



BML Livelihoods Sector Working Groups Meeting - Minutes

BML Livelihoods WG Minutes of Meeting			
Name	Livelihoods WG / Coordination Meeting	Meeting Date	5 th August 2022
Meeting Location	Teams	Meeting Time	10:00 am till 11:00 am
Chairperson	Marianne Al Haibe/ UNDP Amir Mounif / MoSA	Meeting Duration	1 h
Minutes Prepared By	Marianne Al Haibe / UNDP		
Participants 16 Organizations	Bacel El Bonji – Cesvi, Beatrice Kiwan – Borderless NGO, Caline Banna - LRC, Edgard Rizk – UNOPS, Elias Sahyoun – IRC, Emilie Abdallah – Cesvi, Hussein Ayad - LLWB, Joseph Massaad - ShareQ, Joseph Mezher – DRC, Karen Manja – World Vision, Layla Mohsen – Jafra Foundation, Rachad Sakr – LMTA, Rima Ghanem – World Vision, Sandra Debs – Dorcas Tabitha, Salim Hamieh – World Vision Lebanon, Stephany el Rayes – UNOPS, Tiffany Chelala – DOT Lebanon, Mirna Shedrawi – AmidEast, Guglielmo Mazza – Refuse, Joseph Bou Assi – Caritas.		
Meeting Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome and Introduction - Presentation by Dorcas Tabitha on their new Livelihoods project - Presentation by WVI on their LH program - Thematic Discussion on the impact caused by (1) the current increase in mobile prices and (2) the increase in COVID cases - Field Updates - AOB 		

Summary of Discussion Points

I.	Welcome and Introduction:
	The meeting started with a round of introductions for all attending partners.
II.	Dorcas Tabitha – Livelihoods Interventions in BML
	Refer to Annex 1
III.	World Vision – Livelihoods Interventions in BML
	Refer to Annex 1.
IV.	Thematic Discussion on the impact caused by (1) the current increase in mobile prices and (2) the increase in COVID cases

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impact of the increase in prices of phone credits on program implementation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Payment modalities and online money transfer is becoming tricky since multiple participants are using the same phone number keeping partners in risk of not receiving their money. - Many participants are not recharging WhatsApp which was a very efficient means to connect with participants leaving partners with a need to call them via regular calls which is itself costly. - Need to redesign budgets after increase in prices, and overall cost is rapidly increasing when programs involve high numbers of participants. - Some partners are using WhatsApp bot for data collection. - Impact of the increase in COVID cases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in prevention measures. <p>During this section, partners reported the challenge they are facing in the increase of transportation prices.</p>
V.	Field Updates:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Caritas: Started their open days under the ACE project in Okeibeh and Ashrafieh in the BML. Observed 40% drop out due to high transportation prices. In the open days they do not transportation, they will do so when they start the activities however, they have 5 USD for transportation per participant per day which was reported to be low. MSMEs support application form will be rolled out soon. - Cesvi: Started implementation of CfW activity in Barja and Sibline targeting 230 participants. Closing the CfW activity in Burj Hamoud after successfully achieving the target. - LMTA: Started their implementation in Donniyeh. Finished their activities in Beirut and Mount Lebanon. Faced challenges in the communication in the North where lines were cutting making it hard to reach participants, so they had to go on field to do their assessment and that was time consuming. - DRC: Already assisted under SPS Beirut 136 MSMEs – now starting decent working conditions sessions under batch 1. Now starting batch 2 with a new round of outreach. More details will be shared in the coming meeting. - IRC: Implementing CfW activities in Chehim, Sibline, Barja, and Warhaniye. Providing Digital Marketing training to entrepreneurs that benefited from their grants system. Implementing on job training in mechanics and bakery fields. Providing employment support through their employment support unit.
VI.	AOB
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GiHA Training 1 on the 5th and 6th of September and Training 2 on the 7th and 8th of September 2022. - Activity Info reporting and Service Mapping updates. - Next BML LH WG will be on the 1st of September 2022 from 10:00 am till 11:00 am.