

**Education Thematic Working Group (ETWG)**  
**Education in Emergencies Coordination Meeting (Yangon)**

<b>Date:</b>	<b>2 October 2013</b>	<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Save the Children Office</b>
<b>Time:</b>	<b>15:00 – 16:30</b>	<b>Chaired by:</b>	<b>Arlo Kitchingman – EiE Sector Coordinator</b>

**RAKHINE**

1. **Review of last meeting’s minutes and action points (for Rakhine) – No changes**
  
2. **Rakhine EiE organisation key updates:**
  - a) **UNICEF:** At the end of September UNICEF conducted a trainer of trainers (ToT) for 5 Muslim government teachers in Thet Kel Pyin. These teachers will be used to train the volunteer teachers in the Sittwe Rural Rakhine camps. This move has been supported by the State Education Office. Teacher training has also been planned for Myebon as has the distribution of supplies there.
  
  - b) **Lutheran World Federation (LWF):** 36 volunteer teachers (12 women) have received the 6-day initial/basic training from the above-mentioned Thet Kel Pyin teachers. Education kits are ready and classes will commence as soon as the Temporary Learning Spaces are completed, which they will be by the end of October. Enrolment is underway and once finalized, the list will be passed to the State Education Office to prompt them to provide the textbooks, as they have committed to doing.
  
  - c) **Save the Children (SC):** Save the Children has a full team in place in Sittwe (12), has identified the majority of its sites (40) for TLS and construction will commence soon. Volunteer teachers are being identified (128) and training will start at the end of October using the Thet Kel Pyin teachers supported by the SC EiE programme team. As expected, there is a shortage of female applicants.
  
  - d) **Bridge Asia Japan (BAJ):**  
 Bridge Asia Japan has been working in areas of Rakhine since 1995. They are currently involved in school construction and vocational training. They are constructing 4 schools in Maung Daw in 2013 and aim to complete 20 in northern Rakhine State by August 2014. Their overall target is 100 schools over 5 years (by 2017). Their vocational training programmes focuses on motorbike repair training and sewing training (mixed ethnicity/religious groups) which have resulted in some businesses being established. Their approach is to encourage integration of the different groups through their different programmes but striking the balance, especially when depending on Rakhine government support for the work to proceed – the actions of which do not reflect the national level policy on integration. The violence since June 2012 has made their work even more challenging as the local government (especially in Maung Daw) has become more suspicious of international organisations and imposed stricter movement restrictions. The situation has become more difficult since NaSaKa was disbanded as now non-Muslim teachers now have to coordinate with the police to be able to move where they need, including to collect their salary.

**3. Rakhine EiE advocacy points review**

All meeting members agreed with the Rakhine advocacy points which had been circulated widely before the meeting. These will be submitted to OCHA for inclusion in the Humanitarian Advocacy Strategy soon to be released following approval of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT).

**GENERAL**

**1. Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) – process update and next steps**

The various meetings and workshop about the HNO attended by the EiE Sector Coordinator were described and the resultant overview for Education was shared. The discussion on the potential inclusion of other potential areas in the overview and strategy (including the South East) resulted in the a consensus that for now, Kachin and Rakhine should remain the focus of the sector – for Education the South East was already covered by a large group of development actors on both sides of the border with their own coordination mechanisms.

**2. Gender based violence (GBV) in Education – action list introduction and feedback**

The workshop attended by the EiE Sector Coordinator was explained and the resultant action list for Education shared (in addition to already being circulated widely before the meeting my email). All members agreed with the action points as a first step for mainstreaming gender issues and GBV in the Education sector.

**KACHIN**

**1. Review of last meeting's minutes and action points (for Kachin) – No changes**

**2. Cross border convoys – next steps for Education**

Cross border convoys lead by the UN are underway in Kachin targeting 25,000 people. A report following this round will be released soon after their conclusion. This will included some information on the situation of Education in the NGCA (non-government controlled areas) of Kachin which should help target further information gathering efforts (there is talk of an imminent Education assessment in NGCA supported by UNICEF and partners). As part of this convoy UNICEF are targeting 12,000 children with their essential learning packages (ELPs). National organisation lamented the lack of coordination of the UN with the national NGOs working in the NGCAs and urge for this to be improved for future convoys.

**3. Improving Education coordination in Kachin (mechanisms and 3W)**

National NGOs are holding monthly meetings in NGCAs (Laiza) and in GCAs but no education-specific ones. Whether this is needed depends on feedback and input from the national NGOs working in Education which has been, and will be, requested. The recent request for 3W information was not responded to but the coming visit to and workshops in Kachin (on the Kachin Response Plan) are opportunities to address this.