

12 June 2018,
at 15:30
(GVA)



Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility (GBV AoR)

Monthly Call – June 2018

Chair: Astrid Haaland (GBV AoR)

Participants (43) including: Silje Heitmann (NCA), Ellen Gorris (ECHO), Victoria Nordli (IOM), Monica Noriega (IOM), Theresia Thylin (UN Women), Seona Dillon Mc Loughlin (ICGBV), Osama Afaneh (WAHA International), Renee Wolforth (INTEROSOS), Kate Rougvie (GBVIMS), Megan Lind and Irene Quizon (Child Survivors Initiative), Sophie Sutrich (ICRC), Lizzi Mc Guinness (ICRC), Lisa (UNHCR), Eri Taniguchi (UNFPA Iraq), Veronique Ossouhou (Action against Hunger, Canada), Catherine Poulton (UNICEF), Alex Valoroso (Cuso International Guyana), Micah Williams (IMC), Mamello Moloapo (AIDS Free Lesotho), Cara Endyke Doran (MSH), Thabile Cele (Uppsala University), Jessica Gorham (REGA/GBV AoR), Colm Byrne, Robyn Kerrison, Kaisa Laitila (IFRC), Michelle Trombley (GBV Coordination Handbook), Joanina Karugaba (UNHCR), Zubaida Abubakar (UNFPA, Nigeria), Mbacham Bih Bridget (Research and Advocacy for Gender Justice, Cameroon) Leslie Archambeault (Plan International), Leora Ward (BPRM), Liz Pender (OFDA), Cathy Andela (REGA/ GBV AoR), Maria Holtsberg (IPPF), Luana Desouza (GBV AoR, Nairobi) and Stefanie Ruehl (GBV AoR).

Agenda:

1. Call to Action Annual Partners' Meeting in Brussels, by Ellen Gorris
2. Call to Action Symposium in Nairobi, by Jessica Gorham and Luana DeSouza
3. Call to Action Road Maps in DRC and Nigeria, by Astrid
4. Update on GPC Protection Conference in Bangkok, by Stefanie Ruehl
5. REGA update, by Astrid
6. Update on the Child Survivors Initiative (*postponed until next monthly call, due to lack of time*)

1. Call to Action (CtA) Annual Partners Meeting, by Ellen Gorris (ECHO)

Five new partners have recently joined the CtA: Latvia, the Danish Refugee Council, WAHA international, Women Deliver and Gender Force (total membership has reached 76).

The CtA Partner Meeting in Brussels (27-29 June)

44 organizations have so far registered for the closed technical level partners' (2.5 days) meeting. In the afternoon (Day 1), there will also be an open awareness-raising event, with high-level speakers: ECHO Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid, and also Ms. Lamia Haji Bashar and Nadia Murad, 2016 winners of the European Parliament's Sakharov human rights prize. After these keynote speakers, there will be a panel discussion with Canada, UNFPA, Care International, 'Abad, and a civil society representative.

It is a strategic aim for ECHO to engage local partners more effectively and meaningfully in the CtA. Therefore, eight local organizations have been invited to the CtA meeting (otherwise limited to members), and their participation has been sponsored by the GBV AoR Localization Task Team (TT). The face-to-face TT meeting takes place the two days prior to the CtA meeting.

Agenda of the Meeting, Day 1

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Morning - Setting the scene, introduction, overview of main aspects of our leadership, highlights of progress, then there will be an update on 'what has been going on in the GBV world' (market place on new GBV initiatives, resources, tools).

Afternoon - Awareness raising event: Open to an additional 100 participants, invitations have been shared widely.

Main points of discussion and products will be presented at the beginning and discussed further during the following days. On the agenda,

- Discussion on CtA strategic overarching shifts (as proposed by Liz Pender from OFDA, who was part of the US leadership of the CtA): Accountability, Collective Action and Engagement of Local Actors
- Presentation of preliminary findings on progress (Road Map Implementation Progress Report)
- CtA governance package

Day 2

Morning sessions and in-depth discussions: 1) C2A rollout at field level 2) Involvement of local actors

Currently the C2A is being rolled out in two pilot countries (DRC and Nigeria), and this session will present the state of play in both countries, and also look at how the Real Time Accountability Framework (RTAP) is complementary and mutually reinforcing to the CtA Road Map initiatives. There will be a short update on the June CtA workshop in Kinshasa that initiated the DRC Road Map planning, and local actors will be presenting their perspectives on these processes.

The Localization session is still in the brain storming (lead by CARE International and ActionAid, Co-chairs of AoR TT). The aim is to make this session interactive, to start discussion and learn from Civil Society Organizations through break out groups.

Afternoon session: Talk more broadly about what are the collective elements of the CtA, the strategic shifts, and discuss what the main areas of our work are, where we need to work more closely on advocacy etc.

Day 3

Two thematic sessions: 1) Funding to address GBViE (NGOs Working Group is taking a lead, in collaboration with states and donors group), 2) Thematic discussion on the protection against sexual abuse and exploitation (organized by Oxfam and IOM).

After lunch: Wrap up and forward looking discussion on next steps/reflections beyond the Road Map ('what after 2020').

Announcement: If you are a C2A member and you would like to register for the meeting, please get in touch with Ellen.

2. Update on the CtA Symposium in Nairobi, by Jessica

We had a six-organization strong Task Team (WFP, UNICEF, UNFPA, DRC, SDC/Switzerland, ECHO) to plan for this regional symposium, to raise awareness on the CtA at field level. We decided

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to put the CtA into context, and we focused on the South Sudan crisis and on positive steps for GBV risk mitigation in the food security and nutrition sectors, to highlight good practices. This made sense also because the global guidelines team had already raised awareness through the regional training in Nairobi.

We had broad participation - 65 participants from countries that are affected by drought, and 12 presenters from different organizations (WRC, Care, UNHCR...) representing the Food Security and Nutrition Sectors. It was not so easy to find the good practices, so there is room for improvement. Some of our most successful sessions were led by local organizations who are doing excellent work with very little funding, for example in South Sudan.

Switzerland contributed funding to this event, hosted by ECHO, and we have decided to dedicate some savings to implement follow-up activities in Ethiopia.

Q&A:

Leora queried about potential overlaps or blurred lines on the intention behind the different global initiatives (such as the Guidelines rollout), and stated that they had expected CtA to focus on more high-level/strategic action of the Road Map to avoid duplication down the road.

Astrid: The regional/country-level workshops are part of an effort to sensitize field-based staff of CtA global member organizations, including technical staff, and to introduce country-level organizations to the CtA. The objective – to raise awareness at country level - is very different from the actual implementation of context specific Road Maps (taking place in DRC and Nigeria).

Jessica responded that the Task Force discussed this, and it was felt that to reach a broader audience, it was important to put the CtA into context (drought response), to help organizations that are less familiar of our field gain a better understanding. The symposium started with an overview of the CtA and the global Road Map, and we talked about how the guidelines, RTAP and other initiatives fit into/come together under the CtA. The country-specific discussions focused on more high-level advocacy points, and ECHO agreed to share these with donor states active in the region.

Ellen: From the outset of our leadership, we identified the need to address the gap in Road Map implementation and awareness at field level. ECHO has an extensive field presence that we wanted to leverage as part of our leadership, to ensure that the global CtA Road Map is increasingly useful to the field. While Road Map pilots are limited to DRC and Nigeria for now, we wanted to build interest and support for the CtA in other countries where we have a presence. We are incredibly happy with the results we have seen so far from bringing GBV specialists and other protection actors together (in three workshops so far) to review context specific challenges to make the CtA relevant also at the practical level.

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Liz: This is a very important discussion and we have faced similar challenges with RTAP – I see a lot of value of discussing the overlap and distinctions of each initiative at the CtA partners' meeting.

Ellen: It may be helpful for us to have a bilateral discussion ahead of the Brussels meeting. I also encourage everyone to kindly get in touch with the organizers of the specific sessions, to ensure your important issues are integrated into the program.

Joanina: At our last AoR meeting we asked for a mapping or diagram of these initiatives and how they reinforce or link to each other.

Veronique: I attended the Symposium on behalf of Action against Hunger and am wondering why you decided to focus on Ethiopia ('why not for example South Sudan or neighboring countries where there are also needs').

Jessica: The funding available is quite limited (USD 6000), and we made the decision based on a number of determining factors (budget, in country capacity, presence of other initiatives, SDC also had a say in it and they are present in Ethiopia).

In response to a question about ECHO plans next year (CtA leadership ends in December 2018), Ellen confirmed that the project implemented in partnership with the GBV AoR, will continue until the end of 2019. ECHO will continue to be an active actor and partner in the CtA and we have an evaluation next year on their gender actions.

3. DRC/Nigeria Call to Action Road Map Status, by Astrid

The GBV AoR is managing a global ECHO grant to support and coordinate implementation of CtA Road Maps in Nigeria and DRC. Implementation has just started (18 m). The final objective is to develop learning and tools that can help other countries replicate context specific Road Maps, and thereby enable a multiplier effect.

It is important for us that country level coordination around GBViE is anchored with the GBV sub-clusters, and we are well placed to operationalize the CtA Road Maps at field level, even though CtA leadership and collective action goes beyond the sub-cluster.

Emily Krasnor, UNFPA focal point for RTAP, is in DRC now, together with Jennifer Chase and Joan Timoney, for the first DRC Road Map (RM) workshop. There are 50 participants from different regions. The learning angle for CtA RM implementation in DRC is to link the CtA Road Map with the revision of the National Strategy to Combat Sexual Violence, which means bringing in development actors from the beginning. The GBV sub-clusters, government and civil society actors will then convene in Goma and one more field location this summer, to discuss Road Map implementation at more operational, output level.

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In July, we will have a meeting in Nigeria, to look at commitments so far, to finalize the Road Map/launch the plan.

We now have two M&E staff in place, one per country, and Christine Apio has recently been appointed as REGA (special profile) to provide GBViE capacity building support, support the inter-agency leadership of the Road Maps at country level, advocacy etc. Christine will be based in Maiduguri and cover both contexts, which will be a challenge, so the GBV AoR may need to draw on the broader REGA team.

While we are supporting GBV leadership and coordination, as well as capacity building, monitoring and evaluation capacity, there is a great need for other actors to step up. The funding does not enable us to fund actual service delivery. To scale up the GBV response, we need a strong collective effort.

We can ask the GBV AoR team now in DRC, to provide an update once they are back.

During the project preparatory phase, we agreed on DRC as second context for Road Map implementation, based on in-country capacity and interest in taking this on, access issues, political context as well as ECHO capacity to engage in the project.

Finally, the funding contributes to the development of the GBV Minimum Standards; a need identified in Nigeria by local actors as a prerequisite for a stronger, quality GBV response.

4. Update on GBV AoR/ GPC Protection Conference, by Stefanie

The GPC Protection Conference took place in Bangkok from **28 May to 1 June 2018**. This was the first time the GPC and its Areas of Responsibility (CP, Mine Action, Housing, Land and Property (HLP), and GBV) had a joint annual meeting for its coordinators. The conference marked the 20th Anniversary of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. The GBV AoR had very good representation, with 50 participants of which 21 were Sub-Cluster coordinators.

During the first two days of the conference, the AoRs had their separate agendas. The GBV AoR meeting included discussions on key themes of concern to both coordinators and core members – a mix of consultations to gather feedback on on-going processes and presentations of new tools and sharing of good practices.

The full GBV AoR meeting report (as well as shared resources and presentations) will be shared with the GBV AoR list serve and posted on our website.

The GBV AoR Strategy was launched in Bangkok and all GPC Protection Conference participants were invited. The strategy sets out strategic objectives and priorities for 2018-2020. We held a reception in the evening of the third day – presenting the strategy and disseminating the first printed copies. There was also a GBV AoR session on the first day to discuss how to link the global strategy to country sub-cluster plans, and ensuring that the global work plan is updated and informed by field priorities.

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In the Global Protection Cluster - AoR Coordinators meeting today, there was agreement that bringing the different protection actors together was a success in terms of cross-fertilization. Exposure to the other AoRs and their key issues was useful to the general protection coordinators, and this made the protection-related discussions also more grounded in technical needs compared to the more lofty sessions during previous protection retreats. The GBV AoR aims to develop more joint work streams with Mine Action and HLP ahead of next year's meeting.

GPC will send out a survey to all participants to evaluate the meeting.

5. REGA Updates, by REGA team

We have had recent REGA missions to Sudan, Niger, Whole of Syria, and Ethiopia. The reports will be shared shortly. We are planning new missions to Ethiopia, Iraq, Libya, Nigeria and Somalia.

Niger: Cathy and Stefanie organized coordination workshops that included the facilitation of Megan, coordinator linked to the Child Survivors Initiative. Both GBV and CP coordinators at national and sub-national level came together and there was broad participation of coordination partners. There was a first meeting at capital level, and then at sub-national level (in Zinder, moved from Diffa due to a security incidence). **Three main achievements:**

- Better understanding of how to integrate response and adapted services to Child Survivors.
- A draft work plan for the rest of the year based on workshop discussions; the first draft is circulating for review, for CP and GBV actors to work together.
- At capital level, no strategy, but in Diffa, there is a strategy. Need for increased communication and linkages between capital/strategic and operational levels in support of the response.

This was the first of a series of GBV coordination workshops, funded by ECHO through an integrated GPC project. Future GBV coordination workshops are planned for Libya, Iraq, Burundi and potentially Somalia. The REGA team is developing standard coordination modules, with Stefanie here in Geneva, and these should be available by the end of this year for core members also to use.

Alexina fielded a mission to **Sudan**, where the government is more open to dialogue on GBV response following the high-level SRSG mission on sexual violence. Alexina did capacity building of among other groups, the judiciary and legal staff of line ministries, and focused on re-engagement of the National Unit for Combatting Sexual Violence against Women on GBViE response.

Jessica's mission to **Ethiopia** focused on training of social workers in Psychological First Aid, as well as guidance for GBV response for the conflict-related IDP population relocated by the government and has no GBV service coverage. A follow-up mission will focus on putting in place referral pathways; a major challenge and priority raised by both CP and GBV actors.