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| **PSN sub working group meeting Minutes** | | | | | |
| **Date** | **12 August 2020** | | **Venue** | Online | |
| **Agenda** | 1. Review of action points from previous meeting 2. Updates from members 3. Presentation: Help Age International – research into impact of COVID 19 on older refugees 4. Presentation: Give Directly – cash assistance programming in refugee contexts including for PSNs 5. AOB | | | | |
| **Attendance** | UNHCR, HI, AAR Japan, IRC, Alight, DRC, Help Age International, Save the Children, Give Directly, Refugee Law Project, CAFOMI | | | | |
| **Facilitator** | Gemma Woods (UNHCR) | | | | |
| **Discussion points** | | **Recommendations/Action points** | | | **Responsible** |
| 1. **Review of action points from previous meeting** 2. Share request to PSN SWG members to input into review of Policy on Persons with Disabilities – pending; a residential review was held the previous week in Jinja; HI and NUDIPU are the only members so far participating in the review. First draft of the new policy will be shared soon with the technical working group for review; PSN SWG members will be invited to input in the next round of consultations starting on 14th August. MGLSD will also share the assessment that was completed of the previous policy 3. HI to share learning around costs of living for PWDs – completed 4. Members to share experiences / lessons learnt from provision of cash to PSNs in humanitarian context - pending 5. Presentation on Give Directly’s programmes in Uganda refugee context – completed 6. Presentation on HAI’s assessment findings on impact of COVID 19 on older refugees – completed 7. Members to contribute to mapping of community-based structures providing support to PSNs – pending; input received from DRC so far 8. **Updates from members**   DRC: Have recently completed a study on the provision of multipurpose cash assistance to PSNs as part of the ECHO funded consortium. The draft study will be shared with members for comment.  DRC has also been working in Imvepi reception centre to receive the new arrivals from Zombo. Work is ongoing to identify cases of those who have experienced violence during flight, and providing sensitisation on referral pathways. In Kiryandongo, home visits to PSNs are ongoing and providing support (including NFIs) after assessments. Work is ongoing to build relationships between the various community structures, including those providing support to PSNs.  IRC: Sessions on legal awareness and legal counselling have recently been completed in Bidibidi. PSNs have been assisted at food distribution points and PSNs have also been provided with NFIs.  RLP: Support has been provided to the Association of Refugees with Disabilities in Kampala through 100,000UGX for food support for members. PSS has also been provided to members.  Alight: In Nakivale, building materials and clothes have been provided to PSNs, targeting new arrivals from February-March after assessment. PSNs have also been supported with soap distribution, conducted during cash distributions. In Kyaka, shelter construction for PSNs displaced due to the construction of a new school is ongoing. Procurement of assistive devices is also almost complete. In Rwamwanja, a challenge is being faced in that PSN caretakers are not being facilitated by the health partner if the PSN is hospitalised within the settlement – this will be raised with UNHCR during the mid year review.   1. **Presentation: Help Age International – research into impact of COVID 19 on older refugees**   See attached presentation for details and main findings  Discussion: HAI found that age categorisations on documentation were not always reliable and so decided to increase the age brackets included in the study to those aged 50+. Age disaggregation of the results will be available in the final report.  Some respondents were identified using the snowball effect, whereby previous respondents were asked if they knew others similar to themselves.  HAI were previously running older person friendly spaces prior to the pandemic, where older persons could meet together and act as peer support for one another. Whilst group meetings cannot take place at the moment, HAI want to identify older persons as resource persons within the community, building on the skills they have.  There is also a risk to having separate spaces for different groups within the community – child friendly spaces, women’s spaces, older persons’ spaces, etc – as it can lead to fragmentation of the community. Could it be better to have community centres for all groups? HAI is working on an intergenerational approach, where youth are engaged in supporting older persons and in learning from them.  On whether elder abuse is more common now under the COVID 19 conditions, HAI confirmed that it certainly existed before but has been exacerbated by the pandemic.  **4. Presentation: Give Directly – cash assistance programming in refugee contexts including for PSNs**  See attached presentation for details  Discussion: Research will be conducted around key questions to measure the impact of the cash assistance on households. It would be interesting to disaggregate the findings between PSN and non PSN households. The findings will be shared with the PSN SWG when ready.  On the lottery mechanism for determining when households will receive their cash assistance: GD found that this was the most efficient system for reassuring households that their cash assistance will be provided, according to a set schedule. PSN households were prioritized in the cash disbursement schedule.  On sharing data with UNHCR for updates in proGres v4: GD share reports on a monthly and quarterly basis with UNHCR registration focal point   1. **AOB**   **Next meeting: Wednesday 26 August, 2pm (online)**  Link to shared Google drive for PSN SWG with minutes of meetings and key documents: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1qh4gpf2cHNFrRCvOCyXaQpgV2GByOl_6> | | Share request to PSN SWG members to input into review of Policy on Persons with Disabilities  Members to share experiences / lessons learnt from provision of cash to PSNs in humanitarian context  Members to contribute to mapping of community-based structures providing support to PSNs | | | Emily / Ministry of Gender  LWF, DCA, FCA, DRC, others  All members |