

16 May 2019

Regional IM Working Group - Meeting minutes

Present: UNHCR (colleagues from Europe, Greece and North Macedonia), IOM, UNICEF, Lumos and IFRC

Location: IOM, Geneva

General updates

1. The [published last meeting minutes \(11 April 2019\)](#)
2. For the most recent updates, see the [Mediterranean response data portal](#) and [IOM's Flow Monitoring site for Europe](#).

RIMWG Workshop - follow up

At the inter-agency [workshop in November 2018](#) participants agreed to improve the quality of data, seek stronger inter-agency coordination at country level, improve internal information sharing and conduct more capacity building.

WIMA - A workshop on information management and analysis (WIMA) will take place in early July, organised by UNHCR, with participation from IOM, UNICEF, IFRC and UNHCR from selected countries in Europe. It will be a 3-day event with a practical focus on identifying key messages, developing analytical frameworks and understanding useful tools for joint analysis. All four organisations confirmed participation.

Meetings with government counterparts and researchers - meetings with government counterparts continue and meetings with researchers will commence in May, specifically to better understand opportunities to collaborate on information. UNHCR will produce a summary of the key issues and suggestions that arise.

Data sharing policies - UNICEF are consulting with their global team on existing policies and guidance. UNHCR will also explore these policies in June.

Data Entry and Exploration Platform (DEEP)

Building on the previous discussions in the IMWG on DEEP, IFRC and UNHCR have decided to conduct a pilot for Europe focused on media monitoring for risk analysis and contingency planning. A similar collaboration also exists to support the Venezuela situation response.

In Europe, in order to start with sufficient material, daily news briefs will be loaded automatically into the tool. Key geographical areas would include Greece, Spain and the Western Balkans. It is envisaged that the utility of the pilot would be evaluated in August or September and the results will be presented in the IMWG. The project is summarised in this [concept note](#).

Inter-agency factsheets

Education factsheet - The document should be finalized and published in early June.

Children's factsheet - 2018 factsheet was [published](#). For the mid-year report, the drafting will be completed during August for publication in mid-September.

Lumos research project on care arrangements for children

Comments from IOM, UNICEF and UNHCR on the third draft have been largely addressed. Lumos will circulate a fourth draft next week on the 23 May and this will also incorporate relevant third-party research. UNHCR, IOM and UNICEF will send out this version for review by the country offices, and responses will be compiled by 10 June (see the [concept note](#) for background).

UNHCR and UNICEF communications colleagues are following up in the pilot countries to identify opportunities for 2-3 human interest stories to strengthen the children's voices in the narrative, collaborating closely with Lumos on the content.

Statistics on Venezuelans in Europe

In Europe, for statistics relating to Venezuelans, UNHCR will continue to report only refugees and asylum seekers. In South America, a broader category of "Venezuelans in need of international protection" is being used.

IM coordination in Spain

IFRC, IOM and UNHCR will validate nationality and demographic estimates prior to publication (see the last meeting minutes for details).

Two secondees from UNICEF will operate from the UNHCR offices in Spain to help strengthen the response related to children, commencing in July.

Follow up actions

1. All IMs are welcome join the [Europe Information Management group on Humanitarian ID](#).
2. Education factsheet - address senior management feedback for publishing in early June
3. All agencies to assess requirements under their data protection agreements for sharing information between agencies or the use of data portals such as [HDX](#) and [RIDL](#) for publishing anonymised data.
4. UNHCR and IFRC will collaborate on a DEEP pilot for Europe to better highlight its utility.
5. Care arrangements project:
 - a. Feedback on the 4 draft from country offices will be compiled in early June.
 - b. UNHCR and UNICEF continue to research relevant human-interest stories.

Next meeting

18 June 2019 (1100 to 1230) at UNICEF in Geneva