

**Mafraq Monthly Coordination Meeting – Minutes**  
**01.08.2016**

<p><b>Agenda</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Update on work permit and FAQs and deadline</b></li> <li>- <b>Livelihood matrix</b></li> <li>- <b>Update on community based initiatives</b></li> <li>- <b>Brief update on RAS/refugee arrivals /current activities</b></li> <li>- <b>Security update</b></li> <li>- <b>AOB</b></li> </ul>	
<p><b>Update on work permit and FAQs and deadline:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following the announcement from the GoJ regarding the waiving of fees for annual work permits until the 4th of July, the grace period was and extended for another 3 months until early October. FAQs prepared by UNHCR outline work permit information for Syrian. The FAQs were circulated among partners, reviewed and discussed for members to be able to provide counselling for refugees.</li> <li>• 22,400 work permit issued for Syrian till now and the Government expected the number to rise after the decision of extended the grace period for another 3 months.</li> <li>• Only 2% from the total work permits that issued were for females. Women should be encouraged to apply for work permits.</li> <li>• 6000 work permits issued in agriculture sector.</li> <li>• <b>One major development is that Syrian refugees working in agriculture are no longer tied to one employer only. They can apply through agricultural associations and will be able to work in 3- 4 locations with one permit.</b></li> <li>• Social security contribution is compulsory for all sectors except for two sectors: domestic work and agriculture. But refugees should be informed that if the contract is terminated the employee can retrieve the amount they and their employer contributed for social security subscription and get their money back.</li> <li>• Any organisation which intends to recruit Syrian workers can approach the labour office with the number of Syrians workers that they need for each projects, and they will review the request for each individual project. <b>The Mafraq labour office is keen to facilitate the delivery of more work permits so it is worth approaching them.</b></li> <li>• Syrians from Camps are also allowed to issue work permits, but they need also to consider the matter of issuing leave permit from the camp.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action Point :</b> Arabic and English versions of FAQ will be shared by Catherine</p> <p>All partners to distribute widely to refugees and hold information sessions.</p>
<p><b>Livelihood matrix :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was a brief presentation provided by Maher (UNHCR ), as there are now more opportunities to develop livelihood activities. In order to ensure that all organizations work in coordinated manner and make the most of the new opportunity, came the idea to map out the current and upcoming livelihood activities in Mafraq urban. This should allow the operating organization to avoid duplication, address gaps, and improve advocacy with donors and funding distribution.</li> <li>• 3W matrix shared and received feedbacks from five organizations/companies: Acted , ICMC , CARE , IUCC and Luminus Education.</li> <li>• <b>Any other organization caring out or planning for livelihood activities is kindly requested to send their inputs for the Matrix. The 4 organizations mentioned above will be requested for additional information.</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Action Point :</b>the consolidated 3W Matrix will be shared by Livia</p> <p>Any other organization caring out or planning for livelihood activities is kindly requested to send their inputs for the Matrix.</p> <p>Acted , ICMC , CARE , IUCC and Luminus Education will be requested for additional information.</p>

<p><b>Update on community based initiatives :</b></p> <p>A brief update on community based initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 2-hour follow up discussion was held on 01 August with all the staff who had participated in the Com based initiatives workshops. The discussion focused on more specific examples of what could be done. The group decided to follow an area-based approach (rather than a thematic approach).</li> <li>• Emphasis on the community and encourage the sustainability , the community qualified enough to cope /response with the crises</li> <li>• Organization can built the trust with the community with many approaches.</li> <li>• Some area also need to focus on such as: women empowerment, psychosocial services, support PWDs and recycling.</li> <li>• Key people in refugee community could support the initiatives (mothers, leaders , university students- they can support youth in tertiary education )</li> <li>• There is a need to invite program staff/managers to enhance the commitment towards the initiative.</li> <li>• <b>All partners concerned are strongly encouraged to see what funds can be allocated to support com based initiatives within the current budgets.</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Action point:</b> Irene (UNHCR) to call for meeting to discuss the suggestions. Invite case workers and managers to ensure decision level staff are present.</p>
<p><b>Brief update on RAS/refugee arrivals /current activities :</b></p> <p>A Brief presentation of the trend of refugee arrival since beginning of the year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As of 31<sup>st</sup> of July the total of 26,886 refugees had been registered in Raba'a since the beginning of the year. <b>Out of the total, 25,838 refugees were new arrivals.</b></li> <li>• The rate of new arrivals fluctuated greatly : Jan 1554; Feb 1956; Mar 2891; Apr 7554; May 8157; June 3882.</li> <li>• 19,466 entered though Rogoban cross point while 6,345 entered through Hadalat.</li> <li>• 68% of new arrivals have mentioned that they fled Syria due to IS related events as one of the reasons of flight.</li> <li>• Main city were new arrivals came from is Aleppo with 35% followed by Homs with around 25%.</li> <li>• Following a security incident, as of 23 June, the border was closed and no new arrivals were registered at RAS.</li> <li>• 795 war wounded were registered in RAS upon their discharge from hospitals. Mainly they entered though the north-west borders.</li> <li>• In addition to the above, UNHCR in RAS registered 795 refugees who were brought by the police from all areas of Jordan to be allocated to the camps.</li> <li>• The decision of the destination camp from RAS is belong to the authorities, however, UNHCR provide advocacy for special cases.</li> <li>• Since the border closure, UNHCR in RAS continues to receive refugees, in particular war wounded and police cases, provide counselling to refugees and conduct advocacy as required.</li> <li>• <b>During the period (Jan – July), UNHCR team in coordination with SRAD prepared 37,138 documents to be delivered to refugees during the urban verification</b></li> </ul>	

<b>exercise.</b>	
<p><b>Security Update:</b></p> <p>UNHCR security officer briefed the partners on the security situation for refugee camps and throughout Jordan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As the northern border still closed and all program are suspended, the basic services are still available like provision of water by UNICEF, but no physical access for any organization in berm.</li> <li>Refugee leaders in berm held a couple of meetings with humanitarian actors and Jordanian authorities (1 KM ) inside Jordanian territory to discuss provision of essential assistance. It was just agreed that one-time monthly food rations would be delivered.</li> <li><b>Road accidents continue to be the main cause of casualties: all humanitarian partners are reminded to drive safely and wear their seat belts.</b></li> </ul>	
<p><b>Update on the meeting with Mafraq governor :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mohamad Altaher – UNHCR: UNHCR Mafraq Liaison Officer briefed the members about the meeting with Mafraq governor with the presence of : GID ,Head of Districts, Head Of Sub-Districts and head of Municipalities</li> <li>Organizations that want to implement new programmes/activities and they don't know which programme to implement are encouraged to get in touch with the mayors as they know exactly what their area need, once decided the approval is needed by the relevant ministries, after the approval organizations should contact the Governor to facilitate the provision of service, and the head of district or sub-district.</li> <li>Organizations that have any new activities in Mafraq Governorate, could communicate with the governor directly through an official memo or visit to the office, the Governor is happy to advocate with other authorities to facilitate the project</li> <li>To enhance coordination between the authorities and the humanitarian community, the governor requested all partners to share basic information about their organization and the services they provide. Based on this request, UNHCR has developed a brief info sheet which has been approved by the governor. The sheet will be circulated to all partners for their inputs. UNHCR will hand over all docs to the governor's office.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action Point:</b> UNHCR to circulate the info sheet and all partners to return it filled to UNHCR by 24 August.</p>
<p><b>NEXT MEETING: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> Aug , 11:00 am, UNHCR Mafraq.</b></p>	

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