



Date / Time / Venue	Sunday, 12 June 2022, 13:30-15:00, MS-Teams
Attendees	Inter-Sector Coordinator [UNHCR], Inter-Agency Coordination Unit team [IACU], UNHCR Deputy Representative, Shelter [UNHCR, IOCC], WASH [UNICEF], Protection [UNHCR, JOHUD], Health [UNHCR], Food Security [WFP], Education [UNICEF, RI], SRH [UNFPA], CP [UNICEF], GBV [UNHCR, UNFPA]

Meeting Note and Action Points

1. Introduction and Updates of the UNHCR Deputy Representative and the Inter-Sector Coordinator

The UNHCR Deputy Representative informed the ISWG members that while the replacement of the Inter-Sector Coordinator is being recruited, Susana Boudon and herself will be co-chairing the ISWG. The UNHCR IACU team will maintain the usual support to the (Sub)-Sectors.

2. Launch of the Minimum Expenditure Basket [MEB] 2022

With reference to the MEB 2021 exercise which exceptionally last year took place in October, the Inter-Sector Coordinator informed the Sector Coordinators that we resume the regular calendar cycle of the ISWG, planned between mid-May and end of June.

The UNHCR Deputy Representative acknowledged and highlighted the MEB being a matter of interest for many counterparts. The realistic MEB overview can be used as a strong advocacy document for the refugee operation in Jordan.

The Inter-Sector Coordinator invited the ISWG members to discuss contents of the MEB'22, as well the applicability of inclusion of non-Syrians in the MEB'22 exercise by reflecting this category as a separate component, in a separate document or imbedding it in an overarching document. The MEB'21 was displayed by the UNHCR IACU team for easy reference.

The participants were reminded on more than 50 nationalities registered as refugees in Jordan, which may draw a challenge if sectors opt to consider a non-Syrians component or parallel exercise.

The Food Security Coordinator from WFP mentioned interest of the sector to expand the MEB to cover the No-Syrians refugees. Establishment of MEB in 2022 turns to be particularly critical considering the impact on the costs and the loss of the purchasing power impacted by the crisis in Ukraine.

There is understanding of serious challenges the non-Syrians refugees are facing. Assuming that statistical data on different caseloads may not differ, it is however worthy to have data on separate strata groups. This could be beneficial for the sector, as well for communication with the donors. Meanwhile, the experts shall better guide the decision.

The Shelter Sector Coordinator from IOCC echoed the WFP colleague, also referring to the recent discussions at the Shelter Sector meetings and to the donors' growing interest towards the non-Syrians. It was concluded that having a separate non-Syrian component might be interesting for the comparison.

The acting GBV Sub-Sector Coordinator from UNFPA gave examples of the Cash-for-Protection which is applying the same references for Syrians and non-Syrians refugees. On the MEB exercise, the GBV Sub-Sector Coordinator from UNFPA suggested to seek advice of a MEB expert.

Acknowledging the intention of expanding the attention beyond Syrians to support all nationalities, the WASH Coordinator from UNICEF mentioned the Sectors' practice to consider the non-Syrians refugees in the previous MEB report. The suggestion was driven to elaborate the common ISWG approach.

The Inter-Sector Coordinator referred to the fact that out of more than 50 nationalities, majority of refugees in Jordan are represented by few big groups of Syrians, Iraqis, Sudanese, and Somalis. This triggers the question how to contemplate the non-Syrian refugees appropriately.

Another important question suggested for the discussion was if the host communities shall be included in MEB'22. On this, the Food Security Coordinator from WFP recommended to be mindful of this statistical stratum being particularly sensitive for the GoJ, and this observation was echoed by the UNHCR Deputy Representative. For clarification, the reference was made to the Household Expenditures and Income Survey [HEIS] led by the GoJ and covering Jordanians, while the ISWG may not be considered an appropriate platform to address the subject.

Appreciating the participants' contribution to the discussion, the Inter-Sector Coordinator wrapped up by suggesting maintaining the MEB'22 simple and manageable, and admitting that the 2022 exercise may include Syrians and non-Syrians, separately or incorporated in one report, unless Sectors suggest alternatives. Anyway, the Sectors are encouraged to send their feedback and suggestions but, in the meantime, the ISWG will kick-off the MEB exercise for 2022 as in the previous years by sharing the existing template, and a draft zero template for non-Syrian refugees will be prepared and shared within the members for consultations.

3. Status of ActivityInfo Plan and Monitor Databases

The UNHCR IACU team briefed the participants on the status of the ActivityInfo [AI] Plan and Monitor Databases [DB]. Lately, the IACU has created around 200 users in the AI platform, conducted trainings attended by almost 145 people, and followed up with the 3RP partners on their reporting in the Plan DB.

Having reached the reporting deadline and closure of the DB in late May 2022, significant work has been done by the UNHCR IACU to correlate the partners' entries in the AI with the sector matrices.

The Inter-Sector Coordinator requested the Sector Coordinators' support to promote partners' compliance to reporting in AI.

4. Needs Assessments' Coordination and the Needs Assessment Registry

The Inter-Sector Coordinator reminded the ISWG members about the joint accountability to coordinate the assessments conducted by the partners across Jordan.

Coordination of assessments aims to support and promote information sharing between organizations, avoid duplication of efforts and the refugees' fatigue, and ensure that Sectors provide technical input where relevant and results of the conducted assessments are uploaded at the Needs Assessment Registry [NAR] page of the UNHCR Inter-Agency Coordination Operational Data Portal (ODP). It was admitted that the guidance on coordination of assessments is on the place, and its implementation requires attention both in camps and urban.

The UNHCR Deputy Representative strongly supported the message of the Inter-Sector Coordinator and called for the ISWG members' support to strengthen the coordination of assessments language across the sectors. The reference was made to the standard practice of applying a joint approach to coordinating assessments, which ensures high quality of the final products and minimises stress on refugees.

5. Streamlining the Existing Programmes

The Inter-Sector Coordinator invited the ISWG members to continue the discussion started at the previous ISWG meeting on streamlining the existing programmes within the refugee sectors. The Sector Coordinators have been encouraged to initiate consultations on adapting their existing programmes to adapt to the changing environment, including to the obvious and expected tendency of shrinking funding.

The Protection Sector Coordinator from UNHCR briefed the ISWG on the latest developments. Thus, the Protection, GBV and CP sub-Sectors enhanced engagement of the GoJ in their working groups (WG), exercising meetings in Arabic. Moreover, recently the three fora have had a successful experience of the joint meeting.

Aiming to enhance the protection processes, the Protection WG is preparing for an interesting discussion engaging the National Council for Family Affairs [NCFA]. Overall, the Protection Sector is aiming to support enhancement of protection strategies in Jordan. The Protection Sector Coordinator invited the ISWG members to attend the upcoming Protection WG meeting.

The Child Protection Sub-Sector Coordinator from UNICEF briefed the ISWG on the recent joint Protection, GBV and CP meeting, which was dedicated to the subject of early marriages, and attended by the GoJ, the Shariah Court, the NCFA, and the frontline workers. The acting GBV Sub-Sector Coordinator from UNFPA echoed to the colleague, highlighting the advantage of conducting meetings in Arabic and English.

The Health Sector Coordinator from UNHCR informed the ISWG on the positive achievements with the Multi-Donor Fund to address inclusion of refugees (Syrians and non-Syrians) in the national health system, which is aligned with the 2023 - 2025 planning.

Importantly, the Health Sector extended its technical support to the Ministry of Health [MoH] to have finalized the 'Policy Guide', which familiarizes the healthcare providers at different levels within the MoH facilities with the refugees' eligibilities and entitlements. The printed 'Policy Guide' was distributed in the health directorates across twelve (12) governorates.

The UNHCR Health Unit has been working closely with the MoH Communication Department to finalize the 'Service Guide for Refugees' aiming to increase refugees' awareness of their health rights. Accordingly, the Communication Department jointly with the MoH outreach team will be conducting focus group discussions on the 'Guide', and at a later stage the link will be made with the UNHCR Community Based Protection Unit.

The Shelter Coordinator from IOCC informed the ISWG that the Shelter partners are implementing the Cash-for-Rent activities focusing on the vulnerable groups, i.e., persons with disabilities, women, non-Syrian refugees, and those who have been significantly impacted by COVID-19 and the related economic shocks. Meanwhile, the Sector is seeing strong connections with the resilience focused activities and the Nexus, i.e., shelter rehabilitation which implies working with host communities on improvement of the local housing and on connecting refugees and landlords; linking shelter with climate change adaptation, etc.

Additionally, the Shelter Coordinator referred to the consequences of the shrinking humanitarian funding and the unfortunate retreat of the Jordan Humanitarian Fund [JHF], which previously helped to fill urgent gaps regarding security of tenure and to ensure that refugees and vulnerable Jordanians maintain their homes.

To address consequences of underfunding, the Shelter Sector is currently strengthening the referral network to be able to meet the most urgent needs, to ensure housing and safe place for refugees, to avoid evictions and to prepare for winter.

Both Sector Coordinators from UNHCR and IOCC are actively working to engage all shelter actors to the Shelter WG and to expand communication channels aiming to enhance coordination.

The WASH Sector Coordinator from UNICEF mentioned the Sector's ongoing communication with the GoJ on the transition strategy and on getting the GoJ's commitment to engage at the technical level.

The Inter-Sector Coordinator appreciated the active discussion and requested the Sector Coordinators to share their inputs for the consolidated overview on streamlining the sectors’ existing programmes. It was emphasized that the Sectors’ observations are worthy to be shared with the UNHCR Representative and the HPF and used for advocacy with the donors (i.e., with regard to the JHF).

Action Points	Responsible	Timeframe
Send the existing MEB’22 template to the Sector Coordinators to kick-off 2022 exercise.	Inter-Sector Coordinator and UNHCR IACU	ASAP
Share a draft zero of MEB’22 template (non-Syrians) to the Sector Coordinators.	Inter-Sector Coordinator and UNHCR IACU	ASAP
Collect inputs from the Sector Coordinators on ‘Streamlining the existing programmes’ and share with the ISWG	Inter-Sector Coordinator & UNHCR IACU	ASAP
Share important documents with the UNHCR IACU to be uploaded at the UNHCR Inter-Agency Coordination Operational Data Portal (ODP)	Sector Coordinators	Ongoing