsolutions.org)
<p>2. Parents as First Responders (UNICEF)</p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents are the primary duty bearers for rights of all children. They are key to protect children from violence and other impacts. Within the education programme, GoU policy recognizes that parents are the first line providers for early learning opportunities. In the context of COVID-19, many children access education through the parents. Supporting parents during COVID-19 is one of the best ways to offset the short- and long-term effects of COVID-19. • Focus has been on radio programs as the most effective to reach out to largest number of parents. Key messages were developed for radio programs (typically one-hour programs). There are interactive segments, where parents and children can call in. • Key messages: 10 key segments have been developed. (e.g. how children grow and develop, loving and caring relationships, feed your child’s body and brain, keeping proper hygiene and good health, talking to children, playing to learn and grow, guiding children’s behavior, protecting and keeping children safe, love and respect in the family, why children need pre-primary education) • Parenting is important to support children’s mental health and psychosocial well-being during COVID-19. As per the IASC MHPSS pyramid, provision of basis services and information is key. • Roll-out: 10 key messages have been packaged into 7 radio programs. Phase 1 will be through faith-based organizations, which have access to peer support groups in the community to provide support to parents. Phase 2 will be to sharpen messaging. Roll-out will include refugee-hosting districts. Going forward, UNICEF will work with the Ministry of Education Curriculum Centre to develop more materials and add more curriculum-based radio programmes. • UNICEF has resources to work with CSOs that are interested to do radio programmes on parenting support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interested organizations to reach out to UNICEF (Divya Lata, dldata@unicef.org; Lisa Zimmerman, lzimmermann@unicef.org).
<p>3. AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FRRM Coordinator gave an overview of the new COVID-19 dashboard that UNHCR has been working on, using data of calls received on the FRRM helpline. The dashboard can be used to search all calls related to COVID-19 (currently 120-170 calls per week), and filter by settlement, sector, age, sex, timeframe etc. It includes graphs and narratives. It is hoped that the dashboard will be available by the end of the week. • Next meeting: Monday, 15 June (11:30-12:30) 	