



## National Education Cluster - Meeting minutes

**Date: 16<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at 11:00, MoEST Boardroom**

**Meeting Participants:** ADCORD, ADRA, AET, ARUDA, ASCO, BBC Media Action, BRA, BRAC, CAD, CADA, CAO, CHADO, CHiDO, CMD, CRS, DFID, FCA, FCDI, FYY, GADET, GHO, GREDO, HCO, HACO, IBIS, INTERSOS, JRS, NH, OCHA, PCO, PEG, Plan, RuCAPD, RUDI, SEM, SSAA, SSYDA, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNKEA, WV, WTI, WFP, WUSC.

TOPIC	ACTION POINTS	PERSON/ENTITY in CHARGE + DEADLINE
<b>1. Introduction</b>		
George Ali (MoEST) opened the meeting and welcomed all the members especially the new organizations into the forum. He apologized for his absence citing some commitments. A quick round of introduction was then facilitated by the Cluster Co-coordinator.	N/A	N/A
<b>2. Teaching facilitators' incentives</b>		
<p>Following consultations with national and international NGOs, MoEST, State Focal Points and donors, the SAG resolved to increase the incentives. The decision was reached on the basis of increased cost of living and increased daily wages of casual labourers, especially in the IDP sites. Given sustainability concerns and the fact that the MoEST is yet to effect the increment of regular teachers' salaries, the Cluster settled to increase incentives to a maximum of SSP 900, payable in February retroactively.</p> <p>While the Cluster has already shared the electronic version of the decision with State Focal Points, wider circulation will be delayed until regular teachers confirm receipt of the salary increment. Interested partners can ask for the document to the ECU.</p>	<p>Adjust teaching facilitators' incentives.</p> <p>Revise the teaching facilitators' guidelines.</p>	<p>All partners, as from February 1<sup>st</sup></p> <p>ECU, for early March</p>

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<p>The <i>Partner Approach and Guidelines on EiE Volunteer Facilitator Allowance</i> will need to be revised to adjust to the rapidly changing economic environment. The ECU will facilitate the process and consult Cluster members on this revision.</p>		
<p><b>3. Back to Learning</b></p>		
<p>The MoEST-led and UNICEF-supported Back to Learning was introduced in 2015, with coverage across the country, although strong focus was put on the States affected by the emergency. The initiative works in synergies with other programs such as GESS and in with partners. To date Back to Learning led to increased enrolment, especially of girls, and retention of learners: while 528 TLSs were established, 7,678 teachers were trained and 367,544 learners were supported.</p> <p>However, huge challenges still lay ahead as a study carried by UNESCO during the ESA process indicated that about 1.8 million children are out of school. Factors such as limited partner and government capacities, space for learning spaces, limited funds for teacher incentives hinder access to education by the children.</p> <p>In 2016, the BTL is aimed at continuing to provide access to quality basic education by reaching out to new children in the humanitarian and development contexts, focusing on the most vulnerable girls and boys. This year's BTL aims to reach 589,332 learners and 10,000 teachers. While the funding still stands at 16%, efforts will be made to increase the funding to ensure achievement of the set deliverables.</p> <p>All partners are called upon to participate in the initiative at all levels. The launch will take place on 17<sup>th</sup> February at Buluk play ground with the program starting at 9am.</p>	<p>Share the BTL presentation with partners.</p>	<p>ECU, together with minutes of the meeting.</p>
<p><b>4. BBC Media Action presentation</b></p>		
<p>BBC Media Action implements components of the GESS programme on behavior change to combat social issues affecting girls' education, but also provides life-saving messages on mine action, food distribution, health centres, verifying rumors. It works across development and humanitarian contexts, including IDP sites. BBC Media Action also does a lot of community mobilization to increase community members' participation and</p>	<p>BBC Media Action will liaise with the ECU for coordination with interested partners.</p> <p>ECU will liaise with BBC Media Action on</p>	<p>ECU/BBC Media Action</p>

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<p>facilitate dialogues on social issues. 33 community mobilisers work for BBC Media Action across the country.</p> <p>Messages are recorded in local languages and aired through 26 FM radio stations; solar powered radios are distributed in locations with no access to radios to play the messages. Partners are encouraged to reach out to BBC Media Action to use their programmes. The Education Cluster Unit will also continue the discussion to collaborate on issues of girls' education and life-saving skills.</p>	<p>collaboration on girls' education and life-saving skills.</p>	
<b>Information Management</b>		
<p>Partners are reminded to submit 5W updates on a bi-monthly basis between the 15 and 20 of each month. For February, all reports should be sent to the IM Officer by Friday (19<sup>th</sup>) COB. Partners experiencing technical issues with the template should seek help; new partners are urged to seek assistance from the Cluster on the reporting.</p> <p>Partners were also reminded to share their assessment reports for central hosting by the ECU. The assessments will report also feed into the review of secondary data done by the Cluster.</p>	<p>Circulate the capacity mapping matrix</p>	<p>IMO by 19<sup>th</sup> Feb</p>
<b>Humanitarian updates</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30,000 to 40,000 new IDPs are reported to have arrived in Mingkaman;</li> <li>• In Mundri East the situation is returning to normalcy; BRAC has reopened its supported schools that were closed since September 2015;</li> <li>• In Pibor, schools are expected to reopen this month;</li> <li>• In Southern Unity there is increase in access given the recent calmness in the region. As schools reopen, the local authorities have made a strong call for partner support in supporting return to school. In Mayendit/Dablual especially, the community and local leaders stressed the importance to resume education. To date, no partner has funding for this area;</li> <li>• In Abyei, there is increase will from the government to support education, however partner support is much needed.</li> </ul>		

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are reports of further displacement in Wunduruba. The RRC has promised to provide further details to the partners operating in CES.</li> </ul>	CES Cluster to update	IBIS
<b>AOB</b>		
<p>EMIS 2016: during the last meeting the ECU proposed to members to collaborate with the EMIS team on this year's education census in order to: 1) avoid duplication of efforts, 2) taking advantage of the EMIS team resources and technical capacity (enumerators and data analysis) 3) increasing the range of this year's EMIS through sharing of information and logistical support, 4) have access to extensive, reliable and validated data on the state of education (for partners' programming and HNO mostly).</p> <p>The Education Cluster Unit and partners reviewed the EMIS questionnaire already; adding in questions on schools closed and dropouts for example. Data collection in GUN States will most likely take place early June/July and cluster members are encouraged to take part through provision of logistical support and mobilization of concerned officers such as head teachers and payam supervisors.</p>	The ECU will contact partners in the GUN States to consolidate the list of counties/areas that they can cover.	ECU, March
<p><b>Next Regular Meeting:</b>  <b>Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016, 11am, MoEST Boardroom</b></p>		