Global HLP AoR meeting - Thursday, 3 May 2018
NRC Geneva Office, 10:30 – 12:00 (Geneva time)
Minutes of meeting, prepared by NRC

Present at the meeting
- Alison Graham, Human Rights Officer, OHCHR
- Bahram Ghazi, Advisor, OHCHR
- Barbara McCallin, Consultant
- Tatiana Iskindirova, Project Manager, Global Protection Cluster (including focal point for HLP)
- Ela Serdaroglu, IFRC, as Global Shelter Cluster Coordinator
- Colombe Cahlen-Salvador, NRC, ICLA Fellow
- Dalia Aranki, Global HLP AoR Coordinator

Calling in via conference call
- Kirstie Farmer, HLP Adviser, NRC
- Agnes Korus, Cash and Protection Advisor, GPC
- Ina Rehema Jahm, IOM
- Ibere Lopes, Shelter-HLP Advisor, Global Shelter Cluster
- Jamila El Abdellaoui, UNHCR
- Ombretta Tempra, GLTN/UN Habitat
- Depika Sherchan: Afghanistan HLP Task Force

1. Introduction, welcome and updates, HLP AoR updates since last meeting and Amman retreat

Updates by Dalia, new Global HLP AoR Coordinator

- Global HLP AoR workplan 2018
  - There were several meetings last year and the last get together was the retreat in Amman, to work on priorities.
  - These meetings and follow-up consultations with partners has helped to update the 2018 workplan. This is based on the 2016-2018 strategy with the two overall strategic objectives to (1) support HLP coordination and response; and (2) raise awareness and engage with donors and other stakeholders, including cross-cluster.
  - For the updated workplan, the main areas of focus that have come up are:
    - HLP integration into all stages of response;
    - women’s HLP rights; and
    - security of tenure.

Action point: Dalia will share the 2018 draft work plan for comments and division of work and responsibilities.

- GPC Conference, Bangkok
  - There is a GPC conference in Bangkok at the end of May, which this year is the global protection cluster and all AoRs/sub clusters coming together.
  - The HLP AoR sessions will be held on the first two days. There are approximately 15 HLP partners attending
DRAFT: 8 May 2018

Areas of focus will be:

- Security of tenure
- The new way of working (HLP integrated as part of the humanitarian-development nexus).

**Action point:** Dalia to share agenda and follow-up from HLP AoR sessions at the conference in Bangkok.

**Updates from participants**

- Bahram/OHCHR: the main work is in relation to the Arabic version of the Pinheiro Principles handbook on restitution. This is a joint effort with different agencies, including UNHCR, NRC, IOM, UN Habitat and others. The idea behind it is to update the handbook on HLP restitution to adapt it to the regional needs, and to take examples from the regional areas and studies done in countries, to come up with handbook document for colleagues working in the field. There was a first round of comments but will need another round to ask for more guidance on what this handbook should look like.

- A second area of work that OHCHR is developing is linked to the risk factor with land in relation to different situations, whether it is in a non-crisis country where land can lead to violence and conflict or in a post-conflict situation where land is essential in terms of stabilisation, and non-recurrence of conflicts.

- Barbara: working on consultancy with UNCHR and UN Habitat on city profiles in Syria. Typical area-based approach looking at different types of security of tenure according to neighbourhoods, and linking it to displacement patterns, and looking at returns or non-returns. This research shows to what extent you can use urban planning to obstruct return in the future.

- Ina/IOM: cross-border HLP work as part of Syria response. Includes due diligence, development of operation guidance and tools with other clusters, including Shelter and CCCM.

- IOM is working with other agencies, led by UN Habitat, to review and analyse Syrian laws related to HLP which have been passed since 2011. These will be set up in a database which will be searchable in English and Arabic.

- As part of the HLP Technical Working Group in Gaziantep, HLP partners have been preparing a paper to inform discussion on restitution in Syria.

- Over the last year, together with UNCHR, IOM has been working on a guidance note regarding HLP integration across responses. This is now being finalized. The idea of the guidance note is very much to give operational guidance and will be shared and form part of the discussions at the HLP AoR sessions at the GPC conference in Bangkok.

- Kirstie/NRC: working internally on HLP, including the finalization of the Sphere shelter chapter on security of tenure. Also working with camp management specialists to understand how HLP issues are coming up in the camp management programmes (in and out of camps) and how to all work together to have a more integrated approach.

- Jamila/UNHCR: currently supporting several country operations, including a recent mission to the Philippines, looking at HLP issues arising and possible UNHCR responses.
2. Shelter-HLP update, Update on resource and activities of Global Shelter-HLP Advisor

Presented by: Ela Serdaroglu, Global Shelter Cluster Coordinator and Ibere Lopes, Shelter-HLP Advisor

Ela
- HLP is a major issue for the Shelter Cluster – for the last three years, HLP has been identified as one of the top three biggest challenges for the clusters at country level. Country clusters need special support, so it has been high on the agenda of the Shelter Cluster.
- Have been able to secure some funding for a Shelter-HLP Advisor for a year.
- Priorities include raising awareness for partners on HLP; increase skillset; and try to align initiatives.

Ibere
- Started in March 2018. Conducted survey with clusters at national level to identify support required. Workplan includes initial deployments to South Sudan, Nigeria and DRC (June/July). Ibere will provide access to technical support, including training and capacity building of shelter partners on HLP.

Regarding a question about available guidance on the risks to operate in urban places in reconstruction, there is some guidance available on HLP section of Global Shelter Cluster website. Guidance for disaster and conflict are different, particularly regarding length of response. Usually for conflicts, the cluster mechanisms are active for longer time than for disasters. Have been discussing with UN Habitat to strengthen approach to urban response, including city profiles.

3. HLP and Cash-Based Interventions Tipsheet, Overview and update on GPC tipsheet

Presented by Agnes Korus, Cash and Protection Advisor, GPC

- GPC is developing tipsheets on cash and protection for each AoR
- Tipsheet prepared over last year and draft recently circulated to HLP AoR for comments.
- Developed by few people who brainstormed on the structure of the document and on initial content. Within HLP, the initial taskteam was composed from 3 people (GPC, one person from HLP AoR and one person from Shelter Cluster).
- The tipsheet aims to show some evidence that cash contributes to reducing protection risks.
- Within HLP, identified tenure security as a broader goal, that may reduce risks.
- In terms of lessons learned from the AoRs, important to include equal information about cash and HLP information.
- Ideally, all the tipsheets should be concluded by the end of May, so it would be great if everyone can send comments by the 16th of May, using track changes and inserting the
comments directly into the draft. The comments should be clear and actionable. It would be also great to share examples of using cash as part of HLP interventions.

Suggestion to consider section in IDMC report called “Home Sweet Home” about practices in Haiti. There are some guidelines regarding the use of cash for rent.

4. Afghanistan HLP Task Force Strategy, Overview and update on strategy and workplan

*Presented by Depika Sherchan, Chair, Afghanistan HLP Task Force*

- Context of over 1 million refugees living in Pakistan and Iran, and 1.2 million IDPs. Have a large population already living in informal settlements and have returnees.
- It is a challenge to consider access to land and trying to address this in the context of conflict violence and insecurity.
- The Task Force is a sub-cluster of the Protection Cluster, and chaired by UN Habitat with NRC and UNHCR as co-chairs. Have a wide participation with humanitarian and development actors. Also work very closely with governments, which enables the Task Force to work successfully on legal reform.
- In terms of a response strategy, three areas of focus:
  - To have an effective and functioning Task Force for HLP platform to be able to provide the support.
  - Increase access to land, tenure security and housing – within humanitarian response and as part of durable solutions.
  - Improve access to legal identity and civil documentation: NRC ICLA is taking a lead with a focus on statelessness.
- Trying to be a knowledge hub so working on setting up a website. Also working on trainings and supporting drafting of legal frameworks: looking at allocation of state land by the government for IDPs and returnees, and occupancy. Also work on evidenced-based advocacy.
- Looking at issues of land reform etc, and it is something that really needs to be pushed. In this looking at women’s access to land, particularly in the context of sharia law. Also looking at different tenure options.
- Challenge regarding importance of HLP within durable solutions and considering how to address issues which do not clearly fit within humanitarian architecture.

Questions/Comments

- Ela: mentioned the need to link up more with natural resource management aspect of it, and there is a quite comprehensive tool (with a lot of HLP and natural resources management components) and called QSAND (quantifying sustainability in the aftermath of disasters). There might be some good suggestions there because there are a lot of recommendations.

5. HLP Coordination in Cameroon, Update on consultation and steps to strengthen HLP coordination

- Patrice from NRC Cameroon was not able to call in but will be the first presenter at the next meeting and will send a summary in bullet points.
6. AOB

- Ombretta/Global Land Tool Network (GLTN): GLTN partners’ meeting last week in Nairobi. There was a strong opening with the importance of land in conflict. Country experiences on Afghanistan and Somalia. Discussed a bit all activities that have been doing at the regional and country level. There will be more opportunities to discuss how to take this discussion forward, and to see if with HLP AoR can support each other.

- Ibere: request to all the people participating in the meeting; since his role with the Global Shelter Cluster is recent, if anyone comes across organisations that need Shelter-HLP support, please let them know that the resource is available.

**Action Point:** Dalia will include a couple of lines on this in the Global Protection Cluster update to reach a wider audience.