

Education Cluster Meeting Minutes

Date: July, 7th 2009

Attendance: Itaf Hamad (Ministry of Education), Inas Margieh (Save the Children), Amani Salah (OCHA), Dahab Musleb (Welfare Association), Eli Rognerud and Oyvind Wistrom (UNESCO), Abdelrahim Alasad (Islamic Relief), Jawad Abuosn (Relief International), Oscar Butragueno and Laetitia Lemaistre (UNICEF), Aaron Perlov (Access Support Team UNOPS).

I. Quick updates from Cluster Co-Lead

The Terms of Reference for the Education Cluster has been shared with OCHA to be included on the website.

The **cluster evaluation** will take place within the next two months and stakeholders/ cluster members organizations have been shared with the evaluators.

Cluster co-lead passed along information on the recent **Humanitarian Task Force meeting on education in East Jerusalem**. Dima Samman, Director General of the Jerusalem Support Unit presented to the French consulate, MoPAD, OCHA, UNICEF and other agencies, on the situation of education in East Jerusalem. Her presentation focused on the constraints of government schools (Awkaf schools) particularly on the high turnover of teachers due to the large disparities of teacher salaries between private and government schools, and the poor quality of education in government schools as a result. Furthermore, the MoEHE faces challenges in obtaining teacher access permits, and building permits in East Jerusalem. The MoEHE proposed several actions including a committee to focus on teachers' issues, a funding channel that focuses on education in East Jerusalem, as well as greater advocacy from donors and humanitarian actors. **OCHA and UNICEF will provide support to the MoEHE in preparing a strategic approach.**

INEE Minimum Standards Workshop: Cluster members agreed that although the INEE Minimum Standards Workshop is generally 5 day training, so as not to demand too much of a time commitment from cluster members, a 1-2 day workshop will be adequate to provide cluster members an introduction to the Minimum Standards and to provide a context for Gaza and the West Bank. The workshop should either be held before or after but not during Ramadan, and there will be continued coordination between the WB and Gaza Education Cluster co-leads on this matter.

Presentation by UNOPS on Access Support Team's monitoring indicators in the Framework for Minimum Humanitarian Assistance.

As a part of the OCHA & Access Support Team's (AST) consolidated effort to monitor the indicators in the "Framework for the Provision of Minimum Humanitarian Assistance in Gaza", the AST requested input into the Goods Access Monitoring Table. The table serves as a basis to monitor time-lag in attaining permission for the import of various commodities into the Gaza strip.

II. Discussion Points

Contingency plan for 2009-2010 for West Bank, Area C and Jerusalem

Oscar Butragueno, Emergency Officer at UNICEF, discussed OCHA contingency planning and introduced the idea of the worst and ‘best case’ or ‘most likely’ scenarios that will be used in the case of emergency. The cluster decided upon the worst and ‘most likely’ scenarios. The most likely scenario will be the scenario that will be used during the Consolidated Approach Process and is critical for CAP 2010 preparedness.

Laetitia asked the cluster members whether an education sector contingency/ emergency preparedness plan is available that can be used as a resource during contingency planning with OCHA. She showed the WES emergency preparedness plan as an example.

Discussion revolved around how cluster members will move forward in creating a contingency planning document. A brainstorming activity explored several of the lessons learned in the education sector from the last emergency, and how these lessons will feed into the development of a contingency plan.

MOEHE recommended that the cluster take advantage of lessons learned of previous emergency/ crisis experiences from District Education offices.

The OCHA contingency planning workshop was held on July 10 with all sector and cluster leads where scenarios will be decided- Laetitia Lemaistre attended and will share the outcomes of the meeting with cluster members.

Cluster members provided updates about their organization’s work in Gaza:

Save the children: Summer camps in Gaza; UNESCO: Summer camp for Tawjihi students in English and Arabic Languages in Gaza; Welfare Association: working on programs that support orphans and orphanages; Islamic Relief innovation for 10 schools in West Bank.

Action Points:

- INEE workshop for cluster member: the workshop will be between 1-2 days, and tailored to participants’ needs. To coordinate with Marian Koehler in Gaza on the training.
- As part of collecting lessons learned for contingency planning exercise, MoEHE and cluster coordinator will invite district educational departments to discuss the experiences in providing educational services during emergencies. Concurrently, determine whether an education sector contingency/ emergency preparedness plan already is already in a final form to share.
- Cluster coordinator will share with cluster members scenarios decided upon at the OCHA contingency planning workshop.
- Cluster members will be responsible for filling tables on personnel and goods access into West Bank. Tables will be shared by cluster co-lead and UNOPS.
- Create statement for advocacy- coordinate with Gaza co-lead on this.

Next Education Cluster meeting:

Place: Ministry of Education and Higher Education

Date: Tuesday August 4th 2009

Time: 10:00Am