

27 March 2018, at
15:30
(GVA)

Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility (GBV AoR)

Monthly Call - March



Chair: Jennifer Chase (GBV AoR/Coordinator)

Participants: Amira Diallo (UNFPA CAR), Astrid Haaland (GBV AoR), Alex Shaphren (PLAN International), Bridget Relyea (Women and Health Alliance International), Carina Hickling (Amplatus, Singapore) Cathy Andela (REGA), Emily Krasnor (UNFPA NY), Eri Taniguchi (UNFPA Iraq), Francesca Paola Crabu (UNFPA Syria), Fulvia Boniardi (Global Communities), Irene Quizon (NRC), Jenn Lee (IRC), Magherita Maglietti (UNFPA Gazientep), Ken Otieno (UNFPA Libya), Joanina Karugaba (UNHCR Geneva), Jennifer Miguel (UNFPA/ Regional Syria Crisis), Jessica Gorham (REGA East and Southern Africa, Jodi DiProffio (Pathfinder International), Judith Kaisa Laitila (IFRC),), Lisa Akero (Norwegian Red Cross), Lisa Holmberg (UNHCR Geneva), Luana DeSouza (UNFPA Nairobi), Matthew Cogan (Irish Aid), Max Maxime Rwendeye (ICGLR- Regional Training Facility on SGBV, Kigali), Megan Lind (NRC), Misha Baudisch-McCabe (War Child Canada), Morganne King Wale (War Child Canada), Micah Williams (IMC), Monica Matarazzo (Intersos Amman), Monica Noriega (IOM Geneva), Pamela DiCamillo (UNFPA WoS, Amman Hub), Sarah Mosely (IRC Geneva), Sarah Martin (IMC), Seona Dillon McLoughlin (Irish Consortium on Gender Based Violence, UNFPA Syria Country Office), Stefanie Rühl (GBV AoR),

Agenda:

1. Call to Action National Road Map (Astrid Halaand)
2. Current Emergency in Syria (Sub-Cluster Coordinators reporting from Damascus and Gaziantap)
3. Mission Update from Somalia (Jessica Goreham, REGA)
4. Mission Update from Libya (Alexina Rusere, REGA)
5. Announcements
 - i. Strategy and Work Plan
 - ii. Vacancies

Minutes of the meeting:

1. Call to Action National Road Map

The GBV AoR has secured ECHO funding, which will support the implementation of the Call to Action Road Map in two contexts and generate guidance and tools to facilitate the implementation of the Call to Action across national contexts. The project has four results. The first two results focus on the development and roll-out of the Call to Action in two contexts: A Call to Action Road Map is implemented in Nigeria and an additional Road Map is developed at national level in DRC. During the development of the road map in Nigeria, the need for minimum standards for GBV was recognized, which gave rise to draft, pilot and validate GBV Minimum Standards as a third result of the project (led by UNFPA). Finally, the WRC will develop a global tool kit on how to implement the global road map at the field level. The fourth result seeks draw on the implementation of the road map in DRC and Nigeria to generate and share learning. It will be available in 4 languages. It is a global proposal that aims to generate learning from the knowledge coming from the two contexts.

2. Current Emergency in Syria (Sub-Cluster Coordinators reporting from Damascus and Gaziantep)

Overview (Jennifer Miguel, Whole of Syria GBV Coordinator)

In July 2014 a UN Security Council Resolution was passed allowing cross-border operations to start without further approval by the Government. This allowed for the set-up of cross-border operations supported by the

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UN from Turkey, Jordan and to some extent from Iraq. The Turkey hub is fully clusterized, with a GBV sub-cluster, co-led by Margherita Maghlietti (UNFPA) and Fulvia Boniardi (Global Community). In Jordan there's a GBV working group led by Heather and Margerita. The GBV sub-cluster working group in Syria is led by Francesca Crabu. All three hubs are brought together under the umbrella of the Whole of Syria operation to avoid working in silos.

Ongoing Emergency and Response by hubs (Francesca Crabu, GBV Coordinator in Damascus, Syria)

The Syria operation is responding to two major crises: in Afrin and in East Ghouta. The situation in East Ghouta is critical. According to OCHA estimates, 80,000 people have been newly displaced, of which 51,000 stayed in shelters in East Ghouta. The main needs in these overstretched shelters, which are 300 percent over capacity, are serious protection and GBV concerns. Despite concerted advocacy efforts there is no freedom of movement. There are major concerns related to the screening process. Male military personnel are conducting the screenings. So far, no abuses have been reported. A second major concern relates to the Status documentation of Unaccompanied Children. Mobile clinics are employed to provide direct services in the shelters. The provision of these services is challenging as the criteria for assessing shelters remains unclear and some organizations are not permitted entrance to the premises. The GBV sub-sector works closely with the other sectors (e.g. WASH, Shelter, NFI etc.). GBV risk mitigation missions are taken place. ICRC/SARG is the lead agency for coordination. The Humanitarian Coordinator is offering assistance and UNHCR will shortly deploy someone to work on coordination around shelters. Efforts are under way to improve coordination, including the mapping of services and the set-up of referral pathways. However, the situation is evolving daily and there is a lack of concern for the minimum standards for humanitarian evacuation. From a GBV perspective another major concern is the lack of privacy and provision of specialized services (e.g. for pregnant women).

In Afrin, the situation is similar. Around 60,000 are staying in Afrin along with around 200,000 IDPs. The restriction of movement affects the GBV response as the main specialized service providers are based in Aleppo and IDPs cannot reach Aleppo. Services are scaled up with different partners in Nabul and Tall Rafaat, but the security situation is volatile. Supported by the Syria Humanitarian Fund (SHF), the GBV sub sector and Protection are coordinating in East Ghouta and Afrin to set up child friendly spaces, women and girls' safe space and registration information.

Margherita Maglietti, GBV Sub-cluster coordinator in the Turkey Hub, Syria cross-border operation

Low-onset response of the cross-border operation from Turkey focuses on IDPs in Afrin region that are more accessible from Turkey than from Damascus. There are only a few organizations that are working in the area due to the shift of control in the area. Currently, one protection partner is providing comprehensive services, including GBV services, safe spaces for women and girls and mobile teams. In Eastern Ghouta, the cross-border operation is focusing on people who have been evacuated from crisis-affected areas to Idlib. Around 20,000 people are staying in three reception sites. The majority of partners have been operating in Idlib in a challenging context as displacement has been on-going over the past years. An offensive in the South from Government forces caused significant displacement from December to mid-February, reaching around 300,000. Meanwhile, the situation has calmed down accounting for some return movement to these areas. In general, the cross-border operation works in an integrated manner between the child protection and GBV teams. A focal point system in the different areas of operation enhances coordination on the ground and provision of services. The basic emergency response package includes the distribution of dignity kits (for males and

females) and referral to more specialized service provision such as case management. GBV awareness sessions are also conducted across different locations.

For further information see the power point presentation attached.

Jennifer Miquel – on GBV risk mitigation in the Whole of Syria (WoS operation)

Christine Apio has provided support to the Whole of Syria operation in fostering GBV risk mitigation. Christine was consulting for one month with all clusters to support the integration of GBV and identify a way forward. The aim is to have a plan for each cluster outlining the key issues, recommended actions, but also the key financial asks that will serve the humanitarian coordinator to go and shop around for it. The humanitarian coordinator is very supportive of spearheading GBV risk mitigation across clusters.

Jennifer Chase: Different countries have had different levels of success in the integration of GBV activities across sectors. At the GPC protection conference in Bangkok we will seek to identify good practices for the integration of GBV across sectors. Currently, a training on the GBV Guidelines is conducted in Amman. An update will be provided during the next call.

Margherita Maghlietti: The situation in Syria has been fast changing with shifts in displacement and control over the territories requiring a resource-intensive GBV response. It is important to flag that the operation is quickly using up the available resources and have a continuous need for additional resources – including both funds and human resources. It is challenging to receive visas and permits for staff to be allowed to enter the camps (e.g. for monitoring missions). Capacity building of partners is challenging as crash-trainings are not sufficient and staff is required to provide continued support.

3. Mission Update from Somalia (Jessica Goreham, REGA East and Southern Africa)

- Welcoming Louana de Souza who has been seconded to the Nairobi office from the Swiss Development Core for the next year.

Update on missions in Somalia and South Sudan:

- Over the past two months Jessica has supported the GBV sub-cluster coordination team in Somalia developing their GBV national strategy. A mission to Mogadishu is planned for the week of 1-6 April to present the strategy to the Government and partners. After a number of prior consultations the strategy is at the stage of being finalized.
- A similar activity is envisioned for South Sudan. Jessica was supposed to go on mission to South Sudan in the last week of March facilitating a consultation workshop with the members of the sub-cluster, but was unable to go due to visa issues. The new GBV sub-cluster coordinator, Andrea Cullinan and the co-lead Alice Mangwi (IRC) facilitated the workshop. Based on the outputs, Jessica will continue to develop the strategy and go on mission to Juba to present the final draft and do final consultations, if needed.

Update on regional activities

- Raising awareness on the Call to Action in East and Southern Africa collaboration with ECHO: ECHO is hosting a two-day symposium at the end of May that will look at mitigating GBV risks and promoting

protection outcomes within the nutrition and food security clusters that work on the South Sudanese crisis. Five countries are targeted: Kenya, Uganda, Sudan, Ethiopia, South Sudan. The idea is to share learning across all sectors to promote a better understanding of good practices within nutrition and food security. Learning drawn from this context can inform the response to drought situations, which is a prevailing challenge in the region. **The invitation along with a call for presenters are attached to the minutes.** Please share it with relevant colleagues working in the five countries. On 10 April, a small donor meeting will be held to engage other donors to provide support in the symposium as well as to raise awareness on the call to action.

- Two workshops on preparedness were held in 2016 and 2017 with participants from 17 countries in the region (funded by OFDA). Each country came up with action plans that were followed-up at the national level. Government and national partner engagement in the workshop was very high with half of the participants coming from the Government and twenty per cent coming from national NGOs. Luana has been following up with the participants of these trainings in a concerted effort to gather learning, take stock of what has been done and how preparedness efforts can be furthered going forward. UNICEF provides the figure that every dollar spend in preparedness saves 6 dollars in the emergency response. Southern Africa needs to be targeted as a number of cyclical disasters are occurring. The UNICEF regional office has provided some funds to follow-up on the initiative based on the desk review and follow-up with each country.

4. Presentation on the Child Survivor Initiative (Megan Lind, Child Survivor Coordinator)

- The Comprehensive Coordination Support to Child and Adolescent Survivors of Sexual Abuse in Emergencies Initiative (Child Survivor Initiative) seeks to improve the quality of and access to services for child and adolescent survivors of sexual abuse in emergencies.
- It is using a phased approach to enable context specific learning on how child protection and gender-based violence actors are working together at the intersection of the two sectors.
- The Child Survivor Initiative will deliver the following results:
 - Practitioners have an enhanced knowledge base on responding to child and adolescent survivors, both male and female, of sexual abuse in emergencies;
 - Coordination mechanisms in Iraq, Myanmar, Niger, and Sudan have access to appropriate resources to guide coordination of response services to child and adolescent survivors of sexual abuse, in emergencies; and
 - Global actors have committed to improve the quality of and access to child and adolescent survivors of sexual abuse, in emergencies.
- The Child Survivor Initiative is managed by the Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP AoR), led by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), working in partnership with the Gender-based Violence Area of Responsibility (GBV AoR), International Rescue Committee (IRC), and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC).
- The group decided on four pilot countries: Iraq, Sudan, Myanmar and Niger. For practitioners on the call working in these pilot countries, please share relevant information and documents as well as the contact of people/organizations to consult with the CSI team (contacts provided below). They are available for Skype calls or to meet in person during their missions to the four countries.

Schedule of the upcoming missions in the pilot countries (Irene Quizon, Child Survivor Coordinator)

- Both the CP and GBV coordination teams are engaged in each country.
- First visits are scheduled for Iraq in April, Myanmar in May, Niger before June and Sudan mid-June.
- Several visits will be scheduled in each country.

Learning and good practices (Jenn Lee, CP/GBV Child Survivor Specialist)

- The initiative will seek to collect good practices, challenges and gaps around the coordination of services to support child survivors
- Megan and Irene will be providing support in country through the coordination mechanisms
- Based on the learnings gathered throughout the initiative recommendations will be formulated to be taken forward globally and applied to other emergency contexts
- There will be opportunities for learning exchanges through a community of practise as well as capacity building opportunities (under discussion)

Addition to the CSI (Jennifer Chase): The country selection was based on consultations with both GBV and CP sub-cluster coordinators at the national level. There is a strong interest at the country level for the initiative to be expanded to include more countries and a bigger team, if additional funding can be mobilized.

For more information, please contact: Jennifer Lee, CP/GBV Child Survivor Specialist at Jennifer.Lee@rescue.org; Irene Quizon, Child Survivor Coordinator at Irene.Quizon@nrc.no and Megan Lind, Child Survivor Coordinator at Megan.Lind@nrc.no.

5. Announcements (Jennifer Chase GBV AoR)

GBV AoR Strategy and Work Plan

- The GBV AoR core member meeting was held at the end of January. As part of the meeting the final draft of the GBV AoR strategy and work plan were reviewed and discussed during the workshop. Participation (around 40 people) included GBV AoR core members, donors and representatives from the GPC and other sub-clusters, such as the CP AoR. The consultation process for the GBV AoR strategy started with a GBV AoR coordinator meeting in Portugal in November. There was a follow-up consultation with francophone coordinators in Dakar, recognizing that there had been no translation at the Portugal meeting. About five focus group discussions were led by different sub-clusters coordinators in diverse locations (DRC, Philippines, South Sudan.). A survey about 347 surveys were translated into four languages. Three calls were held to consult with the donor state group. There were consultations in Geneva with different cluster leads as well as 44 key informant consultations.
- The process is ending in late March and the strategy will be printed in April and launched at the GPC Protection Conference at the end of May. The conference will for the first time include the AoRs and there are two AoR specific days in the agenda. Unfortunately, there are only 200 spaces for the entire conference, with 50 slots allocated to the GBV AoR. A focus for the participation is put on the field (sub-cluster coordinators), followed by core members and a small group of donors as well.

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GBV AoR Coordination Team

- The GBV AoR coordination team is growing. Stefanie Ruehl joined the team for the next two years as GBV Analyst. XXX will start as GBV IM officer on 1st of May.

GBV AoR task teams and reference groups

- **A task team on localization** will be initiated, which will be co-chaired by CARE and Action Aid. It is open for anyone to join – please get in touch if you are interested in participating.
- **The policy and advocacy task team** has found a second co-chair. It will be co-chaired by Action Aid and CARE Washington. The group is also open for new members.
- **The Global Minimum Standards Group** is currently contributing to the review of the Child Protection Minimum Standards.
- **The Learning Reference Group** is currently looking for a new co-chair.
- **The GBV-IRC Guidelines Group** is currently holding a 5-day training in Amman for different clusters and will be holding a regional training in Nairobi next month
- Updates from the different task team leads to be provided in the next calls.

Vacancies

- The GBV Minimum Standards is looking for a talented technical writer International Consultant (deadline:) – see [vacancy notice](#).
- The GBV AOR is looking for someone to provide support in leading the revision of the Coordination Handbook who has drafting, coordination and protection knowledge – see [vacancy notice](#).