

East and Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes region
REGIONAL LIVELIHOODS WORKING GROUP

Organizers	Anna Gaunt (UNHCR) and Sarah King (NRC)		
Meeting Location	Virtual (WebEx)	Date and time	30 July 2020 09:00 – 10:30
Next Meeting	10 September 2020		

Agenda

1. Introductions (UNHCR and NRC)
2. Recap of the previous meeting
3. Presentations on COVID-19 impact and adoption by ReDSS, ILO, IRC, UNHCR/WB
4. AOB

Attendance

Agency	Participant	Email
AVSI	Simon Kiarie	simon.kiarie@avsi.org
AWAN Africa	Beatrice Gakuba	beatrice@awanafrica.com
CGD	Helen Dempster	hdempster@cgdev.org
CGD	Jimmy Graham	jimmygraham2@gmail.com
DAI	Charles Mulagwe	cmulagwe2001@yahoo.com
DRC	Alistair Cowan	alistair.cowan@drc.ngo
DRC	Diego Hakspiel	diego.hakspiel@drc.ngo
DRC	Natalie Topa	natalie.topa@drc.ngo
DRC	Nicoletta Buono	nicoletta.buono@drc.ngo
DRC	William Otoke	william.otoke@drc.ngo
DRC	Winfred Wangari	winfred.mwangi@drc.ngo
FAO	Deborah Duveskog	deborah.duveskog@fao.org
FAO	Koen Joosten	koen.joosten@fao.org
FAO	Zalina Kochenova	Zalina.Kochenova@fao.org
FSD Africa	David Darkwa	ddarkwa@fsduganda.or.ug
FSD Africa	Kuria Wanjau	Kuria@fsdafrica.org
FSD Africa	Marion Kimani	marion@fsdafrica.org
ICRC	Glenn Hughson	ghughson@icrc.org
ILO	Albert Okal	okal@ilo.org
ILO	James Agingu	joagingu@yahoo.co.uk
ILO	Nick Grisewood	grisewood@ilo.org
ILO	Paul Manyanja	pnmanyanja@yahoo.co.uk

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Agency	Participant	Email
IRC	Boniface Odhiambo	Boniface.Odhiambo@rescue.org
IRC	Christine Nandora	Christine.Nandora@rescue.org
IRC	Daphne Jayaisnghe	daphne.jayasinghe@rescue.org
IRC	Priscilla Dembetembe	Priscilla.Dembetembe@rescue.org
NRC	Sarah King	sarah.king@nrc.no
ReDSS	Aude Galli	a.galli@regionaldss.org
ReDSS	Cate Osborn	c.osborn@regional.dss
RefugePoint	Ayusa Ondieki	ondieki@refugepoint.org
UN-Habitat	Ang Jia Cong	jiacong.ang@un.org
UNHCR	Anna Gaunt	gaunta@unhcr.org
UNHCR	Celine Mersch	mersch@unhcr.org
UNHCR	Florence Nimoh	flossymo2008@gmail.com
UNHCR	George Ngechu	ngechu@unhcr.org
UNHCR	Gwendolyn Roeske	roeske@unhcr.org
UNHCR	Ibrahima Sarr	sarri@unhcr.org
UNHCR	Jed Fix	fix@unhcr.org
UNHCR	Laura De Somer	desomer@unhcr.org
UNHCR	Lucy Kariuki	kariuki@unhcr.org
UNHCR	Max Verdult	verdult@unhcr.org
UNHCR	Nancy Aburi	aburi@unhcr.org
UNHCR	Sebastian Herwig	herwig@unhcr.org
UNHCR	Yonatan Araya	araya@unhcr.org

Meeting minutes:

Introductions (Anna Gaunt, UNHCR and Sarah King, NRC)

Welcomed all Partners present and thanked them for taking time to meet and share through the Forum.

Reiterated the purpose of the Exchange Platform, which is centred on a vibrant information exchange and collaboration among partners in the Livelihoods humanitarian space.

Provided a recap of the previous meeting where Partners elaborated on the various Livelihoods interventions being implemented in the East and Horn of Africa region.

Explained the focus of the meeting being on focussed on presenting various studies and solutions that have been undertaken as relates to COVID-19 impact and adoption on livelihoods among the displaced populations in the region.

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Overview of presentations on COVID-19 impact and adoption

The following presentations were made by Partners and provided great insight on various interventions. The presentations have been uploaded on the Regional Livelihoods Working Group Portal for ease of access.

[ReDSS – COVID-19 and Durable Solutions - analysis of the impact of COVID-19](#) on durable solutions agenda and key takeaways from the country level workshops, highlighting in particular the declining employment options for IDPS in Somalia.

[ILO – COVID-19 impact on employment with a particular focus on informal economy](#). ILO reiterated their commitment to refugee economic inclusion in the region, in particular through the PROSPECTs partnership and is very interested to explore new partnership options.

[IRC – Locked Down and Left Behind](#): Presentation of key findings from the recently published report, highlights that refugees are particularly affected by the economic downturn, as they work mostly in highly affected sectors such as manufacturing and catering.

[UNHCR/WB – Socio economic Impact assessments COVID-19](#) – first findings from Kenya and research pipeline. Showing strong decline in employment and food security in Kenya.

Useful links:

- [Regional Livelihoods Working Group Portal](#)
- [IRC's report on COVID-19 and humanitarian cash which includes the analysis on risks of excluding displaced and refugee populations](#)
- [ILO resources on COVID-19](#)
- [UNHCR/WB Microdata](#)
- [Kenya COVID tracker](#)

AOB

Members were encouraged to send research, publications, highlights, webinars, meetings, etc that they would like uploaded to the Portal.

Members were requested to share proposed themes for upcoming meetings, as well as present key findings, lessons learnt, tools to the group by contacting Anna (UNHCR) and Sarah (NRC).

Schedule of meetings

The date for the monthly meeting will be rescheduled to avoid overlapping with other regional platforms' meetings.

Next meeting is scheduled for 10th September 2020, and subsequent meetings to reoccur every first Thursday in the month effective 01st October 2020.
