

Protection Sector Working Group

Wednesday 26 March 2014, UNHCR Deir Ghbar Office, 10.00 – 12.00

Agenda:

- updates from sub-WGs and Field
- update on Vulnerability Assessment Framework
- RRP6 review process
- Coordinated Needs Assessments
- Zaatari verification process
- AOB
 - UNHCR helpline
 - Azraq opening
 - Resettlement process

Agencies present: SCI, UNHCR, SNAP, NRC, MercyCorps, UNICEF, UNOPS, HI, Tearfund, DRC, ARDD Legal Aid, INRTERSOS, UPP, CVT, IOM, MPDL.

1) Sub Working Group updates

SGBV SWG

The SGBV SWG has finalised a briefing note, including an explanation of the types of SGBV experienced by Syrians in Jordan, prevention and response activities by partners, and the GBVIMS. The SWG is finalising its workplan and strategy (both of which will be available on the web portal).

Azraq site visit

An ad hoc task force of the SGBV SWG conducted a site visit to Azraq, assessed the facilities and made recommendations for SGBV prevention measures. Particular recommendations were made to improve prevention measures in the reception area, WASH facilities, shelters, communal water areas and by increasing the presence of security personnel. The recommendations will be shared with partners.

Early and Forced Marriage Task Force

The Early and Forced Marriage Task Force (established by the SGBV SWF) is producing a legal analysis of the framework around these issues, with a view to making proposals to GoJ for prevention and response measures, and better protection. They will start with marriages between 15 and 18 years of age. Also looking to work with the MoSD etc and will look to develop guidelines incorporated into the guidance on UASC. Documents will be produced by end of April, and will meet with SRAD, the Shari'ah court.

Zaatari SGBV

Elena del Fabbro from IRC presented a brief outline of the findings of the safety audit and updated the PSWG on progress since the data collection period. The findings of the safety audit will be presented at all levels in the camp including the refugee community. Implementation of the recommendations will be monitored by the CP/SGBV WGs in Zaatari. For more information, contact: Elena del Fabbro – Elena.delFabbro@rescue.org

Safety Audit

A Safety Audit was conducted in Zaatari in September 2013, with the aim of assessing the safety and security risks by geographic location, sector and vulnerability group. In Zaatari, the audit was conducted jointly by CP and SGBV working groups. It included recommendations, especially on improving the quality of service delivery. The data was verified at sectoral, task force and camp management levels. The audit examined several areas including camp layout, the reception area, community participation etc.

Camp layout: the situation has drastically improved in the past months. There are still some areas perceived as unsafe and insecure – particularly public areas, eg markets, public roads and WASH facilities. Some particular districts, where population density is low, women in particular feel unsafe accessing WASH facilities. UNHCR has been working to install a lighting system, which will assist. Also exploring solar lighting system.

Reception area: some of the area has separation, but full segregation between males and females and groups at risk is not yet implemented. Currently reception area has a special area for UASC, and considering additional vulnerable groups.

Shelter: Move from tents to caravans has vastly improved the situation. Still a perception that there is no security infrastructure. Women reported that, because they don't see women policing, they do not feel able to report incidents. From two months, women have been patrolling Zaatari.

WASH: Lack of lighting, poor maintenance and defunct locks have led to low usage of the WASH facilities and feeling of being unsafe.

Remaining challenges –

Water points and distribution points. Women and youth felt that these points are chaotic and dangerous and they perceive a risk of physical violence and harassment. They also have to walk long distances to get to these points. Work by the NRC and WFP to fully segregate the lines at distribution points is still ongoing.

Representation: Women, especially, feel under-represented through community participation measures. More women's groups are currently being established by a range of partners.

Child Protection SWG

The CP SWG is currently finalising the workplan and in the coming weeks, will share the CP strategy for 2014. The CP SWG is also preparing a Briefing Note on child protection issues faced by Syrian refugees in Jordan. CP/SGBV SOPs materials are available, and a training schedule will be shared with PWG members. The Inter-agency CP/SGBV awareness-raising messages are in the process of being finalized, together with visual materials. Further information about the messages & how to obtain communications materials will be communicated via the CP and/or SGBV SWGs.

The Children in Armed Conflict Working Group has been reactivated with a few key members. It is chaired by UNICEF. The CAC Coordinator will be invited to present the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism at the next PSWG meeting.

2) Update on Vulnerability Assessment Framework

The Vulnerability Assessment Framework (VAF) steering committee is currently in consultation with a team from the World Bank. The indicators are being tested against the data collected from the home visits survey against the World Bank welfare model. The VAF steering committee will keep the sectors up to date on the next steps.

3) RRP6 review process

The RRP6 review process will take place from late April to June 2014. The RRP6 revision process is intended to be a light review with minimal changes expected to the Sector response plan narratives and objectives. The main focus of the review will be at the output and activity level. The Protection Sector will need to assess our progress at mid-year against our proposed end-of-year targets established during the RRP6 planification process in late 2013.

The RRP6 revision will therefore look at the following points: (i) limiting duplication between NRP & RRP6 (i.e. Where an output is covered in both NRP and RRP, Sectors/individual agencies should assess where an output is best placed (i.e. RRP or NRP) and remove from the duplicate location); (ii) population planning figures will be reviewed by the IATF, and this should be taken into consideration when reviewing sectoral response targets; and (iii) Sector indicator targets and budgets should be revised in coordination between individual agencies and Sector chairs (the emphasis should be on rationalization and reduction of budgets in consideration of actual implementation levels and what is feasible until the end of 2014).

On 6 April, the ISWG will discuss the criteria for new partners entering into the RRP6 appeal, and criteria for revision of the RRP6. More detailed info will be available following the ISWG meeting. Karen Whiting (whiting@unhcr.org) will be leading the process for the Protection Sector.

RRP6 reporting

Sector chairs are developing a guide on reporting, which will be shared.

4) Coordinated Needs Assessments

The ISWG is developing a system for coordinating needs assessments. There will be an online registry and a Standard Operating Procedure has been developed to guide partners on how to use the online registry. Both are aimed at expediting Sector level approval and technical assistance/review to assessing agencies. The Registry and SOPs will be applicable to assessments relevant both to the RRP and the NRP (National Resilience Plan).

In discussion, partners shared some concerns about the application of the SOPs. It was clarified that programme-based assessments, such as beneficiary selection, are not

targeted by the SOPs. This is made clear in the SOPs. The Chair will share the SOPs for partners' comments by **29 March**.

5) Zaatari verification process

(Zaatari verification statistics to be circulated separately)

Partners interested in tours of the verification site in Zaatari – contact Oberg@unhcr.org

6) AOB

Azraq

The official opening date is by 30 April. The Azraq Camp Protection Sector meeting takes place every Wednesday, at 10.30, at Azraq Base Camp, before camp management meetings. CP/SGBV referral pathways are available for Azraq, but they will need to be updated.

UNHCR Info Line

The UNHCR Info line has changed to a toll free line, and has the capacity to receive 1,000 calls a day. The new number is **064008000**

Resettlement

There are many rumours around the resettlement processes. UNHCR has screened the whole caseload of 2011 and 2012 registrations (with identified vulnerabilities) for the purposes of resettlement, but there is a very high level of no interest. Currently the rate of screening out is 80 to 90% on such grounds as polygamous marriages and child marriages, as well as other profiles that either do not qualify for refugee status or for RST considerations.

The UNHCR process has two steps: i) a pre-screen interview; ii) RSD/RST interview. Currently UNHCR has a target for 2014 of 3,000 persons. A number of RST countries have already come on selection missions and more are planned in the year. Some countries are looking specifically at medical cases. The Government approach to RST of Syrians remains the same: low keys and for extremely vulnerable is OK but no publicity around it to limit the risk of pull factor.

There are separate resettlement targets for Syrians and Iraqis and non-Iraqis. The policy has not changed for Iraqis – resettlement submission remain the rule rather than the exception (in line with MOU), but RST is still exceptional for Syrians. It is reserved for the most vulnerable Syrians, as a protection tool and a burden sharing measure.

Action points

Chairs to share criteria for revision of RRP6	Chair
Chairs to share guidance on reporting	Chair
Chairs to share Coordinated Needs Assessments presentation	Chair
Chairs to share Coordinated Needs Assessments SOPs	Chair/Majida

Chairs to circulate Safety Audit	Chair
Children in Armed Conflict Coordinator to present the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism at next PWG meeting	Chair/UNICEF
Chair to share Iraqi refugee figures by email with NEF	Chair
Chair to share verification updates by email	Chair

Next meeting – 23 April, UNHCR Office. Possibly ad hoc RRP6 meeting.