

	Meeting (Name)	Ref: 1/2.1/1/06/ Minutes 1
	Date	

Document Information

Meeting :	Operational Meeting				
Prepared By/ Date:	Ravi				
Type:	Conference				
Purpose:	Improve Coordination, Facilitation and Networking among agencies, groups and individuals working in the Humanitarian Sector				
Meeting Date:	24 th Oct 2008	Start Time:	8.30 am	End Time:	9.45 am
Venue	CARITAS - SEDEC Auditorium 133 Kynsey Road Colombo 8				
Meeting Chair:	Mr. F. Hashim - Deputy Executive Director	Facilitator	CHA		
Minute Taker:	Ravi	Phone:	4610943		

Present

Organisation	Organisation	Organisation
Mercy Corps	World Vision	ZOA
Room to Read	Habitat for Humanity	IOM
CCF SL	Muslim Aid	Caritas
IFRC	UNOCHA	Solidar
GAA	Action Aid	Oxfam GB
ILO	Internews	JDC
UMCOR	FORUT	CARE
FRC	Int. Rescue Committee	NCC SL
SCF	LEADS	NCA
WUSC	CCF Canada	ACTED
SCOPP		

Agenda No	Subject	Action by/ date
1.	<p>Feedback and Updates</p> <p>CCHA Livelihood Forum</p> <p>CCHA subcommittee on Livelihood meeting was held on 17th Oct at UN conference room at 2.30 pm and was co-chaired by Ms. Tine Staemose Director – ILO</p> <p>Key issues that were discussed are;</p> <p>In Jaffna:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishing restrictions continue, fishing permitted with non-motorized traditional crafts within specified periods during day time and within limited distance • About 57% of active fishers engaged in fishing daily • Provision of food ration and alternate livelihoods main issues <p>In Killinochchi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Displacement, volatile situation and alternate livelihoods are issues • Displacement is the key issue affecting agriculture <p>In Mannar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishing allowed from 6.00a.m to 6p.m up to 2-3 nautical miles. Boats and engines to be kept at Navy points only • 50 litres of kerosene oil issued to the fishery cooperative society per day • Low income is a serious issue. I/NGOs implementing poultry projects targeting low income groups • Shortage of raw materials and absence of a promoting agency in the district are issues <p>In Trincomalee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishing is allowed on all days from 6.00am. - 6.00pm except in Muttur and Kinniya where it is permitted up to 5p.m. with only non-mechanized traditional crafts within a distance of 1-1.5 Km • Plan to re-cultivate around 15,000 ac. of abandoned paddy lands in Maha season, land preparation ongoing • Lack of resources, stock and transport bottlenecks are issues <p>In Vavuniya</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seed paddy and fertilizer supply alright but availability of improved variety of seed paddy an issue • Lack of investment and transport obstacles are issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ IOM presented on Livelihood activities for the Musali IDP's in Mannar ❖ Presentation of labour shortages in the East and North was done by Ministry of Labour Relations 	

and Manpower.

- ❖ And Livelihood gap analysis for 5 GN divisions in Batticaloa was presented by ILO. The details are available in ILO
- ❖ Next meeting is on 17th Nov at 2.30pm

2.

Presentation on the Rapid Assessment mission highlighting the current situation in the Vanni - Zola Dowell – Head of Office - UNOCHA

Ms Zola Dowell gave a brief on the visit undertaken by the UN with the WFP convoy on the 17-18 October for a total of about 4 hrs of 2 teams to Puthukudiyaruppu (PTK) and Tharmapuram(THA).

The agencies participating were WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO, UNOPS and UN OCHA They met a cross section of Government officials(, AGA, and Local NGO's and IDPs .

In THA they had 2 focused group discussion with men and women.

There were couple of hours delayed in travel in the wanni, due to 2 lorries being stuck in the mud. Conditions of most roads are bad due to the wet weather conditions.

Food remains the No 1 priority in both areas , followed by Shelter, Watsan , Livelihood , Medicine, Education and NFRI. Livelihood was a priority as the purchasing power has reduced due to in ability to fish or cultivate. People are unable to purchase supplementary food and other needs.

Protection

THA- General depression among population. Children affected with psychological problems due to aerial bombing and multiple displacements

Privacy issues for women and girls due lack of toilets and bathing facilities. Risk of abuse.Increase risk of snake bites due to lack of sanitation and night time lighting (torches)

Food

Meals twice daily. in some areas in PTK 3 meals for children. Main source of supply for IDPs is the WFP/ GOSL .Supplementary food supported by Caritas, LNGOs and most vulnerable host community.

ICRC has visited remote communities in PTK and have indicated supplies are reaching them.

Loss of agricultural lands (50-90%) abandoned and possible impact on long term food security.

Shelter.

Need for shelters and tarpaulins

The conditions of plastic sheets provided are also deteriorating and need to be replaced. NGO Volunteers assisting Government structures, but low on resources.

Watsan

Water is available but need, water Tanks and bowsering(fuel) needed.

2000 latrines in PTK and THA needed.

Health

Diarrhoea high with lack of ORS/ Saline

Capacity issues in hospitals of doctors, and certain medicines (snake bite Antivenom, vaccines for DPT, Polio). Fuel constraints affecting cold chain and ambulances.

No acute malnutrition noted.

Education

Schools functioning with increased caseloads. Need for textbooks, school uniforms, stationery and furniture .Support needed for Watsan facilities for schools.

Concern over multiple displacements and psychological impact of aerial bombardments on children In THA only an Estimated 5% of teachers have received psychosocial training

NFRI

All the NGO NFRI left with the GAs have been distributed.

Need for hygiene kits, Bed kits, Tarpaulins.

Livelihood

Limited cash available through banking system,

Sale of personal items by IDPs to meet basic needs.

Economy affected.

Information

BBC, VOT, local newspapers and Radio. Information on Food distribution through GSO. Concerns regarding communication facilities (postal service)

Recommendations

Weekly food convoys essential to meet minimum requirements.

Temporary Shelter with technical [shelter / watsan] support need to be included in upcoming convoys

Consider small teams of technical or program staff stay between convoys for support and additional information gathering (After clarifying government position and security concerns) Information gathering / support through UN team in Vanni , Aid workers and GA structure

	<p>Support NGO Volunteer structure after additional information is obtained on capacity, needs and challenges Request was made for NGO representation in Next assessment</p> <p>3. Presentation on the Room to Read work in Sri Lanka – Glenfrey De Mel Country Director – Room to Read Sri Lanka</p> <p>Mr Glenfrey De Mel gave a brief overview of the organisation and programmes . He explained about the Vision of Room to Read and the Mission for Sri Lanka . He spoke about the need for Education and how the organisation was started Internationally and locally in Sri Lanka. The core values of the agency of Teamwork / Partnership , making change happen, effective programs, positive attitudes, passion, integrity, transparency, Culturally Sensitive & Locally Based , strategic decisions, balance and result oriented approach were also highlighted in the presentation. He said that they are probably the only international agency which has as a policy , nationals as head of the agency throughout the countries they are established.</p> <p>(More information could be found in the presentation on the website)</p>	
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