

Education Thematic Working Group (ETWG)

Education in Emergencies Coordination Meeting (Yangon)

Date:	22 January 2014	Venue:	Save the Children Office
Time:	15:00 – 17:30	Chaired by:	Arlo Kitchingman – EiE Sector Coordinator

Agenda – RAKHINE (15:00 – 15:45)

1. Overview (re-cap) of current education support in Rakhine

As an introduction for some new meeting attendees the meeting was commenced with a brief overview by the EiE Sector Coordinator of the current education support being provided in Rakhine. This included the following:

- **UNICEF** is a key partner and implementer of primary emergency education to IDPs in Rakhine in townships of Sittwe, Pauk Taw, Minbya, Mrauk-U. Also supporting communities in northern Rakhine State (nRS), mainly through distribution of teaching and learning materials. Funding designated for peace-building will supplement and expand these programmes to use Education as a vehicle for promoting peaceful co-existence.
- **Save the Children** is a key implementer of primary emergency education and some youth programming in conflict-affected Rakhine working in Sittwe and Pauk Taw. Also working with ethnic Rakhine and Muslim communities in Rathedaung since 2011 delivering Child Protection and Education programmes (including a peaceful coexistence course). Funding to continue these aspects of this programme in Rathedaung in 2014 is currently being sought.
- **Lutheran World Federation (LWF)** is a key implementer of primary emergency education in four large IDP camps in Sittwe township (Muslim and Rakhine) and now has funding to initiate activities for younger children (3-5 yrs) and youth education activities in the same area.
- **Plan International** has been supporting child-centred disaster risk reduction (DRR), ECCD parenting education, school retrofitting and child-centred climate change adaptation (CCA) since 2013 in ethnic Rakhine communities in Taungup, Kyaukphyu and Rathedaung. Funding has now been secured to support the IDP camps in Kyaukphyu and Rambree with the potential to expand to other areas later in 2014.
- **Myanmar Red Cross** has funding to support education in Rakhine state, in both Muslim and ethnic Rakhine communities. Activities are still at the planning stage.
- **UNESCO** has also secured funding and agreement with the Government to start a peace education programme in northern Rakhine State. The initial phase of the programme is already underway and implementation is due to commence early into 2014. The core components of the programme are teacher and PTA training and initiatives through the community learning centres using materials developed and tested by UNESCO.
- **Bridge Asia Japan (BAJ)** has been working in areas of Rakhine since 1995. In 2007 it established the Technical training centre in Sittwe. Now it is involved in school construction (100 schools in 6 townships by 2017) and vocational training, both in close collaboration with the Government. Their vocational training programmes are mixed ethnicity/religion and focus on motorbike repair training and sewing training which have resulted in some businesses being established.
- **Local NGOs:** In addition to the international organisations which support education in both ethnic Rakhine and Muslim communities, there are also many ethnic Rakhine LNGOs/CBOs

which only work to improve education in their community. Examples are Wunlad Foundation, ABCD, Utopia, AD2030, Rakhine Thakaya, Millennium Centre and the Rakhine Women’s Network.

1. Action points	Responsible
a) Circulate the updated Rakhine EiE 3W to the sector. b) Explore the development of a State-wide Education 3W. c) Engage with other education actors in Rakhine, e.g. CFSI (UNHCR funded). d) Continue to encourage a standardized package of emergency education. e) Continue to actively encourage learning and linkage between humanitarian and development education activities and actors.	Sector Coordinator Rakhine EiE coordination group (for updated 3W)

2. Rakhine key EiE updates

- **Fires in Pauk Taw:** The recent fires in Sin Tet Maw camp, Pauk Taw also resulted in the destruction of two UNICEF temporary learning spaces.
- **Myebon humanitarian access:** Following advocacy and the visit to Rakhine by a UN delegation and the vice Minister of Board Affairs, pledges have been made to improve humanitarian access to Myebon to allow a much-needed improvement in the condition for the Muslim IDPs residing there. Part of this should be support to education, including using the nearby vacant school used by security forces, as prioritised by the community and verbally supported by the vice Minister during the visit. As the main implementing organisation in Myebon, Relief International welcomes this and support in expanding their existing package to include Education.
- **Sittwe education sector coordination meetings** with the State Education Director’s office re-started on Friday 24 January. From now on they will take place every two weeks. Two key topics which arose were the need for quality standards in TLS construction to be met by all implementing organisations and the urgent needs (and demands) for TLS to be provided to the IDPs in Ngee Chung. Key advocacy points were also conveyed to the Education Director to take to a meeting in Nay Phi Taw on 28 January 2014.
- **UNICEF** currently has two consultants working on their Education and peace-building strategy and programme for Myanmar with an EiE focus on Rakhine. This will build on the education and conflict assessment and report conducted by Save the Children at the end of 2013. One will be in Rakhine from 1-18 February meeting affected with affected communities and other key stakeholders including implementing partners.
- **LWF has secured more funding for education** funding from ECHO for supporting more education for IDPs in Rakhine: 1700 children 3-5 years old; 4000 children 6-10 years old in IDP camps; 1548 children 11-17 years old in IDP camps. Activities include psychosocial support and life-skills. Two partner organization specialists will be in Rakhine for the next two weeks to kick off the programme and support technically.
- **Myanmar Red Cross** has funding to support education in Rakhine state, in both Muslim and ethnic Rakhine communities. Activities are still at the planning stage with Red Cross requesting information/guidance on main geographical gaps and information on programme components (TLS design, teacher recruitment, etc.)
- **Save the Children** now has 27 TLS open and functioning with furniture and teaching and learning materials in Sittwe, with three more about to be started in Sin Tet Maw, Pauk Taw.

2. Action points	Responsible
a) Elicit information regarding the destroyed TLS in Pauk Taw. b) Support RI to find funding and resources for education in Myebon. c) Attend next EiE Sector Coordination meeting in Sittwe. d) Support UNICEF Education & Peace-building consultants (sector/topic documents, contacts, ideas). e) Provide technically support to Red Cross and LWF on new programme set up (where needed).	Sector Coordinator UNICEF Save the Children

3. Rakhine EiE strategy and response plan review

The Rakhine Education Strategy and Response plan that was developed following the workshop in Sittwe in September has now been considerably shortened by OCHA into a 3-page response plan overview for inclusion into the Myanmar Humanitarian Strategy (MRS) 2014 document. The longer sector strategy document (12 pages) will be finalised soon following further consultation with sector members. The summary sector response plan has been circulated for final feedback and meeting attendees also had another opportunity to question and revise the plan. Following this the latest submissions are now with OCHA for incorporation into the final product which should be released in the next 2 weeks.

3. Action points	Responsible
a) Submit final version of Rakhine Response Plan 2014 to OCHA by COB Friday 24 January 2014. b) Finalise longer sector strategy document following further consultation with sector by mid February 2014. c) Use the strategy to support advocacy and funding efforts of the sector as well as guiding implementing partners	Sector Coordinator UNICEF Save the Children EiE sector partners

4. CERF Under-funded sector update

OCHA recently announced a USD 5.5 million pot of funding available for under-funded emergency sectors/programmes. As this is for Myanmar as a whole, specific programmes and areas needed to be prioritised. Following consultation with sector members, the Sector Coordinator presented a request for USD 1.2 million for funding youth education in Rakhine for reasons of complete lack of services, protection and instability. Following inter-sector meetings and consideration by the Humanitarian Coordinator USD 450,000 has been earmarked for Education at the time of writing (this may change). Once confirmed, sector partners will be invited to submit proposals for implementing youth emergency education activities in Rakhine.

4. Action points	Responsible
a) Once funding is confirmed, issue call for proposals and technically support their development. b) Work with UNICEF (administrative partner) to vet and select the proposal for final submission to OCHA.	Sector Coordinator UNICEF

Agenda - GENERAL (15:45 – 16:15)**1. INEE Conflict Sensitivity training pack – pilot?**

The Inter-agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE) is looking for Clusters/Sector around the world to pilot their recently-launched Conflict Sensitive Education Training materials during the month of February 2014. Details of this call were shared with the group in order to gauge interest in doing this. The general consensus was that, if there was time, a pilot training session in Yangon at the end of February could be an option. Following this pilot, if it is decided to be appropriate and useful to the different Myanmar contexts, it could then be delivered in Rakhine and Kachin through the sector and partners.

1. Action points	Responsible
Request materials from INEE, set tentative date for training in Yangon (26-27 Feb) and identify co-trainers from other agencies.	Sector Coordinator UNICEF

2. INEE EiE Terminology Bank Development - input?

INEE are also requesting participation of EiE actors in discussing and agreeing common terminology for the sector. Any members interested in inputting into this should email: Meredith@ineesite.org.

2. Action points	Responsible
Share opportunity to review terminology with EiE Sector members.	Sector Coordinator

3. Capacity development needs of the sector (2014)

Also linked to the INEE is the Minimum Standards (MS) training that the Kachin Education Sector Coordination partners requested during the last visit to Myitkyina, Kachin. This training is potentially useful not just because it clearly lays out the minimum standards that all supporting education organizations should be aiming for, but also because it provides a useful framework and structure for planning and proposal writing – and one which promotes a more holistic approach to programming. The INEE Minimum Standards have already been translated into Myanmar language to facilitate their use in Myanmar.

However, training on the INEE MS is not the only capacity gap in that the Sector can support and therefore invites feedback from sector members on specific and priority needs which need to be addressed.

1. Action points	Responsible
a) Issue general request to EiE Sector on training needs and incorporate into 2014 Sector work and funding plan.	Sector Coordinator
b) Share the INEE MS in Myanmar language with the EiE Sector.	

Agenda – KACHIN (16:15 – 17:00)

1. Overview (re-cap) of current EiE work in Kachin (inc. 3W)

In terms of supporting Education in Kachin KMSS (Karuna Myanmar Social Services and KBC (Kachin Baptist Convention) are the two largest national organizations and work in all townships, urban and rural, including the remotest areas. Due to the high caseload and needs of the IDPs along the border areas of KCA (Chipwe, Waingmaw, Momauk, Bhamo, Mansi) other national organizations are also present and supporting education, namely Metta, Shalom and WPN (in order of organization size). The larger national organizations – namely KMSS, KBC and Metta – work through other CBOs (unregistered) such as the Kachin Women’s Association (KWA), Kachin Relief Development Committee (KRDC) Network, Kachin Development Group (KDG) in NGCA/KCA. The Kachin Women’s Association is particularly active in the organization and delivery of ECCD services in IDP camps and communities.

International organizations supporting (or with funding to support) national organizations working in both GCA and KCA include UNICEF, Save the Children, Plan international, AVSI, Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). This support comes in the form of funding, representation and administration, capacity development, logistics and supplies (particularly UNICEF).

2. Kachin key EiE updates (incl. Boarding houses)

- Plan international has started their work with Metta supporting ECCD in areas of Kachin.
- Save the Children continues its efforts to access funding from OCHA working through a national organisation in NGCA Kachin.
- Shalom Foundation, which work closely with the KIO Education Department in Kachin, reported an immediate funding gap for which they are struggling to find donors, and requested guidance or support from any agencies which could offer it, particularly UNICEF in terms of education supplies and Myanmar textbooks.

A recent UN cross-line mission in Kachin revealed more information about the conditions in the school boarding houses and hostels which will be consolidated into a full report by OCHA and released soon. Initial reports suggest that the needs of the boarding houses visited are diverse and serious: poor water and sanitation facilities, limited protection against the cold, insufficient nutrition, inadequate space and education materials. This information is useful to help the sector mobilize funding to support improvements in the boarding houses and hostels. More information will come out of the more comprehensive education assessment planned for Kachin (see point 4 below).

2. Action points	Responsible
a) Share January cross-line report with sector once finalised and ready for general dissemination.	Sector Coordinator
b) Support Shalom to identify funding for the current gaps in their education support in Kachin.	

3. Kachin EiE strategy and response plan review

The Kachin Education Strategy and Response plan that was developed following the workshop Yangon in November and Myitkyina in December has now been considerably shortened by OCHA into a 3-page response plan overview for inclusion into the Myanmar Humanitarian Strategy (MRS) 2014 document. The longer sector strategy document (12 pages) will be finalised soon following further consultation with sector members. The summary sector response plan has been circulated for final feedback and meeting attendees also had another opportunity to question and revise the plan. Following this the latest submissions are now with OCHA for incorporation into the final product which should be released in the next 2 weeks.

3. Action points	Responsible
a) Submit final version of Kachin Response Plan 2014 to OCHA by COB Friday 24 January 2014.	Sector Coordinator UNICEF
b) Finalise longer sector strategy document following further consultation with sector by mid February 2014.	Save the Children EiE sector partners
c) Use the strategy to support advocacy and funding efforts of the sector as well as guiding implementing partners.	

4. Education initiatives in Kachin - assessment and improving coordination

UNICEF continues to discuss with KIO Education Department (KIO ED), KMSS and KBC the conduct of a comprehensive education assessment in NGCA Kachin. The draft assessment tool has been shared with the KIO ED and will be revised based on feedback and dates and resources for an assessment agreed. A fuller and more detailed picture of the situation of education in NGCA Kachin will significantly support the sector in planning and fundraising for its education activities. Part of this assessment could include an institutional capacity assessment of the KIO ED in order to identify gaps and priority support needs.

The idea of improving education coordination in Kachin through the establishment of linked (and trained) sub-clusters in Bhamo (led by Metta) and Laiza (led by SC) to support the main sub-cluster in Myitkyina (led by UNICEF) was also discussed and action to follow up on this with the three organisations involved needs to be taken.

4. Action points	Responsible
a) Support development of needs assessment tool and coordination between key stakeholders involved (and provide technical support where necessary, including for conduct).	Sector Coordinator UNICEF KIO ED KMSS
b) Follow up on discussions with UNICEF, Metta and SC about new sub-cluster set-up in Kachin supported by training from the Sector Coordinator.	KBC (Others?)

The next Education in Emergencies sector coordination meeting in Yangon is planned for the afternoon (15:00 – 17:30) of Wednesday 19th February 2014. Details of the venue will be shared in due course.