Mobile Protection Team Workshop Report

8-9 February 2018

Day 1

Opening Speech

The workshop was opened by the UNHCR Senior Protection Officer, Marti Romero, with a speech on the importance of harmonizing the Protection Cluster's protection approach in Ethiopia through engaging the community. The importance of extending basic protection principles to the response to IDPs was highlighted. It was also noted that there will be continued support to government and protection partners for continued results.

She finally wished participants to have an open and interactive sessions throughout the two days training.

Presentation: What is Child Protection?

Presenter: Elizabeth Cossor; Child Protection Coordinator, CP GBV Sub-Cluster

Key points of discussion

- The different concerns that fall under the umbrella child protection were discussed.
- In terms of providing response, it was explained that not all children of concern may necessarily require protection. Because of this, the need should be assessed and identified.
- Regarding the work of the mobile teams, it was noted the teams do not have the capacity to be engaged in case management currently. However, awareness raising activities can be undertaken by them to prevent and mitigate practices that lead to child protection concerns.
- There are no referral pathways existing in the context of the work of the MPTs which makes it challenging for the teams to refer cases requiring support.
- Child Protection case management SOP was developed in 2016 at the national level which has a standard form for referral. This requires translation and contextualization.
- There is an upcoming case management training in Jijiga where BoWCA and other child protection partners will be participating.





Presentation: What is protection and protection monitoring?

Presenter: Marti Romero, Senior Protection Officer, UNHCR

The following points were put forward for reflection.

How to do protection in challenging situations?

- What are the strategic ways to deal with protection concerns?
- Why is protection important?
- How can we measure the different services are delivered from a protection perspective?

Within the discussions, the existence of complementarity between sectors was highlighted for a protection outcome. In addition, in light of responding in difficult situations taking the possible/available option (the low hanging fruit) to ensure protection concerns are addressed was explained.



Presentation: What is GBV?

Presenter: Alemayehu Bogale, Program Analyst, UNFPA

Key points discussed

Definition for GBV:

"GBV is an umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will and is based on socially ascribed (i.e. gender) differences between males and females".

- Root causes of GBV, consequence of GBV, preventive measures/activities and needed response were discussed.

Types of GBV

Gender based violence is categorized as below:

Physical violence

Sexual violence

Psychological/emotional violence

Harmful traditional practices and

Socio-economic Violence

The connection between GBV and emergencies were explained and discussed. Similarly, preventive measures as well as response activities were highlighted in line with the GBV guiding principles.



Mobile Protection team on Basic conce

Presentation: Elderly Persons and persons with disabilities

Presenter: Dereje Hailemariam, HelpAge International

Key points discussed

Definition for people with disabilities /PwD/:

"Includes women, men, girls and boys with long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments".

Their impairments may hinder their full and effective participation in society.

Older people /OP/:

"In many countries and cultures, being considered old is not necessarily a matter of age, but it is rather linked to circumstances such as being a grandparent, or showing physical signs /grey hair/".

The situation of PWD and OP in the Ethiopian context was also discussed. The vulnerable state of these group of people was explained in relation to the lack of recognition to their specific need in times of emergencies.



Presentation: Guideline on the Mobile Protection Teams

Presenter: Gelila Dereje, Protection Associate, Protection Cluster and Samira El Mouden, Protection Cluster Coordinator

Key points discussed

- The guideline which was prepared in consultation with partners was explained to reflect the ideal composition of teams, roles and responsibilities and well as operation.
- In relation to the guideline, DRC and Oxfam teams' composition and operating area was discussed.

DRC: has two teams operating in Fafan and Liban Zones. 6 IDP sites are covered in Fafan while 9 sites are covered in Liban. Weekly visits are undertaken to the IDP sites and use focus group discussion, key informant interviews as well as site level information gathering tool to conduct monitoring.

Oxfam: has 5 teams operating in Jarar and Doolo Zones. 20 IDP sites are covered in Doolo while 7 sites are covered in Jarar.



Presentation: Who are IDPs? Why are they important? Vulnerability assessment

Presenter: Olivia Wellesley-Cole, Protection Cluster Co-Facilitator, Jijiga

Key points discussed in relation with the Kampala Convention

- Definition of an IDP
- Factors leading to displacement
- Ethiopian context vis avis the definition and the factors

Involvement of the MPTs in the durable solutions for IDPs. To the extent of mainstreaming protection in the durable solutions process e.g participate in the return, relocation or reintegration of IDPs to ensure protection principles are incorporated.



Presentation: Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) and Protection Monitoring

Presenters: Robert Trigwell, DTM Coordinator and Musa Al Asad, IMO, Global Protection Cluster

Key discussion points

DTM

- DTM team go to all IDP sites to gather information on IDP situation including figures
- Every two months the DTM is issued
- DTM does not look at returns which is a gap which is being worked on to be addressed
- The DTM is backed by Emergency tracking tool which captures displacement that have occurred after DTM has assessed a site within a given time.
- The DTM is a government endorsed document

Protection Monitoring

- The process towards conducting protection monitoring was explained to follow the following; protection analysis development of protection strategy response
- The definition of protection was provided as;
 - "systematically and regularly collecting, verifying and analyzing information over an extended period of time in order to identify violations of rights & protection risks for populations of concern for the purpose of informing effective responses"
- In terms of how monitoring can be conducted by the MPTs, the mobile teams will move in due course toward household monitoring to identify different vulnerabilities



Day 2

Day 2 began with discussion on some of the protection response that are currently being provided in the context of the Somali-Oromiya Regional conflict.

The following were raised by participants:

- No adequate response in the Oromiya region and as a result beneficiaries do not have the willingness to provide information. How will this enable the mobile teams to operate?
- There should be management of expectations when conducting assessments

- It was noted, mainstreaming of protection activities are on-going; reflected through participation in assessments, injecting protection principles within sectors' assessment tools etc. Protection information is also gathered through different means. Focus however should be given to how analysis can be undertaken.

A. Group Exercise:

Discussion in three main groups (General Protection, CP, and GBV) ----type of issues that are likely to be addressed by the MPTs

GBV concerns in Somali

- Domestic violence
- Harmful traditional practices including early marriage
- Denial of services (access to education, health services..) for lack of economic empowerment and gender related discriminations

GBV concerns in Oromiya

- Rape within IDP community and mixed situations
- Family breakdown (e.g. divorce)
- Polygamy
- Psychological trauma

In terms of contributing to the mitigation measures of GBV, awareness raising was pointed out as one of the approaches that would bring changes. In some communities including Somali, issues like domestic violence is underreported for fear of further attack and at times because of the belief that such matters should remain undisclosed. In linkage with this, the need to encourage the community to battle GBV concerns through reporting to the concerned bodies was strongly put forth.

Attitudinal change and record of incidents among others were agreed to measure the effectiveness of efforts to address GBV.

Child Protection Concerns

- Child separation
- Psychosocial distress
- Child labour-pre and post displacement
- Sexual violence

Response

- Develop key messages on child marriage, child labour, family separation and psychosocial support
- Conduct assessment and registration of unaccompanied and separation of children
- Expand case management activities: NGOs should have a role to support case management and capacity building works for Woreda BoWCA need to be undertaken
- Access to services for sexual violence survivors---e.g. MPTs to support in terms of providing transportation (ambulance) or covering cost of transportation

- MPTs to be involved in family reunification activities---this led to the discussion on the need for the BoWCAs in the Somali and Oromiya Regions to coordinate in term of family reunification activities.

General Protection

- Durable solutions should be supported by the Protection Cluster
- MPTs should be involved in durable solutions processes e.g. Peaceful co-existence
 initiatives, insuring basic principles of protection are respected throughout the process (IDPs
 informed on what durable solution entails, assessment in areas of relocation, ensuring
 willingness of hosting communities on the relocation of IDPs etc.)
- DPPB in the Somali Region coordinates durable solutions and advice to this body to consider protection principles is recommended.
- The Protection Cluster should be committed towards continuing building the capacity of government on solutions and basic principles of protection.

B. Experience sharing by MPTs (DRC and Oxfam)

Presenters: Mekbib Aschalew, Protection Manager, DRC and Abdirahman Arab, Protection Officer, Oxfam





C. Presentation: What are referral pathways and how to map local services

Presenter: Nassir Mohammed, Protection Officer, UNHCR Jijiga

Definition: "referral system can be defined as a comprehensive institutional framework that connects various entities with well-defined and delineated mandates, responsibilities and powers into a network of cooperation, with the overall aim of ensuring the protection and assistance of beneficiaries".

The presentation revolved around why mapping of services is necessary and how it is conducted, what referral and referral pathway entails, the steps that should be undertaken to develop a referral system and the different referral systems available that are used in different operations.

It was explained in order to ensure the effectiveness of a referral pathway/system in place, a feedback mechanism should also be designed.



D. Discussion on coordination and working with ----other MPTs, the regional Protection Cluster Coordinator, other Clusters in the Somali Region and the national Protection Cluster in Addis Ababa.

Facilitator: Olivia Wellesley-Cole, Protection Cluster co facilitator, Jijiga

The discussion was focused on how the Jijiga Protection Cluster coordinates with the MPTs in the Somali Region. The inter-cluster coordination meetings, the protection cluster meetings and other similar fora were explained as some of the platforms used to coordinate with partners.

In terms of reporting, the process of how the Jijiga Protection Cluster reports to the national Protection Cluster and then provides information to the ICCG at Jijiga level was explained.

The MPTs in the Somali Region provide their bi-weekly reports to their hosting organization (DRC and Oxfam) that later further analyze and share the same to the Protection Cluster in Jijiga. These reports are further shared with the national level Protection Cluster that later share these with the CP GBV Sub-Cluster at the national level.

Given that there is no sub-national Protection Cluster in Oromiya Region where MPTs will soon begin implementation, the reporting structure for the MPTs in the region is not sorted. It was therefore recommended for the MPTs to report to their hosting organization (HelpAge/Humanity and Inclusion and IRC) that will later share reports to the national Protection Cluster as well as the Oromiya CP GBV Sub-Cluster and the national CP GBV Sub-Cluster.

E. Panel Discussion-- Working with Government Officials – Risks and Opportunities

Facilitator: Bedel Abdi, Jijiga Protection Cluster

The panelists were participants from BoWCA and DPPB in the Somali and Oromiya Regions.

Somali

Administrative structure: BoWCA is present at the regional, Woreda and Kebele levels while DPPB has presence at the Regional, Zonal, Woreda and Kebele levels.

Coordination: BoWCA accompanies the DRC MPTs in each of their IDP site visits while the MPTs just coordinate with DPPB to implement their activities. MPTs notes that there is smooth relationship between them and the regional authorities.

Challenges: there is no regularity in terms of the government staff that accompany the MPTs' visits. As a result the government representatives from BoWCA have limited background on the work of the MPTs when they join team visits. The lack of feedback to protection concerns was raised as a major challenge.

Oromia

There is a task force established at Woreda level that looks at children concerns. This task force has strong decision making power. Budget concerns are decided by this task force. There are also para legal committees that look at legal concerns in relation to children.

Similarly there are community structures that are established to respond to child protection concerns.

In terms of expectation regarding working with MPTs, it was noted the work of the teams is very much appreciated and welcomed. Social workers are currently being recruited in 12 Woredas as well as child protection volunteers. Mapping of services and development actors will be conducted where MPTs will be expected to support the process. As per the regional response plan, service provision will being in 12 Woredas and it will be an opportunity to use the support of the MPTs that are present in these Woresas.

Closing Speech

Marti Romero, Senior Protection Officer, UNHCR thanked participant for the interactive discussion during the two days training. She also added that demonstrated program flexibility of protection partners has been appreciated and encouraged to have this kind of approach in the overall protection response. Moreover, she stressed on the need for this kind of events to guide and adjust the direction of protection response. And finally, the need for supporting government and communities operating on the ground was noted.

List of Participants

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