



National Education Cluster - Meeting minutes

Date: 31st May 2016 at 11:00, UNICEF meeting room

Meeting Participants: ADRA, Apt, BRAC, CAFAD, CAO, Child Fund, CGTFPAD, CHIDDO, CMD, CHADO, DORD, DRETCO, GREDO, HCO, IBIS, INTERSOS, JRS, LWF, MaCDA, MRDA, NH, Norwegian MFA, PCO, ROAD (FYF), RtL, RuCAPD, SAA, SSSCO, UNICEF (South Sudan and regional office), UNHCR, UNKEA, USAID, WAO, WCC, WV.

TOPIC	ACTION POINTS	PERSON/ENTITY in CHARGE + DEADLINE
1. Presentation of Room to Learn project and resources		
<p>Room to Learn (RtL) is a USAID-funded project, implemented by Winrock International with Plan International and FHI360. In addition to the production of resources, the project supported 388 school communities in six former states in Greater Bahr-el-Ghazal and Greater Equatoria regions. The project comprised of three components, namely:</p> <p>1) Improved and expanded safer education services for children and youth, 2) Enhanced relevance of education and promotion of learner well-being and social cohesion, 3) Improved quality of management of education systems through local structures.</p> <p>Training Manuals produced by RtL include the 1) Teacher Training Intervention Manual, 2) Teacher Professional Development Trainers' Manual - Basic Literacy, 3) PTA Training Manual, 4) School Governance Training Manual and 5) Gender/Social Inclusion Training Manual. All these materials have been produced in close coordination with, piloted, verified, and endorsed by the MoGEI. Soft copies of all these materials will be made available to the Cluster, who will discuss their use further with Cluster members.</p> <p>RtL also produced an Instructional Material Package, comprising of Key Information Cards for teachers and a Pocket Library (Cloth Hanging) and National Languages Literacy kits produced with the support of SIL (see below).</p>	<p>Room to Learn: share soft copies of resources when finalized</p> <p>SIL: share list of resources available in national languages</p> <p>Cluster Unit: review relevance of materials with Cluster members and draft action plan for inclusion of relevant materials in the coming months</p>	<p>Room to Learn: when finalized</p> <p>SIL: done</p> <p>Cluster Unit: with minutes of the meeting for resources available with SIL</p>

TOPIC	ACTION POINTS	PERSON/ENTITY in CHARGE + DEADLINE
<p>In addition, RtL led the development of studies/resources to support policies in the areas of Pastoralist Education, Gender & Social Inclusion, School Governance, National Languages Development (Bari, Dinka, Nuer and Toposa) and Early Grade Reading Assessment (Bari and Toposa).</p> <p>Finally, RtL awarded grants to school communities for Teacher Training, Instructional Materials Package Grant, Education and Community Engagement 'Hardware', Alternative Learning Program Instructional Materials Package and NGO PTA Training.</p> <p>Partners interested by RtL work can contact Mr. Seth Ong'uti - Education Director (at songuti@fhi360.org) Dr. Edreda Tuwangye - Materials & Curriculum Development Specialist (at etuwangye@fhi360.org) and Ms. Louise Leak - Emergency Preparedness Specialist (at louise.leak@plan-international.org).</p> <p>SIL took the opportunity of the meeting to briefly update Cluster members on their work on national languages (mostly for teaching basic literacy) which include materials in over 20 South Sudanese languages, all of them developed in close collaboration with the Department of National Languages and some of them created under the auspices of the then "Institute of Regional Languages". Soft copies are available with us in our archive and can be made available for other organizations if they wish to use them in their programs. Partners interested in these materials can contact Tanya Spronk at tanya_spronk@sil.org</p>		
2. Review of list of schools attacked or occupied		
<p>UNICEF MRM shared a list of schools still occupied by armed forces or groups, for verification by Cluster members. Partners were not familiar with the schools listed but agreed to verify the information through visits or information provided by authorities.</p>	<p>Education Cluster Unit: send the list to cluster members.</p> <p>Cluster members: verify the status of schools in areas where they intervene.</p>	<p>Nicolas, together with minutes of the meeting</p> <p>Cluster members, for Tuesday 7th June</p>
3. Review of figures, response and funding situation for returnees		
<p>OCHA shared a summary of planning figures for returnees in the 2016 HRP. By the time (end of 2015) humanitarian partners agreed to estimate that some 300,000 IDP returnees may be in need of humanitarian assistance and to include them in the strategy and</p>	<p>Education Cluster Unit: share OCHA summary figures (based on the 2016</p>	<p>Nicolas, with minutes of the meeting and with OCHA/ICWG</p>

TOPIC	ACTION POINTS	PERSON/ENTITY in CHARGE + DEADLINE
<p>partners' projects. Given that the transitional government of national unity is now formed, it is likely that the number of current IDPs returning to their areas of origin or elsewhere will increase. However, this will very much depend on the unfolding of political events and security situation in the country.</p> <p>Partners didn't comment on the figure agreed in 2016 (300,000 IDP returnees) but insisted that the needs of returning refugees are taken into account too. Cluster members are encouraged to review the list of counties which are likely to host large numbers of returning refugees, and to inform the Cluster Unit of changes or other priorities by email.</p> <p>As for the revision of the 2016 HRP, OCHA informed the Clusters that there is no deadline for revision of the South Sudan HRP, that they (OCHA) will first reach out to Information Management Officers for update of displacement and sectoral figures (changes since late 2015) and that the process is likely to be light. The Cluster Unit will keep members informed in case figures and projects have to be updated.</p>	<p>HRP) with minutes of the meeting, stress the importance of returning refugee needs in the ICWG.</p> <p>Partners: review the list of counties and inform the Cluster Unit in case other counties should be prioritized (with figures and source of information).</p>	<p>Cluster members, for Tuesday 7th June</p>
4. Reporting on 2016 HRP		
<p>Overall, reporting by partners for the 5W has been the best so far: 27 partners reported their activities, which helped bring the number of reported beneficiaries to over 285,000 (63% of the HRP target). The largest share of beneficiaries are in Jonglei, which hosts 47% of the learners reported by partners.</p> <p>For the month of June, Cluster members are encouraged to send their updates between the 15th and 18th so that Fred (IM) can work on the analysis that will feed into the HRP review.</p> <p>Funding reported in FTS stands at 28%. The Cluster Unit thanks partners who did report the contributions received, and encourages other partners to do so.</p> <p>As a reminder, partners can find the latest education cluster meeting minutes, dashboards, 5Ws and assessment reports under: https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/operations/south-sudan/education</p>	<p>All partners to submit their 5W between 15th and 18th June</p>	<p>Partners</p>
5. Humanitarian updates		

TOPIC	ACTION POINTS	PERSON/ENTITY in CHARGE + DEADLINE
<p>A number of partners reported issues with the production/availability of textbooks. The issue seems more to be about different prices offered by the printing companies than delays (the information shared by companies is that it should take around 2 weeks for textbooks to be produced). The latest prices communicated to UNKEA are the following: SSP 250/textbook for Nzou, USD 15 for PG3 and USD 20 for Universal Printer. Nicolas will check with the Ministry whether these prices are in line with what was agreed between the MoGEI and printing companies. As for delays in providing textbooks to its partners, UNICEF explained that the issue was about the cover page (between the MoGEI and printing companies) and that the textbooks will be available in the coming days (mostly for PoCs). Another of textbooks is likely to be printed this month.</p> <p>Jess Shaver (UNICEF Regional Office EiE Adviser) recommended that partners regroup for printing textbooks in order to reduce costs. Partners who intend to print textbooks in the coming weeks and have budget for it are requested to contact the Cluster Unit, who will coordinate the process if there are enough partners. In case there are enough partners interested, one organization will have to lead the administrative/financial process.</p>	<p>Partners who intend to print textbooks in the coming weeks and have budget for it: communicate number of textbooks, budget and deadline to Nicolas, Israr and Fred.</p>	<p>Cluster Members: Tuesday 7th June</p>
6. AOB		
<p>Staffing of the Education Cluster Unit: Nicolas informed members that Cleo took another post with Save the Children. The recruitment of the Co-coordinator is ongoing. Fred will be going on a three-month's break as from June 20. A request has been made to the global Education Cluster Unit for temporary support (mid-June - mid-September).</p>		
<p>Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, 14th June 2016, 11am, MoEST Boardroom</p>		