

Shelter & WASH Coordination Meeting

Date: 18 January 2013, 10:00 am
Location: Office of Minister of Development Affairs
Chair: Minister of Development Affairs
Participants: ABCD, ACF, CDN, Malteser, MSF, Relocation and Rehabilitation Sub-committee, Save the Children, Solidarites, UNICEF, UNHCR
Minutes: UNHCR (Shelter Update) & UNICEF (WASH Update)

Agenda

1. Welcome & Introduction
2. Shelter Update
3. WASH Update
4. AOB
5. Action Points
6. Next Meeting

Attachments: Sanitation in Rakhine, WASH reporting sheet

1. Welcome & Introduction

- The meeting was chaired by the Minister of Development Affairs
- Meeting minutes from last week were distributed via email and in the meeting

2. Shelter Update

Sittwe Township - Situation Update

Temporary Shelters

- The Minister of Department of Development Affairs (DDA) reported that MRCS will construct sixty (60) 8-unit shelters in Say Tha Mar Gyi camp funded by the Qatar Red Cross following the designs developed by UNHCR. Two contractors have won contracts for the construction; Service City (30 shelters) and Aye Myint Mol Co Ltd (30 shelters).
- The Minister of DDA requested all agencies implementing shelter to inform the relocation and rehabilitation sub-committee of winning contractors to ensure that only contractors approved by the committee work in the IDP camps.
- UNHCR shared that 4 contractors have won contracts for the 135 shelters and additional camp infrastructure in 5 IDP camps (2 urban; 3 rural). These contractors are all included in the approved list presented by the Minister of Forestry on 15th October 2012. Once the contracts have been signed, UNHCR will share the names of the winning contractors with the sub-committee.
- UNHCR hope to have contracts signed within one week. Contractors have already begun collecting materials and delivering them to 5 sites. Following signing of the contracts, work will be completed within a 6-week timeframe
- DRC completed 27 shelters (216 units) and 7 communal kitchens at Say Tha Mar Gyi camp. Temporary shelters followed the designs developed by UNHCR.

Tents

- UNHCR completed the installation of 114 KOICA tents at Ohn Taw Gyi 3 (17th Jan). A further 219 will be installed at this site in the coming days (Total: 233 Tents)
- The relocation & rehabilitation sub-committee initially intended to move people from Than Htaw Li staying at Hmanzi junction into the KOICA tents at Ohn Taw Gyi 3. However, following discussions with UNHCR, IDPs currently staying along roadside near Thet Kae Pyin camp will be relocated to these tents.
- The sub-committee are looking for appropriate land for 186 households currently staying in makeshift shelter at Dar Paing village. Committee members together with the executive engineer from DRD and members of the records department will make an assessment visit on Saturday 19th Jan. UNHCR were invited to join the assessment and requested to provide 186 UNHCR tents

Pauktaw Township - Situation Update

- The government reported that dialogue has been taking place between the authorities and IDPs in Sin Tet Maw camp regarding options for their relocation back to an island in Kyaukphyu township. The IDPs are not willing to move to the area identified by the Govt.
- The Chief Minister plans to make a visit to Pauktaw to discuss the issue of relocation with IDPs from Kyaukphyu on Sunday 20th. UNHCR requested to participate in this mission and an invitation was issued by the Minister of Development Affairs. WASH agencies also requested to participate and UNHCR was requested to provide transportation and coordinate with sector lead agencies to ensure multi-sector participation.
- The minister explained that Sittwe, Pauktaw and Kyaukphyu Township are regarded by the relocation and rehabilitation sub-committee as priority townships for shelter.
- UNHCR explained that UNHCR tents can be provided to all IDPs in Pauktaw township living in makeshift shelter immediately. UNHCR currently have 1,600 tents warehoused in Sittwe and are able to ship more to Rakhine state if requested by the authorities.
- Although UNHCR can provide tents, the installation of approximately 3,000 tents for IDPs in Pauktaw will require a coordinated effort by the authorities and all agencies to install the tents.
- UNHCR reported that site plans have been developed for the 4 IDP camps (Ah Nauk Ye, Nget Chaung, Sin Tet Maw, Kyein Ni Pyin) and reminded all agencies the site plans, which are updated regularly, are available on request.
- UNHCR reiterated that due to the IDP sites being located in rice fields, that tents were only a temporary solution and that it is vitally important that decisions are made in a timely manner regarding alternative locations. The government replied that they are currently investigating a range of alternative options for relocation and invited UNHCR to participate in site assessments.
- The Minister asked UNHCR if they would be constructing temporary shelters in Pauktaw. UNHCR replied that they are considering this option and requested a separate meeting with the Minister to discuss the options further.

- The Relocation and Rehabilitation Sub-committee reported that they are planning to relocate approximately 1,500 households (4,200 IDPs) from Sittwe back to Pauktaw township. Negotiations are currently taking place in Sittwe

Kyaukphyu Township - Situation Update

- The Relocation and Rehabilitation committee reported that a mission to Kyaukphyu township was conducted in the first week of January to investigate options for the relocation of 844 HH currently in Sin Tet Maw and 548 HH in Sittwe back to Kyaukphyu township
- The committee reported that the Rakhine community in Kyaukphyu do not wish the Muslim communities to return to their place of origin and subsequently, two islands have been identified as potential relocation sites: A Saing Gyi and Nga Thant Thar islands.
- The State Govt reported that it does not have the capacity to send IDPs back to their places of origin and that this would depend on decisions taken at the Union level.
- The committee reported that the Rakhine community in Kyaukphyu is divided as to whether the Muslim IDPs should be scattered across the township or located in one place.

Myebon Township - Situation Update

- A new relocation site has been identified near to the existing Muslim camp.
- The sub-committee expressed the need for 63 temporary shelters for Muslim IDPs and 6 temporary shelters for Rakhine.
- The committee reported that it will not be possible to return Muslim IDPs to their point of origin as this will not be tolerated by Rakhine urban residents of Meybon.
- UNHCR said that if the government consider returning the Muslim IDPs to their point of origin, that UNHCR would consider providing temporary shelters.

3. WASH Update

UNICEF

- The WASH Cluster has officially been activated, and held its first meeting in Yangon on January 14
- A WASH Cluster Coordination Support, Jean Christophe (JC) Barbiche, has arrived in country to coordinate all WASH activities in Rakhine and Kachin on national level. For continuity, Dara Johnston, Chief of WASH for UNICEF, will remain as official Cluster Coordinator, but the coordination will be lead by JC. The WASH Cluster Coordination Support is seconded from ACF for two (2) months to the WASH Cluster in Myanmar, and he will visit Sittwe within the next weeks
- Oxfam has provided the WASH Cluster in Rakhine, with an expert, Francesco Dotto, to support the cluster in assessment and data management. He will arrive in Sittwe next week
- A WASH working group for sanitation in Sittwe has produced a document regarding possible solutions for sanitation in the IDP locations in Sittwe. The document has been shared with the WASH Cluster in Yangon, which on Friday January 18, holds a meeting in Yangon regarding the sanitation situation in Rakhine

- In the WASH Cluster meeting in Yangon it has been discussed that a transparency regarding funding is needed, in order to better plan interventions. UNICEF encourage the agencies to share information about their funding to the cluster in Yangon
- Due to the lack of a functioning Health Sub-Cluster in Sittwe, UNICEF encourages all agencies to attend the Health meetings held by the State Health Director every week. This in order to not miss any useful information regarding health in the camps
- The boat trucking of water to PaukTaw is about to start. MRCSD will treat the water in Sittwe town, DRD will transport the water to the camps of Nget Chaung and A Nouk Ywe and Solidarites will distribute the water in the camps
- Save the Children will take care of the Hygiene Promotion in all the camps in PaukTaw (four (4) Muslim and one (1) Rakhine) and also do WASH hardware in the Rakine camp and in Sin Thet Maw
- UNICEF would like to call for a working group meeting to discuss the different ways of reporting Hygiene Promotion. The meeting is decided to Monday, January 21, at 10 am in the UNICEF office. Any agency interested is welcome

MSF

- MSF reported that they during two weeks have been unable to go to Myebon with the mobile clinics due to security issues. They have reported 31 severe malnourished children in the camp, and access for the clinic is crucial. The Planning Minister has asked for 40 new latrines in Myebon, and MSF suggests that one possibility for them to get access could be to build these latrines. Discussion regarding this will be held with UNICEF. The Minister of Development Affairs is not sure were these 40 new latrines should be built, since a new site, not far from the current, has been discussed

Solidarites

- Solidarites asked whether there is water on the the two islands in KyaukPhyu, A Saing Gyi and Nga Thant Thar, to which the IDPs from Sin Thet Maw and Sittwe might be transferred. The minister replied that there is one (1) well on one of the islands, and two (2) ponds on the other. Tests needs to be done in order to verify access to groundwater

4. AOB

- In the Shelter Cluster meeting in Yangon on Monday, January 14, it was decided to count five (5) people per Rakhine family, and seven (7) people per Muslim family. The Shelter and WASH Sub-Clusters in Sittwe are advised use these numbers to avoid confusion
- UNHCR and UNICEF suggested that the meeting should be split in two; one separate meeting for Shelter and one for WASH. The meeting decided that the Shelter Sub-Cluster Meetings in Sittwe from now on will be held at 10 am every Friday in the office of the Minister of Development Affairs. Following that, the WASH Sub-Cluster Meeting will be held at 11 am every Friday in the same place. Participants are encouraged to attend both meetings, but UNHCR will make a short summary of what was said in the Shelter meeting to the participants of the WASH meeting before starting

5. Action Points

- UNHCR to plan joint assessments to PaukTaw and Myebon together with the government
- UNICEF to call for a meeting regarding reporting on Hygiene Promotion, and WASH approaches in the affected villages

6. Next meeting

- Next **Shelter** Sub-Cluster Meeting will be held on Friday, January 25, at **10:00 am** in the Development Affairs Minister's office
- Next **WASH** Sub-Cluster Meeting will be held on Friday, January 25, at **11:00 am** in the Development Affairs Minister's office