



Date / time / venue	Thursday, 4 March 2021 – 11:30-14:00 – MS Teams
Attendees (19)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SGFPN co-chairs (UNHCR & UNW) ▪ Inter-Agency Coordination IM team (UNHCR) ▪ JHF / Financing Unit Team (OCHA) ▪ GiHA Review Team (UNW) ▪ Basic Needs Sector SGFP (TdH-Italia) ▪ Education Sector SGFP (NRC) ▪ Food Security Sector SGFP (WFP) ▪ Livelihoods Sector SGFP (SCJ) ▪ WASH Sector SGFP (ACTED) ▪ GBV Sub-Sector SGFP (JRF) ▪ Protection Sector Chair (UNHCR) ▪ DAFT Chair (UNHCR) ▪ Gender Expert (OCHA) ▪ Gender Expert (UNHCR)

1. Welcoming remarks by SGFPN co-chairs

Agenda:

- JHF update on the process of an allocation from gender perspective.
- Key findings and recommendations from GiHA review and way forward.
- Gender Monitoring Dashboard: Health Sector practical show case.
- AOB

UNHCR and UN Women co-chairs welcomed the participants and thanked the speakers for sharing their time with the working group presenting such relevant topics. UNHCR co-chair quickly walked the audience through the agenda which focus on three main topics of interest to the group. The first topic on JHF update will be presented by Amani Salah and Hanna Abu-Barham from OCHA; GiHA review by Jakob Lund from UNW, and Health Sector showcase by the UNHCR's Inter-Agency Coordination Unit, Samira Smairat and Naseem Taqatqa. UN Women co-chair delivered a quick introductory note on GiHA Review recalling that the subject was mentioned to the network a couple of times in the past regarding progress and in September/October about the preliminary findings. GiHA Review thus appears today as a sort of concluded exercise in terms of research, key findings and recommendations, aiming to open the discussion with the different coordination bodies, including the SGFPN, on how such recommendations can be prioritized and materialised in the humanitarian response.

For further information, please contact:

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- *Amy Henderson, Co-chair of SGFPN, UNW, amy.henderson@unwomen.org*

2. JHF Update on the Process of an Allocation from Gender perspective

The Jordan Humanitarian Fund was presented directly by OCHA for the first time to the network being the opportunity recognized and thanked by the Head of OCHA's Financing Unit, Amani Salah. The objective was to shade more light on the process of the JHF and see how we can be more inclusive remaining on the top of things when come to funded projects, as well as having the network better assisting OCHA and so ensuring that gender and protection are well integrated.

JHF Allocation Process:

- Starts with the registration with OCHA by all partners, recording due diligences and capacity assessment. Based on partners successful registration process entitlement and eligibility are granted to apply for the JHF. Following this, and given a certain given year, the next step of the process starts when OCHA launch the allocation which is called
- “Standard Allocation” and where the needs and the parities of the allocation are identified from the sector leads and sector members as it is a coordinated process where the most urgent priorities aim to be represented in OCHA allocation document.
- At this stage, sector members have discussions on the parities which are then shared by the sector leads with the Inter-Sector Working Group (ISWG), and where it is decided on which sectors will apply based on the funding level, urgent needs, priorities, etc. Those constitutes overall elements that goes to prioritize the urgent sectors and avoid stretching on the allocation as the fund is very small.

However, protection and gender are always mainstreamed in the projects, from time to time, in addition to the mainstreaming of protection in the projects, protection may appear as stand-alone based on priorities. Once the allocation is launched, partners are invited to apply and are advised to closely coordinate with respective Sector Leads and Sector Gender Focal Points (SGFPs) to make sur that their projects are appropriately targeting and setting the agreed priorities in the allocation document; that gender is appropriately mainstreamed to ensure that activities are aligned with the priorities; and that guidance is provided by sector leads on activities e.g. geographically focused from the designing to the reporting phases.

Regarding the proposals in terms of gender, OCHA is also looking into the assessments, log-frames, and budgets for the activities. During this process the contribution of the SGFPs is central as it helps to make sure that gender is well captured in the proposals. The following level occurs once the allocation is launched. A joint work starts with the Sector Leads aiming to strategically identify the TRCs following the guidance previously shared. Then they start working on the formulation of the TRCs who should be comprised by N/NGOs, I/NGOs, UN agencies, SGFPs and the Sector Lead.

OCHA’s Humanitarian Affairs Officer, Haya Alayed, continued building on JHF presentation highlighting the composition of the Technical Review Committees (TRC’s) and the role of the SGFPs participating in it by reviewing projects from gender lenses, and filing the score card with appropriate analysis and recommendations to the partners. Furthermore, OCHA’s role within the process, is also to ensure that TRCs meetings are counting with the presence of the above-mentioned representatives. There is a score card that contains segments fully dedicated to gender aiming to help the evaluation of the projects against how, and at which level, gender is embedded in or not. When gender criteria and requirements are weak or inexistent, OCHA send the projects proposals back to the partners to be reviewed in order that gender is integrated as part of the selection criteria.

OCHA’s Humanitarian Programme Officer, Hanna Abu-Barham, walked participants through the score card tool, which is key to support the review, highlighting the key role of SGFPs within the process. Once the review from partners is done, the proposals are sent back to the SGFPs for new review. The Quick Guide¹ on SGFPN and JHF jointly developed by OCHA and UNHCR, was mentioned as the document aims to facilitate the understanding of the JHF process in terms of gender and SGFPs role. It was noted by OCHA that in the past two years SGFPs were not always part of the TRCs representing some of the sectors. Some of the reasons might be that simply SGFPs were not involved in the process from the beginning. It was also emphasized by OCHA that this meeting appears as a great opportunity to apply a new method starting from now, aiming to ensure full implication of the SGFPs from the first to the last stage. To fil the gaps and further make sectors and partners benefit from the key support of the SGFPs, the process was reviewed and a new method will be adopted to further strengthen roles and SGFPs participation over the different stages of the JHF process. Thereby, SGFP’s participation is recommended to be engaged as follows:

- **1st stage, when sectors are prioritizing:** SGFPs helps the identification of gender gaps and vulnerable groups in each sector and then ISWG through sector leads.
- **2nd stage, when launching the allocation:** SGFPs may provide key guidance to I/NGOs partners on gender matters.
- **3rd stage, during the review of the proposals:** SGFPs participation on sectors TRCs and filing the scorecard.
- **4th stage, during the completion and allocation:** SGFPs feedback to partners during a dedicated meeting convened for feedback purposes.

Still related to the score card, some other main topics were emphasised, e.g. strategic relevance, which is seriously taken into consideration by OCHA, and where SGFPs can do the difference when reviewing the proposals e.g. “sector’s highest outstanding priorities”, “identified urgent needs”, and “do no harm” principle. Topics related to programmatic relevance are also considered, e.g. clear description and identification of beneficiaries and/or vulnerable groups; the logical framework of the projects; if gender is integrated in a realistic manner throughout the different sections of the project; and if protection considerations are also taken into account during project planning. Another component of the process is cost effectiveness which is not a direct subject of concern for the SGFPs. In return, management and monitoring being also one of the main components appears as one of the areas of focus, in particular regarding the reporting and monitoring plan along with any feedback or complaints received from beneficiaries (under the AAPs) are areas to look out when preparing for the technical review committee meetings. The very last component of the score card is linked to coordination which is fully under Sector Leads responsibility.

The JHF informative session was completed with a quick overview of Gender with Age Marker (GAM) developed by the Inter-Agency Steering Committee (IASC) and which is integrated into the GANTS Management System used on the online platform for partners to develop and submit the proposals. What is important to highlight here was that the fact that sometimes the GAM appears in the project proposals doesn’t mean that partners are expressing the GAM in an appropriate manner. When this happens, projects must be further analysed and investigated. As an example, it was indicated projects which are likely to contribute to gender equality across all age groups. Immediately this appears as unrealistic and is certainly not translating the real situation. It remains a project called for under the GAM, but this must be checked with the partner who will be requested to do amendments. In cases like this one, the decision is not coming from the partner but rather based on a survey that is integrated inside the project. As the survey constitutes a technical component of the tool, technical improvements are being added in order to be possible to see all entries entered by partners regarding the GAM.

The GAM application was introduced a while ago and it aims to be not only a learning tool but also works as a qualification for a project, even though not scoring the highest, and where organizations can work to increase their learning on gender mainstreaming in the projects by looking how SGFPs may support on these specific matters. It is also important to carefully note how the GAM is being integrated in the designing phases of the projects.

Discussion:

- One relevant question was raised by the Education SGFP, Dina Almasri regarding involvement on needs assessment, monitoring, etc. and wondering if a specific budget allocation to gender mainstreaming is expected? OCHA clarified that if the project is a gender project like a GBV one, a full budget for the entire project is considered. Otherwise, as gender is a cross-cutting issue, there will be no particularly budget allocation.
- Another key question was made by GBV SGFP, Nermin Sharif about the timelines once the call for proposals comes out. OCHA clarified that 2021 round has not yet been decided and that launching an allocation depends on the existing resources and contributions received from donors at the time. It is anticipated that the first allocation will happen around the end of March/beginning of April, with the second allocation happening sometime around September. In terms of timelines for the allocation process, generally when the allocation is launched, partners are given two weeks to prepare and submit applications, and about 7 to 8 working days to the sectors to revise and give feedback based on TRC meetings.

- OCHA suggested that when calls for proposals are launched, the SFGPN will also be notified in the same email usually sent the Sector Leads. This will inform SGFPs in due time and allow them to plan the respective calendars foreseeing when activities are expected to happen.
- It was highlighted by UNHCR's co-chair that having an informative JHF session before the 2021 first call is meant to help ensure coordination between OCHA and SGFPN, as in the past two years the engagement was inconsistent. In addition to OCHA colleague's comprehensive information, UNHCR's co-chair also delivered a quick read-out of the new Quick Guide SGFPN & JHF prepared jointly with OCHA.
- Presenters noted that a couple of weeks ago there were some challenges noted when accessing the GAM tool (and which in principle is solved) to kindly refer to OCHA through OCHA colleagues at Country Pool Fund <https://www.unocha.org/jordan/donor-contributions>

Annexe 1



Quick Guide SGFPN
& JHF [Final].pdf

For further information, please contact:

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- *Haya Alayed, Humanitarian Affairs Officer, OCHA, alayed@un.org*

3. Key findings and recommendations from GiHA review and way forward.

UNW Co-chair introduced the GiHA Review conducted under the Humanitarian Partners Forum (HPF) over the past year. The review has been done in partnership with UN Women and UNHCR chairing the reference group, as well as several other partners in the humanitarian response and who have worked on the task team undertaking a lot of research, as UNFPA, WHO, WFP and JIF. It was a huge collaborative effort to undertake the research. The GiHA Review was sort of gender audit across the entire humanitarian response and explored how programme standards and roles and responsibilities include gender. The study was undertaken across all sectors, and included an extensive desk review, followed by key informant interviews last summer. The objective was to learn how partners can strengthen gender in humanitarian response. Key findings and recommendations were presented to the reference group a couple of weeks ago. The UN Women GiHA consultant Jakob Lund presented the findings and recommendation and expressed his high appreciation to the dedicated people working on gender and continually contributing with their engagement and huge efforts to ensure that gender is part of the humanitarian response and long-term engagement in the humanitarian action. Recommendations and suggested actions are linked to global commitments, international standards and law aiming that this fits to the Jordanian context as relevant. The review is a kind of starting point for the conversation that allow us together in this group, as well as in other fora, to determine the best way that we can put these crucial recommendations and the suggested actions into action? How do we make sure that each one of us here can take responsibility for the tasks that are relevant to us if that makes sense? This also includes relationships with other networks, the localization task team it will be an important NCOC recommendations and key findings.

The key findings and recommendations were categorized into five different groups:

1. Leadership and Accountability: the recommendation is to strengthen accountability throughout the system with a stronger leadership and advocacy. It was also often highlighted by the review's respondents that gender should be a recurrent agenda point, e.g. at the HPF meetings. Mechanisms and action plans to implement GiHA should also be sought. Regarding Gender Mainstreaming, firstly the recommendation is that Gender Analysis and SADD are systematically integrated during the planning phase into both sector plans and JRP throughout all stages of the program cycle. Secondly, to maintain robust focus on SRHR and GBV, but in parallel raise awareness on GTHA, empowerment, full participation of women and girls and other vulnerable groups. It was also emphasized that GTHA

are important enough in themselves as tend to transform gender dynamics, power, etc. but at the same time important parts addressing SRHR but also GBV.

2. **Financing:** the recommendation is to improve mechanisms for tracking of funding levels; establish financial target for program allocation (something that we look into at international standards level, but we have to find something that would be applicable and relevant to Jordan context).
3. **Coordination:** it is recommended: (i) revue sectors ToRs and update them as necessary to increase women participation in coordination mechanisms at all levels; (ii) establish accountability measures; (iii) strengthen SGFPN participation, expertise, capacity, and accountability.
4. **Monitoring:** recommendations are, (i) to undertake system-wide revision of M&E mechanisms and processes to ensure gender responsive M&E mechanisms; (ii) to establish some kind of performance indicators including qualitative ones for gender within sector performance surveys as well as the review mechanisms for the coordinated needs assessment.

Next Steps:

The GiHA Task Team led by UNW will begin consultations with the different stakeholders, including SGFPN, and asking them to support the task team in prioritizing recommendations, and identifying some key actions that can be taken by who want to do this and support. Over the coming month contacts with the task team will be maintained by UNW. Further discussions have to take place but the feeling is that the SGFPN is ahead of the curve with 2021 workplan addressing needs, use of the GAM, gender analysis, strengthening the reporting process, etc. which will support implementing some of the recommendations so the SGFPN will do a great contribution. GiHA intends to report soon to the HPF with the key findings, recommendations, prioritization, some proposed actions, and a basic action plan.

Discussion:

- Two points were made by IAC Associate Samira Smairat in relation to the specific role of the SGFPN and the lack of specific funds allocation to gender may remain problematic and challenging. Some activities can continue to be done by the network with the existing limited resources but continuing lacking the necessary means to go beyond what it is already being done. GiHA consultant noted that the SGFPN is already playing an important role moving the lines of some of the findings and recommendations. The concern about funding was acknowledged as legitimate and is something raised by the GiHA Reference Group as well. At this stage the goal is to develop an action plan; once actions are known then it would be more possible to know what resources exist and what resources might be needed. The point is valid and remains a decision that must be taken according to how things unfold.
- Regarding the UNW role, it is acknowledged that SGFPN as a limited role and does not have control of what is happening in different organizations and projects but it can continue doing advocacy with the sector chairs and coordinators to come up with a system to help address gaps.
- Another comment raised by the Education SGFPN, Dina Almasri regarding the that GiHA findings sounds alarming and the feeling that Jordan is behind the game. UNW reassured that in fact the report is not that negative and that during the interviews, respondents shown their satisfaction about the progress in gender in the humanitarian response, and acknowledged a very strong political will to make sure that we're always increasing our gender capacity and that there are still areas to strengthen.

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- o Jakob Silas Lund, Gender in Humanitarian Action Specialist, UNW, jakobsilas.lund@unwomen.org

4. Gender Monitoring Dashboard: Health Sector Showcase

This presentation is linked to the previous sessions and discussions that previously took place within the SGFPN on this subject, aiming to further support the SGFPs preparing the Gender Monitoring Dashboard quarterly exercise, as planned for this year. This show case for Health Sector intend to be a practical exercise using data from Q4 2020 as data is recorded and available. The exercise also uses as reference only two indicators to facilitate. The reference tool to do this exercise is the ActivityInfo and 3RP Refugee Monitor Sectors Dashboards which are managed by UNHCR's Inter-Agency Coordination and Information Management Team and it is fed by all partners in a monthly basis. The benchmarks and available tools to report against are also provided in the template guidance, e.g. work plans, strategies, GAM and GEMs, AGDs, availability, accessibility, acceptability, quality, etc.

Each Sector is reporting against specific indicators which will be the reference and basis to report on gender against activities and interventions under each indicator. The reason Health was selected for this exercise is since for the moment the position is vacant, and Health Sector is currently under the call for SGFP nomination process.

Quality of reporting was highlighted e.g. when we report saying that 3,245 beneficiaries were assisted with modern family planning methods, this figure is not being reported based on SADD, as it is not showing how many women, girls, boys, or men received this specific assistance. To address this issue, it is important to refer to other available reference tools such as sector work plans to use and formulate recommendations to the sector to address the gap in the work plan and future reporting. Analytical thinking also should be applied in order to take into consideration other factors that sometimes influence positively or negatively work plans, in particular gender activities as for example the accessibility to beneficiaries due to movement restrictions during the current Covid-19 pandemics where some planned activities were replaced by new ones; e.g. CASH for health. The link to AI platform will be sent by Naseem Taqatqa to the SGFPs to access the tool.



Gender Monitoring
Dashboard_Showca

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5. AOB

N/A

Action Points	Responsible	Deadlines
o An ad hoc meeting will be convened to further discuss GiHA recommendations.	Co-chairs	Soon
o Link to AI platform will be sent separately to the SGFPs.	Naseem Taqatqa	Before Q1 reporting period
o An ad hoc meeting will be convened before the launch of Gender Monitoring Dashboard exercise for Q1 2021.	Co-chairs	Soon

Next SGFPN Monthly Meeting

The next monthly meeting will take place Thursday, 1 April 2021, from 11:30 to 13:00 via MS-Teams