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| **Arsal Coordination Meeting** | | | |
| **Date** | 11/04/2017 | **Time** | 12:00 am |
| **Location** | UNHCR Zahle | **Duration** | 1.20 hr |
| **Chair** | UNHCR |  |  |
| **Attendance** | UNHCR, UNICEF, ACF, QRC, SCI, DRC, TDH-Italy, DAF, Relief and Development, MSA, MoSA | | |

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| **Topic** | **ACTION** | **DUE DATE** |
| 1. **Follow up discussion on mission conducted on the 6th of April** |  |  |
| Joint mission between UNHCR, WFP and UNICEF was conducted on April 6th.  UNHCR’s community-based protection unit met with a self-formed youth group to discuss a reoccurring topic in Arsal regarding early marriage. Objective aimed at capacitating them on awareness sessions, linking them with IRC community centres and supporting them in submitting solidarity initiative projects.  CBP also met the 18 protection OVs in Arsal to strengthen self-identification and referral mechanisms. The OVs were provided with tablets to facilitate, enhance and fasten the referral pathway. | Note | Note |
| WFP visited 3 shops and the current ongoing common card pin distribution. The distribution included both new referrals and no shows. Notably the show rate at the distribution was very low.  UNICEF and UNHCR met with the heads of Syrian Learning centers in Arsal  And conducted joint visits to two 2nd shift public schools. Syrian Learning centers provide the Syrian curriculum and was seen to host a very high number of students ranging around 5000 children. These centers are not supported by MEHE or any other actors, and the teachers work on a volunteer basis. Their requests focused on support related to stationary and teacher’s monthly fees.  The head of the Syrian Learning Centers, in coordination with the municipality are attempting to meet with the ministry of Education to target this issue especially since the Arsal context is different than any other area in the Bekaa. | Note | Note |
| Relief and Development stated the importance of UNICEF working closely with MEHE to incorporate more second shift schools in private schools and expanding the number of public schools present in Arsal. UNICEF emphasized that they work closely and with coordination with MEHE, specifically they work under the umbrella of MEHE and these requests were previously discussed. The increase in schools is a difficult attempt; however, the increase in second shift schools and capacitating public schools are under continuous discussion with MEHE. UNICEF worked with MEHE for several years previously to get approval on increasing the second shift schools in Arsal and hence these discussions require time.  It is important to note that UNICEF in coordination with MEHE are supporting the accelerated learning programs and homework support programs across the Bekaa and in Arsal specifically. | Note | Note |
| 1. **Dumping Site** |  |  |
| Knowing that there exists a transition among ACF, lost and Mercy Corps regarding WASH activities in Arsal, it was noticeable they lacked coordination. The municipality stresses that this lack of coordination led to multiple referrals/claims regarding gaps in dislodging not fulfilled by Lost and MC. It would have been good to recommend that ACF continue to cover certain areas until Lost and MC’s transition is finalized.  Municipality confirms that the dumping site is still operational in Wadi Amer. There exists a small conflict between contractors and this is due to the transition, but it is a problem being solved by the municipality.  UNICEF affirms that the shift from ACF to Lost and MC was initiated in December. And stresses the importance of the municipality sharing the claims/referrals for proper follow up.  ACF states that they are willing to support in any gap/requests pending approval of UNHCR and UNICEF. | Note | Note |
| Municipality sheds the light on the issue of the polluted drinkable water and the importance of this issue being a priority of discussion among local and international agencies. This issue has and continues to have health implications on both the host community and refugee community, specifically increase in cases reported admitted to the hospital due to kidney failure.  QRC are currently working on a project, pending Ministry’s feedback, that benefits around 40000 individuals in Arsal, through a plant that would serve drinking water; however, this project is not sufficient to cover the population of Arsal.  UNICEF asserts that this issue has been raised among the technical task force and was discussed two months ago. The main reason associated with the pollution of water is the issue of waste water management in Arsal. Action points and proposals were placed, but the problem resides in allocating funds to cover them. | Note | Note |
| 1. **ACF Project/WASH** |  |  |
| ACF is working on a short-term project in Arsal. The duration of this project is 5 months. One month dedicated to the identification of site as well as selection and briefing of beneficiaries, 3 months for the execution and a month for finalization and handing it over to the municipality. This project will assist around 60 vulnerable HHs aged 18 and above. These HHs represent 50% Syrian refugees, 30 % vulnerable Lebanese and 20 % of the Lebanese returnees. It aims on improving their income and utilizing their skills through participation in labour intensive work. Another aim is to serve as a disaster risk reduction and improve environmental services. | Note | Note |
| The proposed intervention of ACF is to establish a drainage canal network along previously identified, in coordination with municipality, roads that are frequently flooded. The canal network would prevent the flood of water to the cemetery, mosques and public schools. Estimated 45 workers will be engaged in this activity.  ACF is also aiming to engage in reforestation especially along side of the built canal to prevent erosion and soil preservation- an estimate of 10 workers required.  Third Activity Is the elaboration of Mosaic signs- building artistic design with stones. This activity particularly aims to encourage the participation of Lebanese and Syrian women who might refuse to participate in construction activities and of course strengthen co-existence.  Payments will be done on a bi-weekly basis through the KACHE methodology that Action Against Hunger is already using in Arsal, by implementing cash out solutions with partner local vendors.  On the 6th of April mission, the WASH representative and ACF met to confirm that the land is suitable for the project.  Approval from Ministry of Energy is still pending. | Note | Note |
| QRC emphasized on the need to meet with the municipality and ACF to discuss their projects. As QRC stated that they are currently implementing a project that complements ACF’s project. They were already granted approval of Ministry.  Arsal municipality to call for coordination meeting with QRC and ACF | Note | Note |
| Notably DRC, ACF and QRC are all implementing cash for work projects in Arsal. For instance, QRC is at the moment working on a rehabilitation of buildings of which the refugees assist in the process to receive free rent. DRC is also working on a project, the implementation process will start next week to build a retention wall in Arsal. | Note | Note |
| 1. **Arsal Market Assessment/ Livelihoods** |  |  |
| UNHCR and UNDP are coordinating to implement a research market assessment in Arsal. The objective is to provide an understanding on the current state pf the economy in Arsal, the skills and education level of both local community and refugees, duration and cases of unemployment and underemployment to explore the main barriers and most importantly explore and map the sectors with potential for growth and employment generation.  The findings of the study will be shared with all actors once finalized. | Note | Note |
| Action Points: | Partner/Actor | Date |
| Municipality to share the claims/referrals with UNICEF for follow up | Municipality | Asap |
| Share inputs from the technical meeting held two months ago with municipality | UNICEF |  |
| ACF to follow up with Ministry of Energy on Power for approval on their cash for work project | ACF |  |
| Municipality to coordinate a meeting among ACF and QRC for ways forward on their complimentary projects | QRC/Municipality/ACF |  |
| **Proposed date of next Arsal coordination meeting** |  | **09/05/2017** |