

Working Group on Livelihoods – 1 March 2019

Meeting			
Name	National Livelihoods Working Group	Meeting Date	1/3/2019
Meeting Location	UNDP-6 th floor	Meeting Time	3PM
Chair person	Gloria De Marchi-UNDP Hiba Douaihy-MoSA	Meeting Duration	2 hours
Minutes Prepared by	Gloria De Marchi-UNDP		

- Agenda**
1. Welcome and introduction
 2. Field Updates
 3. Summary of tensions in 2018 – Social Stability
 4. Livelihoods Work Plan 2019
 5. National updates
 6. AOB

1	Welcome and Introduction
	Gloria De Marchi welcomed the participants, presented the agenda and opened the meeting. Participants were informed that Lea el Najjar lnajjar@economy.gov.lb is now on board as MoET representative for Livelihoods meetings.
2	Field Updates (Presentation attached)
	<p><u>North</u>: 16 partners attended the Activity Info training in the North (7th of February). Gap in 2019 reporting (only 3 organizations reported on AI as per March 2019, namely Concern, IRC and NRC)</p> <p><u>South</u>: 8 partners attended the Activity Info training in the South (4th of February)</p> <p><u>BML</u>: 11 partners attended the Activity Info training in BML (6th of February). Gap in 2019 reporting ((only 4 organizations reported on AI as per March 2019, namely Caritas, IRC, Merath and UNDP)</p> <p><u>Bekaa</u>: 5 partners attended the Activity Info training in the Bekaa (5TH of February). Only one partners reporting as per March 2019: Merath</p> <p>Please see the attached presentations for more details</p>
3	Summary of tensions in 2018 – Social Stability (Presentation attached)

Tom Lambert, SoST coordinator, and Fadl Saleh, Conflict analysis and reporting officer, provided an overview of 2018 trends by geography and 2019 risks to stability.

1. Nationally, relations are stable. However, after the refugee file in the media was largely dormant through the election campaigning period, **it re-emerged in June 2018 and has continued since**
2. **Competition for lower-skilled labour** remains the primary point of tension between communities
3. While *stable*, efforts need to continue to ensure the current stability is *sustained*.
4. Syrians and Lebanese are **interacting less and less often**
5. **Intra-Palestinian tensions continued** and boiled over to violence on several occasions in 2018

Geographical Trends:

- **Bekaa and North are Governorates of Concern** with many negative indicators and emerging violent incidents
- **Baalbek-Hermel is witnessing regular incidents**
- **South & Nabatiye are stable but the number of municipal measures** on refugees are concerning

Key trend 1: competition over low-skilled jobs

- no relevant differences between groups (Syrians/Lebanese)
- Akkar and Beqaa highest percentage of Syrians and Lebanese citing competition for low skilled jobs as a source of tension

Key Trend 2: Municipal measures becoming prevalent in reaction to incidents

Refugee response

General compliance though evidence of increasing frustration

Syrians reporting greater self-censoring of movement to avoid problems with authorities

Joint engagement in conflict dialogues has reportedly been lower

Risks

Short-term infringement on refugee rights

Risk of entanglement with intra-Lebanese issues remains salient

Key trend 3: Frustration amongst both communities are rising

Further expressions of frustrations by host communities, while refugees are now less likely to engage local authorities

Risks to stability in 2019

-Continuing **deterioration in frequency of contact** begins to break down social fabric

-Concerns around **funding to LCRP sectors**.

-**Socioeconomic anxieties grow**, with likelihood that grievances against the Government metastasize into anti-refugee protests.

-Growing frustrations are likely to be compounded by **a return process that is unlikely to accelerate at the pace expected** by many host communities and refugees themselves.

Takeaways for Livelihoods actors:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower-skilled job creation for both refugees and host communities is a priority. • Conflict sensitivity and do no harm must be prioritized • Foster meaningful engagement <p><u>Questions and Answers</u></p> <p>Concerns were raised by partners regarding comparability of results of perception surveys and events witnessed in the field, particularly with regards to competition over low-skilled jobs. Indeed, partners are reporting difficulties in the identification of Lebanese labours willing to be engaged in Labour intensive programmes, that target primarily low skilled labours.</p> <p>Important to reflect on how results of perception studies can influence/inform Livelihoods programming.</p>
4	<p>Livelihoods Work Plan for 2019 (Presentation attached)</p> <p>The draft of the Livelihoods Work Plan for 2019 was presented and discussed with LH partners. Comments/feedback were collected and the LH WP <u>will be re-discussed and finalized at CG level.</u></p> <p><u>NB: Possibility to carry-out activities/actions mentioned in the Work Plane is subjected to sectoral/cross-sectoral resources as well as willingness and capacity of different stakeholders to contribute to the WP.</u></p> <p>The work plan is divided into 2 main sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Key priorities - Specific coordination tasks to support partners programming <p>4 Key priorities have been identified as per below: (refer to the document for further details)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Reinforce support for SMEs -Sustain Value Chains development -Decent Work Conditions -Graduation/ Transition approach <p>Each priority is linked to respective 2019 Logframe output and/or inter-sectoral linkage Activities for each key priority have been identified and included in the WP. Roles and responsibilities in carrying out activities have also been identified and distributed amongst different stakeholders</p> <p>Specific coordination tasks to support partners programming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Livelihoods-Protection -Dialogue with donors' community -Target of beneficiaries -Maintain strategic dialogue with other job creation initiatives -Mapping of assessments -Other coordination tasks <p>Kindly refer to the entire document for further details, actions and roles/responsibilities.</p> <p><u>Main concerns raised that need to be further discussed during CG meeting:</u></p>

	<p><u>Decent Work Condition:</u> connect with NEO as they are exploring opportunity to launch a DW programme</p> <p><u>Graduation approach:</u> Partners suggested to look at Labour Intensive Programming for the GA. Though, the nature of this approach that looks at long term impacts would better fit for VTs and financial inclusion service providers</p> <p><u>Dialogue with Donors:</u> Who and what section. Re-discuss the presence of representatives from I/NGOs and UN communities in the Steering Committee</p> <p><u>Target of beneficiaries:</u> it was discussed that for long term interventions severely vulnerable people that are not receiving the BA+FSS assistance should be prioritized in alignment with GoL law. In addition, there was a proposal from the LH sector coordinator to target individuals that are not receiving UNHCR BA and FSS services in Labour intensive interventions in order to cover the unmet needs of severely vulnerable persons. Partners had concerns related to this last point-need to discuss further.</p>
5	National Updates (Presentation attached)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Documents prepared by the LH coordination Unit <p>Livelihoods Log frame 2019: online Activity Info Glossary and Reporting Guide: online Identification of beneficiaries guidelines: comments received-revision and finalization End of Year Dashboard: online next week 3W Map: almost finalized Referral and Reporting system: to be updated-a joint protection-CP-SGBV-LH meeting to be organized end of March</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activity Info Training at National Level <p>LH WG partners in 2019: 68 Organizations that participated in AI Training: 14 Caritas Lebanon, UNDP, SAFADI Foundation, UNRWA, Islamic Relief, MAP, CESVI, IECD, IOM, ACTED, WVL, SPARK, Intersos, Makhzoumi Foundation Organizations reporting on AI as per February 2019: 8 Al Majmoua, Concern, Caritas Lebanon, ILO, IRC, Merath Lebanon, NRC, UNDP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Livelihoods Core Group 2019 composition <p>National sector COORDINATOR (UNDP) 3 ministries (MoSA-MoET-MoL) 4 UN agencies (ILO-UNDP-UNHCR-WFP) 3 local NGOs (Al-Majmoua, Fair Trade Lebanon, Mahzoumi) 5 INGOs (MERCY CORPS, OXFAM, IRC, DRC, SCI)</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule of National Livelihoods WG <p>On a bimonthly basis, every last Tuesday of the month, UNDP 6TH floor Conference room</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 26, 2019 (from 12pm to 2pm) • May 28, 2019 (from 12pm to 2pm) • July 30, 2019 (from 12pm to 2pm) • September 24, 2019 (from 12pm to 2pm) • November 26, 2019 (from 12pm to 2pm)
6	AOB
	<p>Activity Info parallel database will be launched soon (Trainings will be provided to LH partners).</p> <p>The database aims to break down Activity Info achievements by economic sectors. For each economic sector partners will be requested to report against selected indicators such as job creation, SMEs support, VTs and others. Reporting will be at districted level. (E.g. Jobs created/maintained under Hospitality & Tourisms for Syrians/Lebanese/PRL/PRS, females and males)</p> <p>Livelihoods partners are requested to report on the parallel database twice per year (June/July-December)</p> <p>Further guidance will follow during the next months</p>

Organizations present at the Livelihoods WG meeting: MoSA, UNDP, KFW, ILO, Care International, UK-DFID, IECD, JICA, Game Lebanon, PU-AMI, Mercy Corps, WVI, Islamic Relief, ISWA/HA, IRC, Makhzoumi Foundation, Cesvi, NRC, Fair Trade Lebanon, UNIDO, WFP, AVSI, OXFAM, Save the Children, ACTED, SIF, Red Oak, HEKS/EPER, Near East Foundation, SPARK, The Nawaya Network, Merath/LSESD, TDH-IT, DRC, LHIF, UNRWA