

SNFI Cluster Coordination meeting | September 2022

Meeting Minutes	SNFI Cluster Coordination Meeting – MS Teams		
Date and Time	29 September 2022, From 10:00Hrs to 11:30Hrs		
<u>Attendance:</u>			
SN	Name	Organization	Email
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Key Points Discussed:

Main Themes	Discussed Points	Action Points
Introduction:	<p>The Shelter & NFI Cluster Coordinator, Iva Vavic, opened the meeting by welcoming the Shelter/NFI members and presenting the agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ White Nile Displacement ○ Flood Response Update ○ Emergency Response Reporting Tool Pilot • HNO – PiN and Severity Calculations & MSNA Analysis • HRP – general guidance on project submissions • AOB 	
General Updates:	<p>Update on the White Nile situation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IDPs from Blue Nile have increasingly started moving to White Nile including those who had first left to Sennar. At the moment it is estimated 20,000 people are sheltering in the host community and overcrowded schools, and the number continues to increase daily. • With the school year starting, state authorities have announced they would evict families staying in schools. As a contingency measure, UNHCR has started setting up an emergency site by pitching tents and building latrines. The site is very small and can house 250 families as reported by UNHCR and it is also not a sustainable solution as it will only be available for one year maximum, provided compensation is played to the landowner. • At the ISCG level the main concern was the lack of services at the site and the fact that the significant investment needed to establish them is not feasible given the site's temporary nature. However, the Protection Cluster coordinator mentioned IDPs relocated to the site may potentially access services at a near by village and that the inter-agency assessment to the site is necessary to determine whether a safe and easy access to services is possible, among other things. • Surprisingly, the inter-agency assessment focused only on the schools, therefore we hope another assessment will be organized quickly to target the site where IDPs may be relocated as soon as possible. 	<p>→ White Nile colleagues to share the the assessment report when ready.</p>

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	<p>numbers were published. Despite this delay, OCHA's numbers are the most accurate ones that exist.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • So far, we have reach 31% of those affected with NFI assistance and 11% with shelter assistance. This is based on cluster's prioritization strategy where we aim to support those whose houses have been destroyed and those who have been displaced by flooding (since we are only 9% funded), therefore this is what achievements are tracked against. • Achievement data comes from ActivityInfo, which is cross referenced by gap analysis sheets maintained at state level by sub-national coordination focal points. In case any of the data on the sheet seems incorrect I urge you to report in ActivityInfo, or reach out to us so we can do it together in case you are experiencing any technical difficulties. • The idea behind the chart in the presentation is for partners to refer to it for programming and try to reprioritize their resources and, if possible, target states which received little support in the past months, so that we would have a more equitable response geographically. • In terms of funding, the cluster has received 3M USD from CERF specifically for the flood response (2.5M for UNHCR and 0.5M for IOM). • To address some queries from OCHA and the INGO forum the two slides illustrate why a contingency stock is necessary and why common pipeline kits have to be released carefully in a phased manner in an environment of extremely low funding. This way we can be sure to always be able to support at least 9% of the needs of each emergency that may come up (since we are 9% funded) as opposed to supporting 100% of the needs in the first emergency that comes up in the year, and then having 0 resources for the remaining 11 months. • In terms of activities which CERF's 3M will buy us, we have 4,000 additional NFI kits and 6,000 cash for shelter grants that look into flood recovery and focus on more sustainable approach whereby families returning to their damaged homes can tailor cash assistance to their shelter/damage type. With CERF's money IOM will fund project support costs for any partner that wishes to access any of the pipelines available (UNHCR, IOM, etc.). 	<p>able to prioritize accurately which may leave to duplication. Further, donors will not see your progress unless you report.</p> <p>→ Cluster to share the update with all partners once the IOM pipeline becomes operational.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Furthermore, IOM pipeline is coming online soon. The last step which is in process is the review and approval of the MoU template by IOM's legal department, which partners will be able to sign once it is cleared and then start requesting kits. For now, the IOM pipeline is only for the flood response. IOM is in discussions with the donors to try and extend the reach of their pipeline to other emergencies such as inter-tribal conflict, but these discussions are ongoing and there has been no decision yet. Kordofan sub-national coordinator was inquiring whether they will benefit from CERF funding as they are experiencing an uptick of South Sudanese new arrivals due to a developing situation in the Upper Nile state. He also noted reduced presence of IOM compared to earlier years. In response, it was noted this CERF grant is specifically for the flood response but that any injection of resources, even if earmarked, increases cluster's ability to respond to other crisis by reprioritizing unearmarked funding. As explained earlier, our contingency stock will always allow us to respond to at least a portion of needs in any crisis that emerges. In terms of reduced presence in the Kordofan region, IOM mentioned they too are struggling with funding limitations, while conflict increased in the last year or so, hence they had to make some tough prioritization decisions. <p>In terms of the ER Reporting Tool:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The pilot of the ER Reporting Tool has started and will cover the month of September in the following 3 states/localities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Central Darfur – Um Dukhun - South Darfur – Beliel - Gedaref – West Galabat In the last cluster meeting, OCHA presented the new tool they developed for better tracking the emergency response. Since the S/NFI cluster is using ActivityInfo which is a more sophisticated solution, OCHA agreed not to 	<p>→ Partners are reminded about the new reporting frequency which requires them to enter their achievements in ActivityInfo on the monthly basis.</p>

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	<p>put an additional burden on S/NFI partners if they can commit to report monthly in ActivityInfo since both tools collect the same information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hence, partners are expected to enter all achievements from the current month, on September 30, since the cluster coordinator must review the data submitted and generate a report for OCHA by October 5, while OCHA will then publish the corresponding situation report by October 10. In case partners do not submit their information in ActivityInfo on time, OCHA will impose their new ER reporting tool in the form of an excel sheet as a parallel system and an additional burden. 	<p>→ Partners experiencing any difficulties with reporting are asked to reach out to the cluster coordinator at any time, so we can fill the report jointly if need be.</p>
HNO:	<p>In terms of 2023 Needs Analysis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HNO sectoral chapter was recently shared for your review together with the 2022 sector specific MSNA analysis (PowerBi dashboard also posted on the Global Shelter Cluster website – Sudan page). PiN and Severity calculations were based on the 2022 MSNA and historic hazard data (flooding as well as inter-communal conflict and armed attacks) – diagram explaining the methodology in detail is included in the presentation. Indicators were selected from the globally agreed JIAF framework. A lot of work went into making these calculations bulletproof so that localities with Severity 5 classification are fully justified. The 2022 MSNA sector-specific dashboard is another great resource that partners can use for 2023 planning. It allows you to filter between 4 key target groups (IDPs, returnees, vulnerable residents and refugees) as well as across all 18 states. When it comes to filters, the dashboard allows the multi-select option, so if you select refugees from the drop down and then also 	<p>→ Partners should refer to the PiN and Severity Maps and the HNO chapter shared by the cluster, while preparing projects for HRP submission.</p> <p>→ Partners should refer to the S/NFI 2022 MSNA dashboard when</p>

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	<p>select IDPs while holding CTRL, then you would get results for both population groups, i.e., displaced strata only. Similarly, you can aggregate for multiple states, and so on.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Furthermore, when clicking on different indicators in the dashboard you can get very specific filtering and for example you can understand which percentage of urban returnees that live in permanent shelters have formal ownership, and so on. 	<p>preparing projects for HRP submissions.</p>
<p>HRP:</p>	<p>In terms of 2023 HRP, the following cluster objectives and activities came out of the 2023 Strategic Planning workshop, and they should guide your project submissions into HRP:</p> <p>SECTOR OBJECTIVES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide timely NFI assistance to crisis affected populations. Enable crisis affected populations to access adequate shelter solutions that provide protection, safety, security, and space to live in a dignified manner. <p>SECTOR ACTIVITIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NFI kit distribution (170 USD) Emergency shelter kit distribution (250 USD) Tent distribution (550 USD) Provision of construction materials for shelter upgrade/repair (350 USD) Provision of durable shelter (Tukuls, Mud-brick houses, etc.) (1,300 USD) Provision of cash/vouchers for improved/ emergency shelter (350 USD) Provision of cash/vouchers for transitional/durable shelter (650 USD) General site development/site maintenance (15,000 USD) Training/community sensitization activities (30 USD) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was a log of debate on whether or not to include a separate settlements objective, however, due to limited resources only Gedaref state can commit to achieving this objective while the rest of the country could not. However, the concept of settlement is reflected in the term adequate shelter. As the 2018 Sphere Handbook states: <i>"The concept of "adequacy" means that housing is more than four walls and a roof. It underlines the importance of</i> 	

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	<p><i>including a settlement lens, cultural identity and the availability of services in a shelter response.”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Furthermore, the importance of applying a settlement lens and ensuring basic infrastructure as well as safe and easy access to public facilities and utilities is heavily stressed in both the HNO and HRP sector-specific chapters. • In addition, general site development/site maintenance activity is included for those that can afford to implement them. • Costs associated to activities are a national average based on feedback from cluster partners. While these suggested costs should serve as a reference in a sense that you shouldn't suggest something too far off, we acknowledge the variation of costs across regions and partners, and ultimately you should specify your own actual estimates. Some states receive more funding and can afford more sophisticated solutions while at the same time some partners have more technical capacity than others. <p>Cluster prioritization strategy remains largely the same:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Newly displaced receive full assistance package (blanket coverage) e.g., full NFI kit, or brand new shelter, or new camp site development – construction of vehicular roads, pedestrian access, drainage, etc. 2. Newly affected in situ receive targeted assistance package based on assessment e.g., those affected by flooding could receive a full NFI/shelter kit if needed but most probably only the replacement of affected items is needed; similarly newly affected portions of the infrastructure will be repaired as the second priority. In terms of coverage, if resources are limited, targeting criteria will be applied instead of blanket coverage. <p>Protracted caseload will receive targeted/partial assistance package based on assessment and targeting criteria will be applied to ensure coverage of most vulnerable HH only e.g., only the most vulnerable families will receive replenishment of worn out/ stolen item or shelter materials for regular repair and maintenance, while the rest have to rely on their own coping mechanisms, and similarly only the most critical infrastructure will undergo</p>	

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	<p>regular maintenance while the rest relies on community ownership/maintenance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partners should be mindful of the following cross-cutting issues and make references to them in their HRP project submissions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Gender → Age → Disability → Environment → HLP → Livelihoods → AAP → Conflict Sensitivity → Early Recovery <p>In terms of general guidance regarding HRP project submissions, note the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The system for project submissions opens from October 15 to November 5 • OCHA will run a daily training on technical aspects of project submission from October 2 to October 6 • Sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday will be in Arabic while the rest will be in English • During the project submission period, OCHA will maintain a hotline to resolve any technical issues partners encounter as well as run a cybercafé where partners can access internet and get one on one support if needed. <p>In terms of sector-specific guidance regarding HRP project submissions, note the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only funding from institutional donors or private donations should be submitted. Funding from UN agencies should not be submitted, because 	<p>→ Cluster objectives, activities and prioritization strategy will guide partner submissions into HRP project system. Partners should remember to address cross-cutting issues from the sector-specific perspective in their project proposals.</p> <p>→ Cluster objectives, activities and prioritization strategy will guide partner submissions into HRP project system. Partners should remember to address cross-cutting issues from the sector-specific perspective in their project proposals.</p>

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	<p>they will submit projects on their own. E.g., what ever funding you expect to receive from UNHCR next year (including the value of NFI kits) do not submit it under your project because UNHCR will submit it themselves. Otherwise, there will be a duplication.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner submissions should reflect their fundraising capacity, and partners should enter what they realistically expect to receive in 2023. • For those new to the process, HRP is an appeal and does not guarantee funding. • Any projects targeting refugees should be submitted under RCF and not under the S/NFI Cluster. RCF has a separate section in HRP, therefore all activities targeting refugees, irrespective or the sector/cluster, should be submitted to the RCF section. • Costs are indicative as mentioned earlier, but please make sure that the overall budget for your project submission corresponds to activity unit costs and your target figures. While you should use your own costs, since earlier we've established, they vary geographically and across partners, you shouldn't be too far off from indicative activity costs. The more realistic your project ask the more chances it will have of getting funded. • If you have capacity, please target geographical areas which historically have less or no partner presence. • Make sure your projects address cross-cutting issues from the sector-specific point of view. • Make sure to apply a settlement lens to your project submission, especially if you are proposing durable shelter interventions. It is crucial to address the settlement situation first, before building permanent shelters, otherwise you will just cement people in a poor situation without adequate space between shelters to ensure proper drainage, access, firebreak, public facilities, leisure and recreation. • Lastly and most importantly, be consistent. Be consistent across paragraphs and different sections, make sure that whichever numbers you mention in your narrative match activity targets that you specified in other parts of your project submission. Make sure that the overall budget submission corresponds to the activity targets you specified multiplied by activity unit cots, and so on. Last 	

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	<p>year the lack of consistency was a problem with most submissions so hopefully this year we can do better.</p>	
CCPM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A separate meeting/mini workshop will be organized next Thursday on October 6 to jointly develop the CCPM Action Plan. 	
	AOB	