

Education in Emergencies Coordination Group

Meeting minutes - Yangon 19 February 2014

Date:	19 February 2014	Venue:	UNICEF Officer, Yangon
Time:	15:00 – 17:30	Chaired by:	Arlo Kitchingman – EiE Sector Coordinator

Agenda – RAKHINE (15:00 – 16:00)

1. Review of last meeting's minutes (22 Jan 2014)
2. EiE in Rakhine - key organisation and activity updates
3. Rakhine EiE Response Plan and strategy update
4. CERF-UFE and education update
5. UNICEF Education & Peace-building strategy outline
6. Rakhine A.O.B.

Agenda - General (16:00 – 16:30)

1. INEE Conflict Sensitivity training pack pilot – 4-5 March in Yangon?
2. Contested Corners of Asia - conflict and education (Asia Foundation presentation share)
3. EiE webpage (part of MIMU)
4. General A.O.B.

Agenda – KACHIN (16:30 – 17:30)

1. Review of last meeting's minutes (22 Jan 2014)
2. Kachin key EiE updates (incl. needs assessment and cross-line missions)
3. Boarding houses guidance note
4. Kachin EiE Response Plan and strategy update
5. Kachin A.O.B.

RAKHINE (15:00 – 15:45)

1. Review of last meeting's action points (from 22 Jan 2014)

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

Action points and subsequent actions	Responsible
a) Circulate the updated Rakhine EiE 3W to the sector. <i>- Rakhine 3W still awaiting update at the state level. Also plans to reformat it. Once done will be circulated widely</i> b) Explore the development of a State-wide Education 3W. <i>- Once EiE 3W revision finalised, create development one using same format.</i> c) Engage with other education actors in Rakhine, e.g. CFSI (UNHCR funded). <i>- Plan to meet CFSI on next Rakhine visit.</i> d) Continue to encourage a standardized package of emergency education. <i>- Standards need to be revisited and revised (possibly at workshop in Sittwe)</i> e) Continue to actively encourage learning and linkage between humanitarian and development education activities and actors. <i>- Ongoing process. Recent examples of 'development' actors linking more closely with EiE – UNESCO, CFSI, Plan.</i>	Sector Coordinator Rakhine EiE coordination group (for updated 3W)

1.2. Rakhine key EiE updates

Action points and subsequent actions	Responsible
a) Elicit information regarding the destroyed TLS in Pauk Taw. - SC to take over provision and rebuild using new design b) Support RI to find funding and resources for education in Myebon. - Despite exploring initiatives (with SC & UNICEF) access did not improve and so education support currently on hold. c) Attend next EiE Sector Coordination meeting in Sittwe. - Not able to attend in Feb, but plan to go in March (including potentially for workshop) d) Support UNICEF Education & Peace-building consultants (sector/topic documents, contacts, ideas). - Documents, information and ideas shared with, and feedback given to, both consultants at multiple meetings. Draft report presented in Feb meeting. e) Provide technically support to Red Cross and LWF on new programme set up (where needed). - Multiple meetings with Red Cross regarding options for education programme in Sittwe. Latest possibility is implementing through SC.	Sector Coordinator UNICEF Save the Children

1.3. Rakhine EiE strategy and response plan review

Action points and subsequent actions	Responsible
a) Submit final version of Rakhine Response Plan 2014 to OCHA by COB Friday 24 January 2014. - Latest version submitted, but may not be final. b) Finalise longer sector strategy document following further consultation with sector by mid February 2014. - Not possible in February due to Kachin trips. Plan to go in March to finalise with sector. c) Use the strategy to support advocacy and funding efforts of the sector as well as guiding implementing partners. - Once strategy and workplan finalised (and more implementing partners identified) will be used more actively.	Sector Coordinator UNICEF Save the Children EiE sector partners

1.4. CERF Under-funded sector update

Action points and subsequent actions	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. - USD 500,000 was earmarked for emergency youth education and SC submitted proposal vetted by UNICEF & EiE Sector Coordinator. Awaiting response.	Sector Coordinator UNICEF

2. EiE in Rakhine - key organisation and activity updates

- **LWF** is struggling to find sites for their new TLS under their new ECHO grant to support education for the following 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. Any advice or contacts from other agencies which might help this process would be welcome. Two of LWF’s teachers are reported to have left the camps – one for Malaysia and one to Yangon. LWF are currently changing their management and structure and this will be finalized soon.
- **Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS)** 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 now considering implementing through **Save the Children** (and possible just hardware). The potential for using MRCS’s presence in education should be used as an opportunity for improving coordination with the Government and the relationship with the Rakhine community.
- **UNICEF** currently has two consultants working on their Education and peace-building strategy and programme for Myanmar with an EiE focus on Rakhine, building on the education and conflict assessment and report conducted by Save the Children at the end of 2013. Following two weeks in Rakhine the initial findings are being presented in Yangon (including at this meeting today) for sector feedback. UNICEF ha submitted the CERF-UFE proposal for USD 500,000 for their implementing partner **Save the Children**. UNICEF will soon have their new Education Specialist for Rakhine in place who will lead coordination of the sector in Rakhine.
- **Plan International Myanmar** has submitted a one-year education proposal to target Rakhine Buddhist communities with peace education in addition to their ongoing school DRR work (a development project). Plan is also in discussions with UNICEF about their potential to expand their operations in Rakhine to conflict-affected areas under a UNICEF PCA.

2. Action points	Responsible
a) Call for support from partners to help LWF more forward their effort to secure for more TLS sites in the camps. b) Meet and introduce the new UNICEF Education Specialist to the sector mechanisms, documents and tools. c) Facilitate and supports Plan’s discussions with UNICEF on expanding their operations to conflict-affected areas of Rakhine under a UNICEF PCA.	Sector Coordinator Sector partners UNICEF

3. Rakhine EiE Response Plan and strategy update

The latest version of the Strategic Response Plan for Education in Rakhine has been submitted to OCHA but it looks likely t hat it will come back for further changes, particularly regarding targets and indicators.

However, there is little space in this condensed plan for strategy, and therefore the plan is to hold a one-day workshop in Sittwe as soon as possible (March probably) in order to finalise the longer documents produced following the workshop held in Sittwe in December 2013. This should include a workplan for 2014 and an agreed harmonized education package and standards.

3. Action points	Responsible
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a) Work with OCHA and partners to make any further changes request to the SRP quickly and accurately. b) Hold EiE sector workshop in Rakhine to finalise strategy and review other areas of work including harmonization and coordination improvements.	Sector Coordinator Save the Children Rakhine UNICEF Rakhine LWF Rakhine MRCS Rakhine Plan international State Education Office
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4. CERF-UFE and education update

USD 500,000 was earmarked for emergency youth education and SC submitted proposal vetted by UNICEF & EiE Sector Coordinator. Awaiting response from OCHA NY.

3. Action point	Responsible
Once grant is live support UNICEF and SC to process new PCA as quickly as possible – grant ends at end of year.	Sector Coordinator Save the Children Yangon UNICEF Yangon

5. UNICEF Education & Peace-building strategy outline

Randal Salm, UNICEF Peace-building and Education consultants recently spent 2 weeks in Rakhine meeting partners, stakeholders and conflict-affected communities resulting in a draft report which highlights the following (amongst others):

- The situation in Rakhine requires a political solution. Education can contribute to supporting the implementation of political decisions but cannot lead on reconciliation initiatives.
- There was no evidence that the madrasah's were a force for conflict. The communities see them as a place for peace and instruction (koranic).
- Teacher and volunteer teacher pay needs to be reviewed and increased. The title 'volunteer' is not appreciated by the teachers and they feel under-valued.
- Formal teacher training needs to extend to the volunteer teachers in the camps.
- More vocational training needs to be provided.
- The dynamics of each camp, village and area are different and require different approaches and interventions.
- Anti-Muslim propoganda is evident and rife and needs to be tackled - Can education play a role in this?
- Communication of national organisations with the Rakhine community needs to improve.

The full report will be released by UNICEF in the next few weeks.

5. Action point	Responsible
Follow up with UNICEF on release of the Rakhine, education and peace-building report following the assessment and presentation.	Sector Coordinator UNICEF

6. Rakhine A.O.B.

It is end of academic year exam time and partners need to monitor whether the Government SEO is facilitating exams taking place in the camp TLS and host community schools.

OCHA will be starting this year's update of the Myanmar Preparedness and contingency plans in March and all sectors, including education, will need to update their sector plans at the national and state levels.

6. Action points	Responsible
a) Follow up with the Rakhine EiE Sector UNICEF on release of the Rakhine, education and peace-building report following the assessment and presentation. b) Use proposed workshop in Rakhine to review the sector preparedness and contingency plans	Sector Coordinator UNICEF

GENERAL (15:45 – 16:15)

1. Review of last meeting's action points (from 22 Jan 2014)

1.1. INEE Conflict Sensitivity training pack – pilot

Action points and subsequent actions	Responsible
Request materials from INEE, set tentative date for training in Yangon (26-27 Feb) and identify co-trainers from other agencies. <i>- Materials received and date to trial the training is set for 4-5 March 2014 at UNICEF – all sector members are invited.</i>	Sector Coordinator UNICEF

1.2. INEE EiE Terminology Bank Development - input?

Action point and subsequent actions	Responsible
Share opportunity to review terminology with EiE Sector members. <i>- Information shared with members for their own action.</i>	Sector Coordinator

1.3. Capacity development needs of the sector (2014)

Action points and subsequent actions	Responsible
a) Issue general request to EiE Sector on training needs and incorporate into 2014 Sector work and funding plan. <i>- Request not yet issued. Instead capacity needs assessment in line with SRP (when released)</i> b) Share the INEE MS in Myanmar language with the EiE Sector. <i>- Shared by email and on the EiE Sector webpage.</i>	Sector Coordinator

2. INEE Conflict Sensitivity training pack pilot

See above action point – set for 4-5 March in Yangon. All members welcome.

Action points	Responsible
a) Feedback to INEE b) Adapt training pack to Myanmar context and pilot again before translating into Myanmar language c) Deliver new training pack in Rakhine and Kachin (to start with)	Sector Coordinator UNICEF Save the Children

3. Contested Corners of Asia - conflict and education (Asia Foundation presentation share)

The Contested corners of Asia presentation by The Asia Foundation was re-presented in the meeting by the EiE Sector coordinator. The presentation can be found here on the EiE webpage:

http://www.themimu.info/sites/themimu.info/files/documents/mtg_presentation_edu_contested_corners_of_asia_presentation.pptx

This interesting and informative report looks at sub-national conflict, economic development and the links to education. Some of the key findings were:

- Economic development (measured in terms of national GDP) does not correlate with a reduction in sub-national conflict due partially to an unequal share of the benefits.
- Sub-national conflict does not only happen in fragile states; Government legitimacy may be more important than Government capacity. As such, small policy changes or initiatives can play an important role in moving peace forward, or at least preventing a return to hostilities.
- Education is an important element of ethnic national group identity and so great emphasis places upon it; literacy rates may be higher than average in such areas.
- All development programmes interact with conflict. Small changes to your existing development programmes (based on sound analysis) can shift the programme from it doing harm to it contributing towards peace.
- Process is even more important in conflict contexts.

The full report can be found by following the link at the end of the presentation.

Action points	Responsible
a) Share report with Sector b) Promote incorporation of report's findings into relevant EiE programming in Myanmar	Sector Coordinator Sector partners

4. The Myanmar EiE webpage on MIMU: <http://www.themimu.info/emergencies/education>

Along with other sectors/clusters, EiE now has site space with MIMU to support more effective information sharing and coordination efforts. All meeting minutes, resources, relevant reports and information will be posted to this website in future and the links shared rather than the documents in an effort not to block your inboxes.

Action points	Responsible
a) Share all relevant sector documents with MIMU for posting on site b) Request sector partners for more relevant sector resources for sharing b) Promote use of site with sector partners	Sector Coordinator

KACHIN (16:15 – 17:00)**1. Review of last meeting's action points (from 22 Jan 2014)****1.1. Kachin key EiE updates (incl. Boarding houses)**

Action points <i>and subsequent actions</i>	Responsible
a) Share January cross-line report with sector once finalised and ready for general dissemination. <i>- Report shared with sector members following meeting</i> b) Support Shalom to identify funding for the current gaps in their education support in Kachin. <i>- EiE Sector Coordinator supporting Shalom to secure short-term funding from OCHA and textbooks from UNICEF</i>	Sector Coordinator

1.2. Kachin EiE strategy and response plan review

3. Action points	Responsible
a) Submit final version of Kachin Response Plan 2014 to OCHA by COB Friday 24 January 2014. <i>- Latest version submitted, but may not be final.</i> b) Finalise longer sector strategy document following further consultation with sector by mid February 2014. <i>- Not yet done due to other priorities.</i> c) Use the strategy to support advocacy and funding efforts of the sector as well as guiding implementing partners. <i>- Once strategy and workplan finalised (and more implementing partners identified) will be used more actively.</i>	Sector Coordinator UNICEF Save the Children EiE sector partners

1.3. Education initiatives in Kachin - assessment and improving coordination

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). <i>- Ongoing process to be continued in cross-line mission at end of Feb</i> b) Follow up on discussions with UNICEF, Metta and SC about new sub-cluster set-up in Kachin supported by training. <i>- To be follow-up with national partners and UNICEF during cross-line mission at end of Feb.</i>	Sector Coordinator UNICEF KIO ED KMSS KBC (Others?)

2. Kachin key EiE updates (incl. needs assessment and cross-line missions)

Since November 2013 UNICEF has been discussing with the KIO Education Department (KIO ED) the possibility of them supporting a comprehensive education needs assessment of KIO-controlled Kachin with funding and technical support through KBC. Some progress has been made in the development of a needs assessment tool (questionnaire) involving other sectors (Protection/Child Protection and

WASH) in November-December 2013, and discussions also held over the process and resources needed for this in February 2014.

The KIO received the latest draft (v.4) of the needs assessment tool in January 2014 from UNICEF to review and feedback on. The feedback received was that everything in this (long) needs assessment tool was both fine and necessary. This prompted concerns that the tool was misunderstood, and/or they are impatient to start the assessment; and/or the wrong people in the KIO ED had been approached. UNICEF and the EiE Sector Coordinator did not consider the current tool appropriate because it is a) too long b) too quantitative - not qualitative - and c) they are not sure it is what the KIO ED wants or needs (related to above point). This led to a decision in UNICEF to slow the process, bring in a dedicated (international) consultant to lead it, broaden the participation in it (including potentially Shalom for the institutional capacity assessment) and establish what data is already available and design a tool/process which captures what is really needed. A three-page document proposing the aim, objectives, activities, process and timeframe for the assessment was produced in English and translated into Kachin as a way to clarify the situation and a basis for discussion.

Action points	Responsible
a) Share and finalise cross-line mission report with relevant stakeholders	Sector Coordinator
b) Support development of TOR for UNICEF consultant to lead assessment	UNICEF
c) Support coordination of assessment plans focusing on maximising stakeholder participation and ownership	KIO ED Shalom / Metta + co.

3. Boarding houses guidance note

Following a visit and report by the UNICEF Child Protection sub-sector to the boarding schools/houses of Laiza and La Nup Zup Ja in January 2014, UNICEF and CP partners, with input from the EiE sector, have developed draft guidelines on how to engage with supporting boarding schools. This draft was shared with the meeting participants for comment, at the time or after, none was given. Draft 2 will be shared at the next meeting for further comments.

Action point	Responsible
Share and promote the document with sector partners	Sector Coordinator

4. Kachin EiE Response Plan and strategy update

The latest versions of the Kachin response plan and planning figures were shared in the meeting and should be what appears in the final Myanmar Strategic Response plan (although possibly not – changes are ongoing). It is likely that the longer strategy document will be a combination of the sector workplan and strategic approaches and this will be shared once finalised.

Action points	Responsible
a) Share final Kachin SRP widely once released by OCHA	Sector Coordinator
b) Share final strategy document once workplan to accompany it developed	

The next Education in Emergencies Sector coordination meeting in Yangon is planned for the afternoon (15:00 – 17:30) of Wednesday 18th March 2014. Details of the venue will be shared in due course.