

Minutes of Myanmar Language Information Management Network Meeting 29th Nov 2023, 2PM MMT, online via Zoom

Agenda

1. Saving for Transformation (World Vision)

2. Updates on Sector/Cluster/Agency Initiatives

3. AOB and other discussions.

Attendance

Chair: Ei Ei Thein (MIMU)

Participants: WVM, AHRN, AMDA, BS, CARE, CPAOR, CA, COAR, CPI, DRC, GH, GNI, ICRC, JOICFP, MA-UK Myanmar,

Mercy Corps, MIMU, MEDG, NC, NAG, Nyein, Plan, PUI, UNICEF, WHO

WHMF (35 participants from 26 organizations)

1. Saving for Transformation (World Vision)

"Saving for Transformation" (S4T) by World Vision was introduced, a step-by-step program that includes four comprehensive reports and SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) plans.

This initiative was designed to enable families to invest in and save for their livelihoods, offering a sustainable platform for sharing and lending money within the community. S4T is particularly focused on supporting marginalized families and those with disabilities, ensuring their future security and involvement in community financial activities.

A goal of this program is to build financial resilience, particularly in the face of family emergencies, thereby reducing the need to seek high-interest loans from external sources. A key element of S4T is fostering a habit of saving money, using a system that allows for the saving and subsequent re-lending of funds within the community.

Notably, S4T is a community-driven initiative. Rather than being established by the organization, it encourages members to voluntarily form groups with like-minded individuals, pooling resources to enhance the group's sustainability and motivation. These groups typically consist of 15 to 25 members.

To ensure accessibility and inclusivity, S4T employs simple accounting systems, making it convenient for individuals without formal education. The program has achieved significant reach, with more than 11 million groups actively participating. The various aspects and successes of S4T are explored and discussed in detail across four distinct program segments.

2. Updates on Sector/Cluster/Agency Initiatives

JOICFP: Similar projects like World Vision were conducted for pregnant women in Wakema and Einme.

WASH: The Quarter 3 Reporting for the WASH Cluster has been completed, with all reports now available on the WASH Cluster Website. Starting this year, funding information will not be uploaded to the website due to some issues. The collection of funding information for Internal Cluster Partners occurs quarterly. All Humanitarian Clusters are implementing a data collection system known as Activity Info. The current Quarter 3 data is in the process of being uploaded, utilizing a data collection framework within the activity info system. An initiative of the WASH Cluster, in partnership with the Global WASH Cluster, began an accountability and quality assurance survey in Rakhine 5/6 months ago. Additionally, a Power BI dashboard is being developed using second-quarter data. This is being done in consultation with the Global Wash Cluster, and upon completion, it will be posted on the Global Wash Cluster Website.

CARE: Currently, the focus is on humanitarian projects, with primary efforts including Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance and the distribution of hygiene kits as part of Shelter/NFI. Financial support is being provided in some places. Some efforts are underway to experiment with the S4T approach.

CPI: The MEL (Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning) System Assessment Tool was developed this quarter, and its assessment has been conducted with the partners. Manuals for the MEL System Assessment Tool are being prepared, as necessary, for relevant organizations. Basic training related to Google Studio has been provided for CPI staff, and this training is also being made available to the partner organizations.

Google Data Studio (Myanmar Data Science) - https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLD_eiqVVLZDggTRb7gB-zwhuprmdoHxLH

MIMU: In December, an IM Workshop Training is scheduled to be held for four days, from December 12 to December 15, and a QGIS Training for five days, from December 18 to December 22. Advanced Excel Training has been planned for February. The MIMU 5W has recently been updated, and the Assessment Tracking will be updated in January. Currently, the PCode is being updated in collaboration with agencies, with a focus on villages in Tanintharyi. The updates to the villages will be released as version 9.5. Additionally, MIMU will be updating the union level baseline dataset, which is obtained from International Reports. Data covering the current 10 years, along with indicators, are being posted on the MIMU Baseline Data Page, and the MIMU baseline metadata is being made available in Excel format.

4. AOB and other discussions

The next meeting will be on January 31st 2024. Please contact ei.ei.thein@undp.org if you have anything to present or discuss.