## National Inter-Sector WG

**Date:** 24 June 2016  
**Participants:** UNHCR, Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Solidarity Now, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), ICRC, ECHO, Mr. Odysseas Voudouris - Secretary General of Migration Policy  
**Chair:** Alexandra Krause ([krause@unhcr.org](mailto:krause@unhcr.org)), UNHCR  

### Agenda

- Endorsement of meeting minutes and review of pending action points  
- Presentation on needs assessment processes and data analysis plan  
- Update on the islands  
- Gaps and challenges  
- AoB

### Agenda item: Action points

<table>
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<th>Review of pending action points</th>
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<td>• Child Protection Sub-WG to suggest a template for compiling HR support models for the Government across sectors to collect best practices.</td>
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<td>o <strong>Pending.</strong> The CP Sub-WG co-coordinator is currently finalizing the template.</td>
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<td>• UNHCR to prepare an overview of needs assessment processes, available data and how this fits together; presentation to be made at next ISWG.</td>
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<td>o <strong>Done.</strong> UNHCR made a short presentation on needs assessments during the ISWG meeting.</td>
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<td>• UNHCR Inter-Agency Coordination Unit will conduct a Secondary Data Desk Review. Assessments from other agencies to be shared by Tuesday, 21 June 2016.</td>
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<td>o <strong>Ongoing.</strong> The IACU has received extra assessments for some sectors (e.g. Food, SMS), but agencies are highly encouraged to share all the assessments available, in order to make the SDR as comprehensive as possible.</td>
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<td>• UNHCR to contact JIPS to discuss what is feasible for an urban profiling exercise to inform an urban strategy</td>
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<td>o <strong>Done.</strong> UNHCR discussed with JIPS the possibilities and what would be useful in the current context. JIPS are available to come on mission; the pre-registration exercise will provide information on urban population and can help design a relevant and contextualized needs assessment. UNHCR will submit ToRs for review by the MoMP and other partners.</td>
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<td>• Food WG to send the meals suggestions to MoD.</td>
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<td>o <strong>Done.</strong> The Food WG has shared a number of different options, including suggestions from SP on the menus, which are based on refugees’ preferences and focus group discussions that were held.</td>
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<td>• UNHCR to share again the URL on the info materials for the pre-registration campaign.</td>
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<td>o <strong>Done.</strong> Links were shared.</td>
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<td>• UNHCR to organize teleconference with islands and mainland to answer questions on response capacity assessment.</td>
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<td>o <strong>Done.</strong> Discussions with local authorities on how they are dealing with new arrivals (e.g. on Samos) is important to understand to ensure timely support. A matrix was shared to summarize existing response capacity. Results are expected by 4 July and will be presented in a compiled document.</td>
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- Document and video on World Refugee Day to be shared by UNHCR.
  - **Done.** Documents and videos were shared.
- UNHCR to invite the focal point for the islands at the next ISWG to provide an update.
  - **Done.** Focal point for the islands from Protection Unit was invited and summary update can be found below.

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<td>Endorsement of meeting minutes</td>
<td>Minutes from the previous ISWG meeting were endorsed.</td>
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<td>Opening remarks SG Voudouris</td>
<td>Secretary General Voudouris opened the discussions highlighting the importance of coordination between the Government and the humanitarian actors. He underlined UNHCR’s institutional role in the refugee response. With some two third of all funding going to ECHO partners and those NGOs having three time more staff in the field than the Ministry, it is of utmost importance to ensure good coordination. UNHCR has already created coordination mechanism and upon request of the Government a UNHCR Liaison Officer will be embedded in the Ministry of Migration Policy to ensure close linkages between UNHCR and the Ministry on those key aspects. The MoMP will further discuss with UNHCR on how existing coordination mechanism will be used by the Ministry.</td>
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| Presentation on basics in Information Management and needs assessment | UNHCR provided a short presentation on general principles on data collection and needs assessments as requested during the last ISWG. **Five principles when it comes to data collection:**

1. **Accessibility:** Data of analyses should be shared in line with confidentiality guidelines. This informs programming and avoids duplications;
2. **Relevance:** Collect information that is needed and use the data you collect of
3. **Timeliness:** important aspect particularly for needs assessments-outdated data leads to waste of resources
4. **Reliability:** specific guidance and ensuring that the right processed and minimum standards are implemented and used. As information is informing decision making, it is vital to ensure sound processes and standards;
5. **Humanity:** Do no harm principle

Needs assessments are guided by basic principles out of which the unit of analysis is important to determine the data volume, the questionnaire design and the time needed to collect and analyze the data. Needs assessment design and implementation require a certain expertise to ensure the reliability and validity of the data collected. Sound Information management processes are important to ensure that decision making is evidence based. | Upon request UNHCR can provide training and briefings on information management and needs assessments in particular. Interested partners can directly contact Harkous@unhcr.org |
### Update on the islands

- There has been a change since the 20th of March that created the need for a rapid response by the Greek authorities to adjust to the new situation. More and more people are staying on the islands and this steady population has increased WASH, food and information provision needs;
- Currently there are 8,400 people on the islands and the situation on each of the islands has its own peculiarities and challenges. There are still challenges in assistance and the legal procedures need to be harmonized in particular in view of the fact that different Ministerial decrees have been issued at different times to operationalize the new Asylum Law
- The Asylum Service has expanded its service on Samos, Chios, Lesvos, Leros and in Kos, but there is a need for RIS to increase its capacity; more staff is expected to be deployed to the islands
- Based on the new Asylum Law some refugees are being released from the islands to the mainland; however, this poses challenges as most cases are vulnerable cases or serious medical cases; accommodation and systematic referrals through authorities linking up with partners are not yet operationalized. In particular protection principles need to be incorporated in the referral system to ensure that the principle of family unity is maintained during transfers. SG Voudouris acknowledged the challenges and suggested to call for a meeting with relevant stakeholders to discuss how to improve the referral system
- IOM started its Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) program on the islands whilst waiting for return people will remain in closed facilities.

### Sector Updates/Gaps

**Health & Nutrition:**
- They are currently incorporating mental health coverage in the primary health care system and mental health in detention is one of the topics of discussion in the Health & Nutrition WG
- Infant feeding remains a gap to be addressed
- Pep kits as such are not available in Greece; however, all the different components of Pep kits are available in the market
- The transport of medical cases is a major gap, as UNHCR and other NGOs are facilitating transport; options to address this gap more systematically are being discussed.

**WASH:**
- The challenge to ensure administrative permissions in some sites is still not resolved; in particular for connection to sewage systems
- Nea Kavala: water supply is currently being discussed with a private donor and UNHCR will provide infrastructure support

The PWG to identify the specific groups of cases and their assistance needs. SG Voudouris will call for a meeting with the MoL, the Asylum Service and UNHCR to discuss how to improve referral system from the islands to the mainland. Health WG will explore options with EKEPY on improving health referrals.

Health WG to provide an update on the provision of Pep Kits and the way forward.

UNHCR to get clarification if the Army will continue dislodging of WASH facilities.
Potential challenge: in some sites in the North, the military is currently assuming the dislodging for WASH facilities, but might stop so that NGOs might need to take over.

Protection:
- SGBV prevention and response activities are not fully covered on the islands the mainland; there are issues for some partners with getting access to the sites and the response capacity of partners
- UNHCR did a follow up visit on the islands to understand better the situation and the Senior Protection Officer will provide an update during the next meeting.

Child Protection:
- During the pre-registration exercise, 272 UAM and 134 separated children have been identified
- There is a lack of case management and safe shelter. The group is looking into addressing the gap and linkages with the SMS and Shelter WG. Discussions are ongoing with the Public Prosecutor, the Ministry of Labour and other stakeholders to address the gap.
- ICRC are providing services for family reunification inside detention and the Hellenic Red Cross are responsible for outside detention facilities.

SMS:
- The question of which roles and responsibilities will need to be assumed the “site focal point” partner in a site remains unclear; further guidance is needed from the MoMP.

Cash:
- The right to work in particular in light of the strict labour laws with regards to voluntarism becomes a challenge for refugees who are awaiting full registration. Mr. Voudouris acknowledged the importance of work permits and suggested to have a meeting with the respective Ministries and more specifically with Mr. Papadopoulos and Mrs. Stavropoulou, the Director of the Asylum Service
- The next Cash (jointly with Food) WG will take place on Thursday, 30 May 2016 at 3-5 pm at the UNHCR Office and will focus on the MEB, design, harmonization, implementation and coordination of multi-purpose grants (MPG)
- Relevant indicators will be included in the 4W matrix and site profiles
- MoMP has approached Cash WG co-chairs to create a ‘coherent cash programming policy’ next Wednesday 29 June 2016.

Food:
- A meeting under the lead of SG Voudouris took place where the way forward for the food transition strategy has been discussed; Save the Children, Apostoli, IRC, CRS and DRC as
well as the Ministry of Defense, UNHCR and the MoMP will form the core group of the
group; technical expertise will be provided through the different sector working groups.
- Contrary to what was discussed before, it is now confirmed that catering where necessary
  will continue until December and will be provided through the Ministry of Defense
- A multi-sector assessment that will look at food catering and provision, cash-voucher
  program and a market feasibility study. A team from ACAPS will come in next week to
  define the time frame and will call up in each of the agencies to see the resources that will
  be required. This will be a simultaneous work (4-5 different teams) that will be done in each
  of the regions. The assessment will also look at the construction of communal kitchens, the
  infrastructure required and the amounts that will be required in terms of the cash program.

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<td>- Reportedly a new site in Rafina is under construction. There are rumors that people from the port of Piraeus will be transferred there</td>
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<td>- The MoMP shared a list of “main organization per site” with partners; this list requires some further updates and improvements to reflect the actors operational in a site; it was highlighted that the criteria of “main organization” is ambiguous and should be best addressed through clear ToRs of the “site management focal point”; this will be done by the SMS WG and submitted as a proposal to the MoMP.</td>
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Next meeting: Friday, 1 July, 9.00 hrs, UNHCR office, 91 Michalakopoulou Street