



Protection
Working Group

Meeting Minutes 03 August 2016

Protection Working Group Jordan

Agencies present: Acted, NRC, ARDD-Legal aid, AVSI, DRC, CVT, ICMC, IOCC, IRC, JCLA, SDC, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNOPS, UNWOMEN, OXFAM, FCA and JIF

AGENDA:

- **Introductions, Agenda, Approval of Minutes**
- **Agency Updates and Announcements**
- **Standing Updates: Border Situation, Urban Verification Exercise**
- **UN Women – Protection and Cash for Work, Rachel Dore-Weeks**
- **JRP Update and Next Steps – Yukiko Koyama,**
- **JRP Progress Report and Gaps Identification, Ghassan Shehadeh, Douglas/Cate,**
 - ✓ **Where are we now on key protection actions, what does this mean for 2016 and 2017?**
- **AOB**

1. Agency Updates and Announcements:

UNHCR: UNHCR Community Service Officer Hassan Mohammed briefed members on the planned Age Gender and Diversity Mainstreaming Participatory Assessment (AGDM PA), to take place in September. Jointly with the Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development (JOHUD), three planning workshops will be held in the North, Middle and Southern regions, and will include staff members from UNHCR and partners. Concept note will be shared in two week time. The AGDM participatory assessment is an annual exercise that helps to ensure that the views and ideas of all elements of the refugee community are taken into account in planning, and to better understand the impact of our joint efforts. NGO participation is a key part of this effort, allowing the participatory assessment to reach more refugees in more areas, and to ensure a diversity of roles and backgrounds on the teams. Agencies are encouraged to contribute staff to this exercise.

IOCC: IOCC has been implementing health and protection projects with persons with disabilities in host communities and plan to expand activities to reach Azraq camp in coordination with the Disability Task Force, including with hearing/visual aids. Once implementation starts IOCC will update members for referrals and coordination.

JHF Fund: A new round of Jordan humanitarian fund call for proposals will be announced during September. PWG will assist with identifying priorities for the fund this round, and will also need to form a panel to review protection projects – panel members to be nominated and confirmed when funding is announced.

CP/GBV SOPs: Any agency that needs additional copies of the CP/GBV SOPs, please contact PWG, SGBV or CP coordinators.

2. Standing updates on borders/new arrivals/urban verification exercise

Borders/berm: Following the VBIED attack at Rukban on 21 June there, still no direct access to humanitarian organizations beyond water provision via UNICEF. Negotiations have been on-going to permit 30 days food delivery to all berm residents; WFP has started food distribution at Hadalat and Rukban is expected to follow immediately after. Not clear what subsequent access or provision of assistance may be possible.

No new arrivals so far coming from the eastern borders, some exceptional urgent cases were identified through social media. No conclusive evidence of increase/decrease in population at the berm.

Urban verification exercise: The return of Syrians' documents was on-going during July. To date 179,287 documents were returned, while approximately 43,000 documents remained to be delivered.

By the end of July 2016, some 382,654 MoI cards have been issued in total. The PWG discussed available information and analysis related to registration in host communities. MOI card issuance numbers have decreased significantly over several months. PWG members continue to be engaged in following up progress on MoI card issuance, to help to identify obstacles and concerns arising during the exercise, and the impact on protection and assistance eligibility for refugees in Jordan. Some noted that certain impacts of lack of MOI card have been mitigated through advocacy, e.g., access to education.

NRC: After some time with fewer involuntary relocations to the camp from host communities due to documentation issues, noted rise in recent involuntary relocations; issue to be monitored.

UNICEF: As per the agreement with MoH, new MOI cards will not be a condition for accessing school. Any members that receives "denial of access to school cases" they are kindly requested to prepare a list and send it to UNICEF.

3. UNWOMEN – Presentation of Two Sets of Research Findings:

UN Women provided summary of results of study on the impact on protection of cash-for-work programmes involving women. UN Women also presented summary of preliminary findings concerning context of transactional sex. The findings will be further discussed with the SGBV sub working group.

4. JRP updates and next steps:

Senior Inter-Sector Agency coordinator gave members a brief on the Jordan response plan. It is a 3 year plan that is led by GoJ 2016-2019 and it's a rolling plan which means another response plan for 2017-2019 plan will be updated in the coming period. All agencies will need to be ready for a series of coming deadlines, including requirements for provision of detailed budget estimates for 2017.

Protection Working Group will be working closely with MoSD in the JRP social protection taskforce that covers the Protection WG and the Basic Needs WG.

No official instructions by the government have been released yet, Inter-Sector coordination associates has started the review of the comprehensive vulnerability assessment which is phase 1 and phase 2 the sector response strategy, that includes identification of vulnerabilities, needs and strategies for each sector in the planning process to propose any changes before PWG coordinator and members start to review it.

PWG members will be reviewing the strategy and the logical framework (including over all objectives, outputs, and indicators) and to look at if it is still valid for the current period based on the operational needs, the focus also will be on adding year of 2019 budget and the decrease or increase on 2017 budget needs.

The 3rd phase of the JRP is related to the 3RP (Regional Refugee Resilience) plan, JRP is the Jordan chapter of the 3RP and have an interagency appeal that is a fund raising activity for UN agencies and NGOs. For the Inter-Agency appeal, ActivityInfo needs to be used for the planning phases to indicate the project proposal and the estimated budget; it is essential to keep the budget ceiling for each sector in line with the JRP, which requires advance planning and agency estimates for each area of activity.

5. JRP Progress report and gaps identification: Where are we now on key protection actions, what does this mean for 2016 and 2017?

Sector coordinator presented an extraction of the data that was reported on ActivityInfo for the protection key core indicators (Progress against the Target). The critical gaps were highlighted especially in the sensitization, training and access to multi-sectoral services were partners that are not reporting shall report on regular basis for those indicators. Sector coordinator emphasized on the importance of reporting on monthly on ActivityInfo with a precise correct data as it have an impact on the upcoming JRP/3RP planning phases.

Action point: members that face challenges in reporting to contact sector coordinators

6. AoB:

AVSI: during AVSI implementation of activities in the south especially in Aqaba, it was noticed that the numbers of people of concern have been increasing with not enough service provision, recommends that PWG follow levels of service provision in the south especially in Aqaba/Maan, and circumstances in which refugees there are living, which may diverge significantly from conditions in other parts of the country.

Next Meeting: 7 September 2016, 9-11 am, UNHCR Khalda, EMOPS Room

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