



## National Education Cluster - Meeting minutes

**Date: 17<sup>TH</sup> May 2016 at 11:00, MoEST meeting room**

**Meeting Participants:** AET, Altai, Apt, BRAC, CFK, CMD, GHO, GREDO, INTERSOS, LFW, LWF, NRC, NuSS, PCO, Plan, RTL, RLC, RuCAPD, SC, SAADO/PEG, SALF, UNICEF, WCC, WV, MaCDA, UNESCO, SNV

TOPIC	ACTION POINTS	PERSON/ENTITY in CHARGE + DEADLINE
<b>1. Introductions, review of agenda and Opening remarks by MoEST</b>		
<p>A quick round of introductions was made by all partners present in the meeting, and all consented to the drafted agenda.</p> <p>George Ali, the newly appointed Acting Director for Partner coordination welcomed the partners and applauded and urged them to continue delivering support to children especially in the hard to reach areas. He also reminded them to reach him for any support required from the MoGE. He added that due to power blackout at the MoGE he at times seeks access to internet within other ministries or at times in premises of other organizations and therefore partners should make phone calls before visiting the office.</p>	N/A	A/A
<b>2. Outcomes of joint Cluster-GESS mission to Mingkaman</b>		
<p>A report back was made on a visit conducted to Mingkaman by the National Cluster, GESS, UNICEF, BRAC, Eastern Lakes MoGE Director and the partners working on the ground. The main purpose of the visit was to gain a better understanding of the current situation on the ground and then develop a transition strategy that will ensure the continuity of education beyond the EiE partners. A transition strategy was developed with all partners which</p>	<p>Circulate transition strategy together with minutes for feedback and comments.</p>	<p>Fred and Cleo to circulate Transition Strategy to partners.</p>

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<p>proposes specific activities and responsibilities at four levels of accountability i.e. EiE partners; School Capitation Grants (GESS/BRAC); MoGE and the Community.</p> <p>George Ali's main concern with the proposed strategy was on the uncertainty of the operating environment. For example the RRC at Juba level was actively encouraging IDPs to return to their areas of origin hence this could affect the implementation of the strategy. Another concern he raised was on the issue of the MoGE paying salaries of untrained teachers. He indicated that this issue would need to be analyzed in detail.</p>		
<b>3. Presentation of main results of review of secondary data and update on progress of EMIS</b>		
<p>The Education Cluster Team has been doing Secondary Data Review. The main objective of this review is to identify trends with regard to six main indicators for which data has been collected during field visits done between February and April 2016. These indicators are the percentage of schools functioning, pupil-teacher ratio, and variation of enrolment rate between 2015 and 2016 (in functional schools), pupil-latrine ratio, percentage of open air classrooms and percentage of IDP students. During the review and validation of the main findings with the Ministry of Education, it was agreed to expand the number of indicators in future assessments, and to review the data on a quarterly basis so as to be able to identify thematic and geographic areas to prioritize and to monitor progress of reopening of schools.</p> <p>The exercise included review of <b>24 documents</b> 7 RRM mission reports, 9 UNICEF SitReps, 5 needs assessment reports from int. and nat. NGOs, 3 field mission reports by UNICEF Education Specialists, communication by email with UNICEF Education Specialists in Field Offices. In brief, among key the findings, the exercise highlighted that 48% of the schools were not functional mostly in the GUN region, and the ratio of latrines was 124, while almost 50% of the children still accessed education in open air.</p> <p>This will be a continuous exercise culminating into quarterly reports to show the trends. Partners are encouraged to share field reports to boost the exercise</p>	Share the report with partners	SSEC Unit
<b>4. Review of the Humanitarian Responses Plan</b>		

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<p>Partners were informed that there was a potential revision of the HRP scheduled for June but this was still been debated at the ICWG. Partners were asked if they felt it necessary to review the current HRP. Most partners felt that the context had changed slightly and it was import to update the HRP slightly to include new geographical areas and also a focus on returnees in light of the developments in the country and outside the country (Kakuma). They indicated that the 3 strategic objectives were still relevant.</p> <p>The Cluster Unit encouraged the partners to send in information on the ground with regards population movements or areas that they felt needed to be included in the HRP because without compelling evidence the cluster would be unable to advocate for any new locations.</p>	<p>Partners to send in information (stats) on new identified areas of need for the revision of the HRP <b>asap</b></p>	<p>Information can be sent directly to Fred and Nicolas</p>
<p><b>5. Presentation of main components of the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism, support expected from Cluster members (MRM)</b></p>		
<p>The MRM (Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism) is a UN system for monitoring the 6 grave child right violation. Violation of these rights are made the UN Security Council on quarterly basis and to the Secretary General on annual basis. The MRM aims at protecting children from effects or war by enhancing accountability of the perpetrators, reducing the occurrence of violations and providing appropriate Reponses to the violations.</p> <p>While the situation in South Sudan was promising in 2013, the perpetrators by then (SPLA) almost getting delisted, the outbreak of the conflict in late 2013 drove the country back. Currently three armed groups is the SPLA, SPLA IO and the While Army have been listed as perpetrators of the violations. Efforts are however being made especially with the SPLA and SPLA IO to release the children within their command. While the engagement with the While Army is not substantive given lack of clear hierarchy in the group for engagement.</p> <p>In 2015 there was a joint SPLA/UN verification exercise that resulted in vacation of 23 out of 24 schools visited that were being used by the SPLA.</p>	<p>Partners interested in the MRM training should submit expression of interest to the Cluster (Fred) by Monday)</p>	<p>All interested partners +Fred</p>

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<p>The Cluster partners are therefore asked to provide information on any schools being used of damaged to enhance the reporting process however the reporting should be through the MRM Focal point (<a href="mailto:jlhernandez@unicef.org">jlhernandez@unicef.org</a>) or through the Cluster (<a href="mailto:edclusterjuba.im@gmail.com">edclusterjuba.im@gmail.com</a>)</p> <p>A 3 hour training for partners in MRM can be scheduled for those interested.</p>		
<b>6. Humanitarian updates</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leer: NRC is planning to support the re-opening of the 33 schools in the county to boost the current community efforts in ensuring that children re-start schooling. However the existence of 2 governments in the county continue to create operational barriers. Same support is also planned for Mayendit.</li> <li>• In WBeG: there is reported high dropout due to the escalating hunger in the region with many people moving in Sudan. While efforts for school feeding program are being made, there is no success yet</li> <li>• In WES, there is reported calm following the recent signing of peace agreement between the government and the arrow boys. People are reportedly returning home the state government has planned integration initiative for the former associates of the arrow boys. The government has written a concept note to seek for support and partners with resources are called upon to support</li> <li>• Civil servants have gone with salaries for three months and this is mounting tensions in school are teachers threaten to strike over their unpaid salaries thus teaching and learning is at crossroads</li> </ul>	kk	
<b>7. AOB</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Cluster-UNICEF message on completion of 5W</b> On the 10<sup>th</sup> the Cluster and UNICEF convened a meeting with partners that have UNICEF funding (PCAs). The meeting was called to address discrepancies in reporting on the responses. However only 8 partners out over 15 attended. Nevertheless action points were agreed and shared all. Therefore the partners are</li> </ul>		

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<p>strongly urged to implement the agreed actions accuracy and consistency in the reporting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>ECMT/5Ws Reminder</b>            As a reminder the 5Ws reporting remains as agreed, every 15 to 20<sup>th</sup> of each month, while the UNICEF PCA reports are bi-weekly (every first and third Friday of the month). Please contact Fred (<a href="mailto:edclusterjba.im@gmail.com">edclusterjba.im@gmail.com</a>) for guidance on the 5Ws or the State Focal Points and contact the UNICEF State Education Officers for guidance on eh UNICEF bi-weekly reporting for support.         </li> <li> <b>End of assignment with SSEC</b>            17.05.2016 marked Cleopatra's last Cluster meeting in South Sudan as she completes her tenure with Save the Children by end of May, 2016. The replacement is being sought and will be communicated once available. She appreciated the Cluster Members for the team work throughout her time with the Education Cluster in South Sudan.         </li> </ul>		
<p><b>Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> May 2016, 11am, Venue TBD</b></p>		