

Durable Solutions Technical Working Group (DSTWG) – Summary of Meeting

Meeting four– 20th January

Co-chairs/Facilitators: Bradley Mellicker, IOM, Zulfiye Kazim IOM, Hilary Murphy, UNDP, Ismael Frioud, DS advisor for RC/HC office

Attendees: IOM, OCHA, National Protection Cluster (NPC), Shelter/HLP cluster, ICRC, UNICEF, UNHCR, CCI, ICCG, UN-Habitat, Oxfam, Mercy Corps, REACH Initiative, Al Tadhama Iraqi League for Youth, Secours Islamique France

Overview and Agenda

1. Update on National Plan
2. Overview of changes made to operational framework following inputs
3. Update on area-based coordination
4. Overview of available support to area-based groups
5. Kick off of TWG to DSTWG on monitoring and DS indicator development – as well as update on established facilitated returns group

Action Points

1. Will share updated framework for inputs – within 1 week
2. Area-based groups – will share information so partners can reach out if interested in becoming focal points, including suggestions for additional areas
3. Details to be shared of next facilitated movement technical group meeting
4. Kick-off of monitoring group
5. Template for plans of action to be prepared by co-chairs for member input in next meeting

Re-cap of previous action points

- Will share updated framework for inputs – by early next week
 - *PENDING -Framework updated significantly based on inputs, hence review in present meeting*
- Area-based groups – extended deadline for review of ToR Monday COB
 - *COMPLETE ToR is now endorsed*
- Inputs on additional areas to target for area-based approaches are welcome
 - *COMPLETE Suggestions received and incorporated into new list*
- Area based planning guidelines to be updated and shared based on discussion
 - *COMPLETE Updated and shared*
- Will recirculate link for technical discussion on facilitated movements

Update on National Plan

- National Plan now nearly finalized, with validation from PM's office expected soon
- Following technical support provided by DSTF and a series of meetings towards the end of 2020, comments provided have largely been incorporated into the plan. Specifically:
 - Note made in plan that it was developed in coordination with DSTF (specific reference to IOM and UNDP given co-chair roles)
 - Now reference to fact some IDPs cannot return and require alternative solutions

- Acknowledgement of concerns/needs of IDPs out of camp (not just for purpose of return but also for integration)
- Reference to relocation and local integration as solutions
- Next steps will be led by DSTF chairs and HC, to update on DSTWG planned approach to support implementation of plan through area-based coordination, as well as agree on mechanism to regularly convene at national level to ensure feedback loop, and platform to discuss issues, between local and national level.

Changes Made to Operational Framework

Following consultations with members, and valuable inputs, the operational framework has been reformulated, incorporating this feedback. Specifically:

- Direct reference to the DSTF strategy and Chapeau document included in the document
- Situation overview expanded with more information on barriers and updated data
- Strategic and specific objectives restructured with one comprehensive strategic objective encompassing of all solution pathways
- Area-based coordination and planning section was expanded, based on the guidance document circulated earlier and discussions since December
- Clearer explanation of plans of action as the ultimate output of area-based groups

As next step, will share with DSTWG members with 1 week to review, with specific outreach to technical experts for certain sections. Will then be shared with DSTF for review and final input.

Update on Area Based Coordination

- Have received names for 7 identified priority locations
- Need to reach out to organisations to confirm specific focal points and contacts by early next week
- Still space to expand the list if there are interested actors
- Will be conducting a meeting for all focal points to outline expectations and scope of work soon
- Currently OCHA has been listed as 'humanitarian' focal point for several groups – however objective is to replace with other operational actors – OCHA actively seeking replacements

As a next step, will finalise and communicate current list by early next week, and will outline clearly how other interested organisations can get in touch to become members or focal points. Will be important to kick-off the group meetings soon. Reminder that area-based group ToRs are now clearly modified and endorsed to state that these groups are supposed to be small steering bodies – two focal points, along with 5-7 members who will drive the development of plans of action, while also linking with 'extended partners' to identify inputs and contributions to the process and plans.

National and Field Level Support to DSTWG

Was noted that a key question received from focal points is the level of support that will be provided by the national DSTWG given the significant work expected from area-based groups – with concern over local level capacity and the fact that focal points are volunteer organisations with additional, internal, priorities. Was outlined that the existing RWG team will be supporting this work and the team will be further expanded.

Specifically:



- The RWG pre-existed the set up of the DSTWG and DS mechanism, and has been working on many tasks, such as roundtables, plans of action etc which have now shifted under the DSTWG. As such, there is a trained, experienced team, with existing relationships, that can support these efforts.
- The structure of the team was presented, including:
 - RWG co-chair – who has been supporting the drafting of plans of action in the past
 - Field liaison focal points for centre-south, Kirkuk/Ninewa and KRI who have been participating in ICCGs, working with MOMD and other government offices, who have delivered DS training (after receiving ToTs), who have worked on return mapping, analysis of DTM and return index data to support localized planning, prepared roundtable workshops, regularly attend local coordination meetings with government and international actors
 - Field liaison assistants who support liaison officers and are more geographically spread
 - Additional staff to be hired: Dedicated IM manager, field coordinator to support area-based groups with government liaison, roundtables etc, as well as a dedicated officer to support with the drafting of plans
 - More capacity is expected to be identified soon and NRC co-chair hire under process of finalization
- Overall, as each area-based group is expected to follow a set process to develop and implement plans, the DSTWG national team (including the RWG team which will now support both bodies) will support with each step. This support will be detailed and documented to share with all area-based groups after this meeting.
- In practice, these team members need to therefore be present in the area based meetings and will participate to provide the back stopping support
- Was also noted that a template for the ‘plans of action’ will be prepared by co-chairs for discussion and review in next meeting

Update on Technical Groups

- Facilitated returns group have met once and will meet again on the 24th – details will be shared with the group in the summary of the meeting – will work on modifying existing guidelines that have been developed by IOM, particularly to expand so out of camp settings and settlements effectively incorporated – current participants CCCM, NPC, IOM
- Proposition to start technical working group on monitoring and indicator development for DS – potential participants include NPC, IMMAP, REACH, IOM (noting technical groups can extend beyond DSTWG core group). If interested, please flag by early next week

Wrap up/Next Steps Priorities

- Finalise Operational framework, including inputs from specific technical areas
- Finalise list of focal points for area groups
- Kick off meeting with area focal points
- Plan of action template to be prepared by co-chairs for discussion

AOB

- Was suggested that the group should provide more systematic updates which can be shared, as well as consider developing a work plan so members can easily track progress and upcoming priorities. Will also support with communicating more broadly externally. Co-chairs to discuss and propose approach.