

Shelter / NFI / CCCM Bhamo Cluster Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 26, 2014

UNHCR Office, Bhamo

Attendees: KBC (for the beginning of the meeting), SI, UNHCR, OCHA, Cesvi & Metta

Advanced notification sent that not attending meeting: KMSS-BMO & UNICEF WaSH

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action / Actor / Date
Introductions and review of previous meeting	Cluster Coordinator for Kachin and Northern Shan State (CCK) welcomed the participants. Stressed that the meeting would be kept “short” following requests from Cluster members to have more technical meetings and shorter general cluster meetings, and keep them more “action oriented”. Meeting would be in 3 main parts: -Updates from Cluster on each of the three sectors & camp profiling -Winter items, gaps and solutions -Open forum for all participants to raise issues, share experience, ask questions and AOB.	
Cluster updates <i>Shelter</i>	CCK informed that the plans for shelter constructions for the period July to Dec 2014 were mostly confirmed and as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNHCR and its partners (IPs) for about 1,100 family units and around 1,800 kitchens. The number of kitchen is significantly more important to compensate gaps were kitchens had not been built at the same time as shelters in the past. • Metta 300 units in Woi Chyai and around 200 units (70 completed) for recently displaced people from South Kachin and Northern Shan States. • DRC has completed 140 family units in Pa Ka Taung and will complete the needed units in this camp before the end of the year (208). • World Vision, KMSS-BMO and MDCG have contributed together an additional 150 units to answer the recent emergency. <p>A table summarizing these data will be circulated within 1 week after this meeting.</p>	<u>Action point:</u> Cluster Lead to provide CD with all documents mentioned in this part to all Cluster members for their ease. Cluster Lead circulates a compiled table of temporary shelter construction plans for July-Dec 2014.

<p>CCCM</p>	<p>SI inquired about recently modified construction plans for Edin Site in Momauk KBC Camp. Cluster Shelter Expert gave a short update and CCK encouraged SI and KBC, both present at the meeting, to pursue this discussion bilaterally. More generally, CCK encouraged all actors from WaSH and shelter sectors to contact each other directly once projects are confirmed. Cluster is there to support coordination between actors, but once plans are confirmed and WaSH and shelter actors are put in contact, also important they continue the day-to-day coordination bi-laterally to reach best possible levels of efficiency.</p>	<p><u>Action point:</u> SI & KBC Maintain close bilateral coordination for WaSH-Shelter constructions in Edin</p>
<p>Camp profiling</p>	<p>IOM will deploy an international for capacity building with CCCM actors. An email will be sent within 1-2 days for the details and the ToR of the person will be included on the CD distributed after this meeting. This is an offer of service, not compulsory training. CCCM actors have reported/requested for a long time need for further capacity building, and the Cluster looked for such support, which IOM has provided. The ToR has a wide-range of areas where the person can offer capacity building. CCK requested all interested members to send a few bullet points, highlighting area(s) they are particularly interested in getting more training. Preparing ahead of the person's arrival would allow for maximum results. The idea of this capacity building project is more to offer day-to-day on spot capacity building rather than large trainings, so it is really up to each agencies to use this support to the best. The person would be based in Kachin State (despite appearing as Yangon based on the ToR) and should arrive by end of July/beginning of August, depending on visa and TAs. After a while in MTY to work with the Cluster, it will be decided if the person should be based in MTY or BMO.</p>	<p><u>Action point:</u> Cluster Lead to circulate an email detailing the goal of the CCCM capacity building deployment.</p>
<p>Cluster analysis report</p>	<p>UNHCR Information Management person visited from YGN June 17-21 in order to finalise the database and consolidation of data. CCK thanked all partners for their hard work, not least the challenging delays due to renewed fighting in April-May, making the task even more difficult. There are still some difficulties and some misunderstandings but this is a "great step forward" that the process was carried out with <i>much</i> reduced participation from the Cluster Lead, a much more sustainable way forward for this important exercise. Compiled data will be released in July. A workshop will be organized in August for lessons learned and preparation of the next round of data collection, which should start in September.</p>	<p><u>Action point:</u> Cluster Lead to circulate camp profiling results and organize lessons learned/preparatory Workshop in August.</p>

<p>Strategies</p>	<p>promised to give a “good look” at the documents; mainly the activities linked to their respective agencies and report any issues of note.</p> <p>Strategies for the three sectors developed and circulated 2013 need to be revised/updated, as we have reached the middle of the year. CCK strongly encouraged all partners to give time and attention to these documents to offer comments and suggestions to ensure it represents what they would like to do and see as priorities. Existing strategies will be re-circulated by email, printed and on CDs for ease of access by all partners. CCK needs to receive comments by July 20. Final revision should be completed by the end of the month.</p>	<p><u>Action point:</u> All Cluster Partners provide feedback on the following documents by mid-July: Strategies; Cluster analysis report; IOM CCCM capacity building role.</p>
<p>Winter items</p>	<p>Cluster has spent time and efforts at local and national levels to try and respond to the foreseen gap of winter items. Some successes have been registered and interest has been raised, <i>however a gap remains</i>. Several options are being explored to fill this gap, including distribution of second-hand clothes. For example, UNHCR has made contact with the Japanese clothing company UNIQLO, which might be able to provide “in-kind” support through second-hand clothes. CCK asked the opinion of the participants regarding possibilities of second-hand clothing distribution. The following points were raised and discussed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No cultural barrier, actually some clothes are sold second-hand in Kachin; 2. Quality control will be extremely important. If the second hand clothes are in bad shape or not perfectly clean, IDPs are likely to see it almost as an insult, or at least it might have a “depressing” effect feeling that they are reduced to accepting. 3. Sizes could be an issue. Even though general sizes could be reported to the company providing such support, they are likely to be different in these countries than in the North of Myanmar. For example, most 10 year old sizes in Europe would be far too big for 90% of the 10 year old kids here. <p>CCK then asked how big would be the problem if winter items cannot be secured? In 2012 and 2013 distribution of winter items happened with quite limited coordination and follow-up (in 2013 the Cluster takes responsibility for failing to coordinate actors), so the data available can be questioned. Following, CCK wanted to know the impression of the cluster members, who are more in regular contact with IDP themselves and visit the camps regularly. Also, if the resources to cover the whole estimated needs could not be secured, what should be the priorities?</p> <p>After discussion the group agreed on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More distributions of winter items recorded in 2013 as it was sometimes small ad-hoc 	<p><u>Action point:</u> Cluster to ensure that organisations that were considering second-hand clothes are aware of the possible hurdles mentioned here.</p>

	<p>distributions by various actors, not systematically reported. However, not all needs, far from it, were covered then, and one year later a lot of the items would need to be replaced anyway.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs are particularly important for children because they are less likely to be able to re-use what they receive a year ago (sizes change and less care than adult, so more quickly destroyed). • Generally speaking, in less cold and urban areas, IDPs “could make do” if they would not receive distributions this year, using what was received last year and completing with what they might be able to purchase. • In colder and/or more remote areas, such as BP 6 and 8 or Northern Shan States the impact would be a lot more dramatic and distributions should really be considered a priority. • Newly displaced should be considered as “high priority”. Indeed, when they moved it was hot season, and they were mostly hoping to be able to go back to their villages, so they likely left with no warm clothes. They are also less likely to have been able already to resume a livelihood. <p>Current commitments to-date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • So far IFRC (with MRCS) and ICRC have informed they could each support 1,000 to 2,000 HH; • IRC has expressed interest in supporting but has not secured a budget, yet; • UNHCR will contribute with 20,000 fleece jackets, about 1/3 adult size and 2/3 children size, from its YGN stock. <p>CCK noted that Cluster Lead would contact its IPs to decide on distributions so <i>all</i> are encouraged to approach the Cluster Lead if they are interested in participating in such distributions. Cluster Lead has also informed UNICEF about this gap since during recent meetings Cluster members have stressed that their “first worry/concern” is children.</p>	
Outstanding issues	<p>-In Momauk KBC the camp committee and focal points struggle to separate adequately the camp running costs (CRC) between the main structure and the sub-structures (Edin, ECCD, “field”). CCK promised to report to the CCCM Officer to ensure CRC was in-line with the current population and support KBC in reorganizing the management structure.</p>	<p><u>Action point:</u> Cluster Lead to follow-up with CCCM Officer for support to KBC in regards to CRC in Momauk KBC Camp.</p>

	<p>-CESVI informed that their recent ECHO project includes some shelter construction as well as WaSH, with no specific camp identified yet. CCK asked the BMO based Shelter Expert to work closely with CESVI to help them enter smoothly this new activity, which includes support for identification of gaps.</p> <p>-The issue of agreeing on common practice for prices of labor and material was raised and discussed. This issue has been raised already during previous meetings. Mostly, Cluster members are concerned about the humanitarian assistance creating an artificial inflation of prices if all organisations were not careful to pay only a “fair price”. OCHA specified that this was unfortunately noticed in all such situation of displacements and very difficult to avoid. CCK mentioned that in Kachin and Northern Shan States it was made even more challenging for the Cluster to put system in place because prices vary greatly from one area to the other, closer to the border versus urban versus remote, both for material and manpower. SI said that if a precise quotation system was applied, with minimum of 3 providers quoted for each item, it already reduces the risk of paying far out of the market price. Agreeing that a perfect solution was likely impossible, the following was agreed to mitigate the risk:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All actors to undertake precise and thorough market assessment in areas before purchasing or hiring. 2. If another actor is already working in the area, the new actor should approach to try and cross-check that the prices he/she is being proposed seem normal; 3. CCK to raise the issue at the next Inter Cluster Coordination meeting in MTY, July 1, as it concerns all sectors, and even though this cluster could come with a solution it would be applicable only with participation and agreement of all sectors. 	<p><u>Action point:</u> Cluster Lead to support CESVI in selecting its shelter activities, both in terms of location and technical support.</p> <p><u>Action point:</u> Cluster Lead to raise the issue of labor and material cost at the next Inter-Cluster Coordination meeting in MTY</p>
AoB	CCK proposed to have in July a joined Cluster MTY-BMO meeting, with WaSH, tentatively July 23-24	<p><u>Action point cluster:</u> Cluster Lead to follow-up with MTY based cluster members & WaSH Cluster to organize a/the meeting</p>

As was mentioned, for different reasons partners find receiving documents either via internet or by hard copies not comfortable and therefore all documents will be circulated on a CD