


CONSORTIUM OF  HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES	Meeting : Northern and Livehood Forum 19th June 2009	
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Document Information

Meeting :	Northern and Livelihood Forum 2009				
Prepared By/ Date:	Niranjani				
Type:	Conference				
Purpose:	Improve Coordination, Facilitation and Networking among agencies, groups and individuals working in the Humanitarian Sector				
Meeting Date:	19 th June 09	Start Time:	8.30 am	End Time:	10.00 am
Venue	CARITAS SEDEC				
Meeting Chair:	Mr F Hashim:DED - CHA	Facilitator	CHA		
Minute Taker:	Niranjani	Phone:	4610943		

Present

Organisation	Organisation	Organisation
Methodist Church	UNDP	SCOPP
WDP	Caritas	ADT
LWR	Help from Germany	Oxfam GB
CPA	ETC Lanka	ICRC
NAC	Malterser	Sewalanka Foundation
Motivation	AJDC	SEDEC
Practical Action	ASB	BRAC
CRS	UNHCR	UMCOR
CESVI	Internews	PIN
Leads	IHR	Mercy Corps
ADT	Zoa	MASL
DDG	JRC	NAC
FAO	IFRC	SDC
WFP	NCCSL	CHA

Agenda No	Subject	Action by/ date
1.	<p>Feedbacks and Updates</p> <p>Advocacy</p> <p>Gowthaman from Oxfam Australia emphasised on following advocacy issues and requested agencies to strongly advocate & follow-up and get positive answers for these issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freedom of Movement and Host Family Option Absence or denial of freedom of movement. Host family option to be considered, to overcome this problem. Agencies should work together to get a national solution to these IDPS • Systematic and Transparent Registration Absence of engagement of international actors to deal with this issue. We need to have proper system • Transparent Screening and feed back to family During the screening process government assures people that they will be able to see their lost & missing family members, thereafter no action taken to solve the issue. • Family re-unification As family plays a major psychosocial input, it was noticed that living separately from family drives a person to a major psychological problem. A family gives a safety & security to the person and we need to strongly advocate of family re-union • Civilian nature of Administration • Right to Information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – About family, services, future (180 days plan) • Ability to talk to the displaced <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Needs, concerns, accountability <p>This is the only situation in the world that we cannot talk to displaced people. We need to talk to displaced people to know their needs, requirements, anxiety etc.</p> <p>Hence we need to be mindful of these issues in program planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are frameworks that suggest way forward <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – UNHCR Aide Mémoire, Guidance Note and Balance Sheet and – Walter Kalin’s memo to the GoSL - There are forums in which you could engage 	Oxfam GB

- Meeting by Minister HR DM
- IDP protection working group at UNHCR
- A possible meeting with Maj. Gen. Chandrasiri

- Channel issues and concerns through CHA

We have to workout some practical ways of finding the positive answers for these issues.

CHA advocacy initiatives were briefed by Hashim

- CHA is assisting use of SAHANA database to promote accountability/transparency.
- We are working with UNHCR SGBV in violence and access to information for IDP's in Vavuniya setting up notice boards and information desks.
- We are advocating non discrimination in services for IDP's. It will strongly canvassed and monitored

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Presentation on Wannu IDPs in Vavuniya, Jaffna, Mannar and Pullmodai and the issues and challenges in assistance – Chris Matthews -Senior Field Coordinator

UNHCR

UNHCR presentation by Chris Mathews briefed about the registration process, Nos in camps in the North and the shelter needs met by UNHCR by way of emergency shelters and tents and improving conditions of sites. The challenges which were similar to what was earlier identified but also included access to IDP sites, overcrowding of sites, support to persons with special needs and releases and expanding categories of IDPs eligible for immediate release. Other advocacy issues identified was the separation of ex combatants, the release of persons with special needs and the Return.

Questions were raised about the Capacity of the sites so to avoid overcrowding. She mentioned that it was with the shelter cell in Colombo and Vavuniya and try to get OCHA to include in their matrix as well

3.

Demining activities in the Northern Province and the issues and challenges. – UNDP Mine Action

Neloufer de silva of UNDP Mine action spoke about the program management of the mine action; areas in 6 districts and the agencies involved in demining tasks and the maps current areas where work is being carried out; the areas expected to be opened up for mine clearance . Delays in approval procedures, and specifically in receiving security clearance for areas tasked for de-mining; The challenges identified were

UNDP

- Limited access makes it difficult to carry out a general

- survey needed to assess the extent of contamination;
- Lack of population in areas under survey increases time needed for survey;
 - Funding gaps of demining organizations and UNDP Support to Mine Action Project.
 - Need information from SLA on areas contaminated and new types of explosive devices found in the North.

She also brief about the mine clearance steps and the difference type of mine clearance with visuals

(presentation could be found in the website)

**Presentation on Regional Farmer Councils - Asoka
Gopallawa – Chairman National Agribusiness Council**

Mr Asoka Gopallawa of Agribusiness council briefed on their vision mission and objectives and the 11 Regional farmer councils that they have started. National Agribusiness Council (NAC) established in June 2000 is focused on the objectives of its sponsor – the USAID funded agro enterprises project (Ag-Ent) driving the development of the national agribusiness sector

**National
Agibusiness
council**

The National agribusiness council consisting of 20 active trade associations is the apex body of the agribusiness sector in Sri Lanka . These Associations have a combined membership of over 4500 agribusiness enterprises most of which are in the value added and export industry.

NAC is a powerful force in the agribusiness related policy analysis, fighting political and bureaucracy machineries for policies and regulations assisting the growth and sustainability of the industry .NAC continuously engages in dialogue with state institutions on restrictive policies and deregulatory matters
<http://www.agrolanka.net/>

He spoke about the 5 Regional council and requested possible support for them from CHA/ agencies . He also would like CHA or agency support to bringing to together the farmers to work together in order to support the supply to export markets and also support other socio economic problems of the farmers in the districts