**Minutes of IM Network Meeting: 6th September, 2017**

Chair Person: Shon Campbell, MIMU Manager.

Participants’ Organizations: UNOCHA, UNHCR, Phandeeyar, MIMU

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|  | **Issues discussed** | **Next steps** |
|  | **Damage and Needs/Losses Assessment tools**  MRCS is developing a mobile-based Damage and Needs Assessment tool with support from the American Red Cross. This tool will enable MRCS staff to gather assessment information soon after disasters to facilitate a rapid response. The MRCS/American Red Cross team met with involved agencies to discuss the initiative and exchange information on what has been done already and lessons learned prior to visiting field locations and MRCS offices. The Kobo-based tool will most likely include a chatbot that guides the user through the question set – results will be centralized in a server linked to the MRCS EOC and visualized in the form of dashboards to enable efficient decision-making and response.  OCHA is working with RRD to develop a Kobo-based mobile tool for the collection of Damages and Losses data. The system is still being scoped out with the focus so far on the initial stages. WFP will provide technical support to develop the Kobo platform. The questionnaire originated from RRD and is being digitised by OCHA. |  |
|  | **Cluster/Sector/agency updates**  **UNHCR**  Camp Profiling exercise has been completed for Kachin and Northern Shan at the end of July and the results will be shared with involved partners in Myitkyina on 3rd October and later the key findings will be presented in CCCM/Shelter/NFI cluster and Protection sector’s monthly meetings in Yangon. The questionnaire covers various sectors including CCCM/Shelter, NFI, food, livelihood, protection, health and education.  CCCM reporting - The format of the monthly CCCM/NFI Cluster analysis report has been revised after a review with partners. The new version was circulated in the July report and includes the updated population of the camps. Maps based on this data are produced by OCHA.  Protection - Protection sector is developing the protection sector dashboard with 3 page documents – first page will be dashboard showing statistics and information while the other 2 pages will contain maps. A kobo mobile based Protection monitoring data collection tool has been developed to collect information for refugee returnee caseload in south-east Myanmar.  **Phandeeyar**  OSM - In partnership with One map Myanmar, Phandeeyar launched a New Open Street Map initiative in August to create improved free and editable map of Myanmar. Events such as “*Mapathon (Mapping Party), Editathon, Validathon*” will be organised to grow the community and collect data for open street mapping, undertake editing, validation and preparation of local resources for wider use. The first year of the initiative will focus on urban areas of Yangon, Mandalay and Tanintharyi Regions after which it will be extended to other areas. Discussions have also been underway with the Humanitarian Open Street Map Team (HOT) which maps remote areas, especially in disaster situations, to support relief efforts for the vulnerable population living in these areas. MIMU suggests to work on Kachin and Shan where there are humanitarian needs and the mapping of villages is particularly poor.  Phandeeyar is also holding mapping events every second Saturday (with up to 100 participants able to participate in their space). The event information will be shared on OSM facebook group, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/osmm> , and through the MIMU website, Meeting and Events page.  **OCHA**  Contingency planning - UNOCHA is supporting the contingency planning process in Rakhine, working closely together with UNHCR which is leading on the planning in northern areas.  **MIMU**  Humanitarian support - MIMU has been producing maps of flood affected areas for local use in provision of humanitarian support based on the images provided by Sentinel Asia. The team is also developing a tool that can simplify the process of downloading and processing the data to make this quicker and less labour intensive for future use.  Capacity Building – the Excel distance learning course is underway for agency staff based in Myitkyina and will finish in this month (September). The team is currently considering possible locations for the next courses. The reasons for the lower rate of submission of assignments among agencies in Myitkyina than the previous round In Maungdaw will be looked into to help develop effective approaches. The MIMU team is also preparing a course in Access for agency and government staff.  Information products – Data collection is ongoing for the MIMU 3W and over 230 agencies contributed their project activity data to MIMU for this round. The data set and dashboard will be available in late September.  Pcodes - MIMU’s Pcode initiative continues to gather GPS coordinates for settlements across the country and currently has the coordinates of 77% of the approx. 67,000 villages we know about. MIMU will soon release Pcode version (version VIII) which has been updated with information from the recently released July 2017 Gazette. MIMU will also share information on the status of GPS coordinates across all townships to enable closer attention to those with the lowest level of village mapping.  National Coding system – MIMU and OneMap Myanmar are working with GAD to outline the needs and options for a national coding system, drawing on information from other systems used countrywide. MIMU has provided trainings and workshops and contributed to discussion on spatial data infrastructures which will link with the national coding system. The focus is on introducing models that show good practice in a government-maintained national coding system and to then bring together relevant staff from across ministries to contribute based on their specific needs. Links are also being made with other initiatives to develop coding systems at Ministry level, most particularly the Ministry of Education (through the MIMU-MoE-UNESCO school mapping project), and the new e-Health initiative of MoHS and WHO.  **IM Technical Working groups**  Rakhine IM WG - The IM Working Group in Rakhine has been established under the Rakhine Coordination Group, led by OCHA and the Resident Coordinator’s Office. It aims to strengthen IM systems and linkages among humanitarian and development efforts in Rakhine state, to coordinate IM activities, share IM tools and resources, coordinate the development and utilization of IM technologies, support assessment activities, and ensure that a core set of information management standards are in place for collecting, storing and sharing data. Members are designated IM focal points from RCG members. It was initially planned to meet every 2 weeks but may be less frequent once established. IM Network members are encouraged to join these meetings whenever they are in Sittwe.  GIS WG - temporarily suspended but will be resumed with the recruitment of a MIMU GIS Manager and, based on the GIS WG survey results from early 2017, will include more focus on presentations and capacity exchange.  ICT4D WG **-** continues to meet monthly, led by Dimagi/Saijal Liangpunsakul. The focus area in the coming meeting will be the activities of OneMap Myanmar. |  |
|  | **IM Network Workplan**  The group reviewed the IM Network workplan, including progress to date on the previous workplan (in early 2016), and suggested next steps. The achievements and next steps based on the workplan objectives:   1. **Establish simple, agreed categories of data disaggregation** across clusters/sectors to allow harmonization of data from different sources: The Data Disaggregation standards were finalised by the IM Network working with clusters and sectors in 2015 and shared with clusters/sectors as a resource. They have been incorporated in data management tools of the WASH, CCCM, Shelter, NFIs, and Protection clusters/sectors and, to a lesser extent, in the HRP. The tool is also seen as directly relevant for use in development settings, needing just minor changes (adding one further category of vulnerability around poverty, and simplifying beneficiary categories based on a check with implementing agencies). The planned orientation/training to roll out the tool with clusters and sectors soon after the finalisation of the tool did not take place and this has been an impediment to this initiative moving forward.   Next steps**:** Review and fine-tune the Humanitarian Data Collection standards tool with clusters/sectors. Agree next steps in rolling the final standards out more widely.   1. **Improving use of Assessment data:** The MIMU Assessment tracking tool was developed and launched and has captured information on close to 500 assessments and publications. OCHA has finalised and released the updated MIRA and collation of relevant secondary data to facilitate decisions around support prior to initial assessments.   Next steps:Promote wider use of the tool. MIMU is also preparing online township profiles as a constantly updated source of the secondary data needed for early decisions around response.   1. **Support Best Practices in IM:** Surveys were conducted to review and refine IM Network and GIS WG activities.   Next steps:Broaden participation in the IM Network. Clarify whether it would still be helpful to collate tools used by clusters/sectors for their mutual use.   1. **Build capacity of IM/data management staff**: MIMU courses developed in this period respond to the IM Network priorities (QGIS training for basic mapping, Excel and Distance Excel Training, IM workshops)   Next steps: Capacity building remains very much a key priority for the IM Network given the needs. Consider ways to expand the training opportunities, build trainers skills across agencies. Arrange meeting of Tableau users to exchange experience and know who has which skills to share, link with Phandeeyar staff doing international training in Tableau     1. **Improving Base Datasets:** Phandeeyar new initiative using OSM to improve country mapping, MIMU app developed to improve village mapping.   Next steps:Strengthen agency engagement in and support for initiatives to strengthen mapping of all settlements countrywide as well as base datasets (transport, hydrology etc). | MIMU to send request for C/S comment  MIMU TS profiles  OCHA to confirm whether C/S review covered an outline of tools developed. Check ICCG interest.  MIMU to arrange Tableau users get-together later in 2017 |
|  | **Next Meeting**  The next meeting will be in November 1st  at 3:00 pm in the MIMU. Planned presentations:   * Phandeeyar on the Open Street mapping project (TBC given change of date) * MIMU on main changes with the recent Place Code release | Share ideas for speakers |

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