**Minutes of IM Network Meeting: 2nd August, 2017**

Chair Person: Shon Campbell, MIMU Manager.

Participants’ Organizations: MIMU, UNOCHA, UNHCR, UNICEF (WASH), WWF

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|  | **Issues discussed** | **Next steps** |
|  | **Presentation – WASH Cluster website**  The WASH Cluster launched a dedicated WASH Cluster website for Myanmar at the end of June, developed with Global WASH Cluster support - <https://sites.google.com/view/washclustermyanmar>. It includes key documents, a calendar of events for the coming year, response tracking, funding analysis, gap analysis, national-level meeting minutes, workplans and dedicated pages for the clusters at regional level (Rakhine and Kachin). The site links to Google drive where the documents are maintained. Key documents will also continue to be shared through the MIMU website to increase circulation, and there are links between the 2 sites. The site content primarily targets cluster partners and donors. It was noted that a few potential users may have difficulty accessing the website information, namely the handful of larger donors in Myanmar with internal system controls blocking google drive (also dropbox for some), and for the few partners in areas of the country which rely on internet connections from China where google is blocked. |  |
|  | **Flood situation and displacement - Olivier Uzel/OCHA**  Accurate numbers of affected / displaced persons are still difficult to ascertain. Many persons who were displaced/evacuated have now returned to their homes, even in areas which still have some level of flooding, though an estimated 70,000 persons are thought to still be displaced from heavily flooded areas of Magway and Sagaing. The current published data from the Relief and Resettlement Department is collated from field sources and cumulates displaced and affected persons (whereas not all affected persons are displaced). OCHA is continuing discussions on development of a mobile tool for the collection of damage and loss assessment information (DALA) through RRD and OCHA, MIMU, WFP, MRCS provided inputs to refine the RRD questionnaire for DALA collection in early 2017. OCHA is now preparing this questionnaire for use in a KOBO form.  Other issues relevant to the DALA and current EOC arrangements as discussed by the IM Network members:   * A technical mission from the American Red Cross will be in Myanmar next week to support development of a mobile-based DALA system for use by MRCS, and will meet MIMU, OCHA and WFP to update on developments so far to promote harmonisation of the systems and avoid duplication or differing questionnaires if at all possible. * The “National EOC” has evolved under the new administration to a different type of role and responsibility, most notably with a significant decrease in its level of “Operations” such that RRD’s main role is now in situation monitoring and reporting at the Department level. The EOC is a sub-function of Research and Communication Department. The Ministry of Home Affairs will lead Emergency Operations with the Fire Service Department, MRCS and DMH playing key roles; all alert, early warning, notification and emergency communications is in the Early Warning Centre of the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology which will be developed under a new World Bank Loan. There is currently no counterpoint for Union level emergency operations. The MRCS EOC is operational. |  |

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|  | **UPDATES**  **OCHA** - Discussions have been conducted with clusters/sectors over the past 3 months to review monitoring and beneficiary estimation calculations and there has been some progress in the accuracy of beneficiary numbers. This information will feed into the HNO/Humanitarian Needs Overview and Humanitarian Response Programme preparation in November which would ideally have one methodology for the calculation of displaced persons to ensure consistency across cluster/sector data (currently some include figures for persons who are temporarily displaced and others do not). It is not yet clear whether the HNO will extend to a countrywide analysis – this is largely dependent on the information being available and requires agreed approaches as to how the number of vulnerable persons are calculated, but also how the information can be sourced since clusters’ responsibility does not extend countrywide.  MIMU noted that the countrywide HNO remains the ideal opportunity for initial steps in line with discussions on the humanitarian-development nexus as it could include information on populations across the country in humanitarian need arising from different causes (disaster/conflict issues as well as those resulting from under-development which are not currently documented). This would not necessarily change the Humanitarian Response programme focus which would likely remain on those areas with humanitarian need arising from disaster and conflict-related displacement as currently. The MIMU-HARP Township Vulnerability Analysis (nearing completion) estimates the number of vulnerable population by township and may be a useful resource for the HNO preparation.  MIMU also suggested that it would be helpful to promote camp-level inter-cluster/sector analysis by combining selected key indicators from the various cluster/sector leads’ monitoring into one format, with columns colour-ranked to facilitate for discussion and analysis by the ICCG.  **UNHCR (Shelter, Protection, NFI)** – The 6th round of Camp Profiling in Kachin and N Shan has been completed and overs 133 of the 134 camps (information was not received on one camp from the partner in time for inclusion). Dashboards and maps have been prepared for final confirmation by the field teams, after which the results will be presented in Myitkyina (August) and in Yangon (late Aug/Sept). The Camp Profiling questionnaire is large and includes different sectors, i.e. shelter, food, education, protection etc. This 6th round included changes to the previous questionnaire (around 40%). Data has been collected through camp and village administrators, as well as from beneficiaries by partner agencies - the actual sampling methodology used may differ across partner agencies: It was suggested that it may be helpful to bring partners gathering data together to review the approaches used to select beneficiaries so as to facilitate the task and promote consistency in future rounds.  JIPS Camp profiling in Sittwe is also being finalised. Data was collected on tablets (KOBO) and is available in Excel as well as in SPSS to better use for analysis. The provisional report has been circulated and presented in Yangon and the final will shortly be released. The JIPS consultant felt that SPSS capacity building may assist GAD staff and agencies to conduct further analysis of the available data however MIMU noted the need to ensure staff skill levels were appropriate for SPSS given that it is currently conducting, at GAD request, Excel training for GAD staff from across the country.  The Information Management Officer based in Maungdaw will be extended with available funding to mid-September but there are no resources to extend beyond that. MIMU noted the need for IM support dedicated to northern areas of Rakhine and suggested it may be useful to consider this an opportunity for inter-agency support.  **WASH cluster** – in addition to the new WASH Cluster website, the Q2 WASH cluster newsletter and snapshot were released in this period. The WASH Cluster has also been active in assessing needs following cyclone MORA, activating a skype group to review needs and developments after the cyclone, and developing a damage assessment form in English and Myanmar to collect information on damages and estimated budget requirements. This facilitated fundraising with over USD 470,000 raised for cyclone-related WASH support, covering the main needs for central Rakhine IDP camps.  An Emergency TOT training which includes damage assessment and response was conducted for government, INGO and LNGO staff from Rakhine, Kachin, northern Shan and Mandalay in May and is being cascaded to the state level.  **World Wildlife Fund** – The programme started quite recently and is focused mainly on Tanintharyi and Kayin states as areas with high levels of biodiversity while also being key transboundary areas to Thailand where this work links with WWF activities there. WWF is also engaged in concerns around forests from southern Myanmar to Shan state which are under pressure from economic development / land issues, and scoping a freshwater programme focusing on Ayeyarwady ecosystem integrity. Much of the IM focus is on developing a base of geographic information. Currently working on reports for policy advocacy, field based information that would be good to share.  **MIMU** – Launching the next 3W round this week, and processing flood-related satellite images to show affected areas. A country overview map has also been released showing areas known to have been flooded over the period July 7-26. Together with UNHCR and agencies based in Maungdaw and Buthidaung, steps have been taken to review alternate place names for alternate place names and these will be integrated into the Place Code database. MIMU will shortly release the Village Mapping app which enables easy look-up of place codes and place name spellings in Burmese/Myanmar and English, as well as updating of location codes which are sent to the MIMU for processing – this will be a limited launch involving GIS WG and IMN members as well as agencies with activities in the areas with the least information on village coordinates.  At a national level, a workshop was conducted in June by MIMU and OneMap Myanmar with GAD to review national coding systems to support development of an appropriate system for use in Myanmar. MIMU is also providing Excel training for GAD staff from various states/regions at GAD request. Staff from agencies in Kachin were invited to join the MIMU Distance Excel training which is currently underway, and the MIMU team is also developing Township profiles drawn from the MIMU collection of Baseline Data and considering also the data used in the secondary data profiles done previously by OCHA. It has not been possible as yet to replace the MIMU GIS Manager position (2 unsuccessful rounds conducted) which is a limitation on MIMU capacity for specific initiatives at the moment. |  |
| **4.** | **Extending the IM Network**:  It was suggested in the June meeting that the invitation for the IM Network meetings be extended through the INGO Forum as many INGOs have M&E or IM related staff who may be interested to participate. This was not followed up in this period due to changes in the INGO Forum coordinator post but will be taken up with the new INGO Forum Coordinator once in post in mid August.  An IM Working Group has been convened by OCHA in Sittwe with a focus on IM needs in Rakhine, initially expecting to meet every two weeks. Steps will be taken to ensure information sharing and linkages with the IM Network. IM Network members are encouraged to join the meetings if in Sittwe. | Include INGO Forum in mailing list |
| **5.** | **Next Meeting**  The next meeting will be on 6th September at 3pm in the MIMU in Yangon. OCHA/Olivier will present on outcomes of the recent humanitarian data workshop. | Share ideas for additional speakers |

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