**IM Network Meeting Minutes: 05 March 2014**

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|  | Issues discussed | Action | Follow-up |
| **1.** | **IM Challenges in the South East** – Sally Thomson/TBC noted the issue of Lyndy Worsham, IM Coordinator of The Border Consortium / TBC provided a presentation on TBC’s activities in the South East and the specific challenges in IM in this part of the country. TBC’s main focus in IM is currently the Annual verification of the refugee population in the camps in Thailand (used as the basis for support by TBC and other agencies in the camps), support to TBC activities providing assistance to 42,000 civilians in Myanmar through local partners and food aid for 13,000 persons in camps in the area, and their Annual survey/village assessment in border areas. The 2013 survey focused on poverty, displacement and local governance and covered 209 villages in 22 townships in 2013. A short video has been produced to reflect different opinions coming up through the TBC survey.UNICEF and Mercy Corps were also conducting surveys in the SE and there are a number of indicators across these 3 studies that could usefully be compared and brought into one platform. TBC has shared their survey data with MIMU to look at taking this forward in the form of an interactive map. Specific IM challenges related to the SE are the (1) the lack of verified village level data, (2) differing boundary demarcations between the KNU and Myanmar Government in Kayin areas, and (3) ensuring international agencies build on existing capacity. Key areas of discussion:* Sally Thomson, Executive Director of TBC noted the challenge of supporting better information to refugees to enable them to make better and informed decisions on return. To this end TBC is cooperating with CCSDPT in a pilot project to establish information centres in the camps where refugees can find information on the situation in their home areas.
* Refugee definition – only the Myanmar persons remaining in the camps are considered as refugees in Thailand. An issue is that the registration process ended in 1985 such that only around 50% are registered. The highest concentrations of refugees in the camps in Thailand are from Hpapun and Hlaingbwe townships.
* What is the situation regarding the determination of boundaries by the KNU – TS boundaries have been defined (not yet digitised) but not VT boundaries. The question is who is defining and who accepts and it is not yet entirely clear even among the Karen.
* IDP estimates – not included in the TBC survey due to a change in methodology in 2013. TBC does not use a cut-off period in defining IDPs - people may have been displaced many years ago and continue to be considered as IDPs until they themselves define themselves otherwise. TBC does however have a system in place to avoid double counting of IDPs who have been displaced multiple times.
* Content of the video (voices of people from the SE on a variety of situations including the peace process) – Lyndy clarified that the video has not been designed to represent all opinions but to reflect a number of the issues from different perspectives that came up during the survey. None of those interviewed requested anonymity in this process.
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| **2.**  | **GIS Working Group update:** A new version of the MIMU Pcode database will shortly be released and updates will be quarterly in future. Remarks will be added to explain changes for villages which have been added/removed from the GAD listing to seek verification from agencies working in the areas. Most changes are in Kachin state (200 villages added and 1400 no longer listed). The MIMU Online 3W will again be available in March, and GIS shape files will also be updated. The MIMU has received ward boundaries for much of Yangon but does not yet have these for other towns across the country. | MIMU to convene next GISWG |  |
| **3.** | **Data Disaggregation Taskforce update:** Luis/OCHA presented the general outline of beneficiary categories which could be used across sectors and clusters – this includes suggested age, and vulnerability categories. It is hoped that these can be presented at the next Inter-sector/cluster meeting for discussion. | OCHA to request inclusion of this in the next Inter sector/cluster mtg |  |
| **4.** | **Workplan update:** Steps taken so far - a working group met to develop a draft Workplan on February 21st (OCHA/Luis, UNHCR/Vincent, MIMU/Shon). Shon presented the outline of the 4 main suggested activities focusing on (1)Promoting Data Standards, (2) Improving use of assessment capacity/data, (3) Capacity building, and (4) Improving Base datasets. The updated draft with comments put forward during this IM Network meeting will be circulated with one week for comment prior finalizing, and that it can then be finally endorsed by the IM Network members in the next meeting. The IM Network ToR also suggests the inclusion of government counterparts in IM Network initiatives – the group was requested to make suggestions as to who could be invited to attend on a regular basis.  | Shon to circulate draft workplan for comment within one week. |  |
| **5.**  | **Updates on relevant sector, cluster, UNCT/HCT and agency activities:****FSWG:** currently has 172 members and is supporting evidence-based policy reform and action.**MEC / Myanmar Education Consortium:** Established in early 2013 by Save the Children, World Vision and Burnet Institute with the aim of ensuring every child in Myanmar has access to education. The MEC acts as a donor agency and is currently supporting more than 100 projects in ECCD, NFE and monastic education. Specific data management activities include supporting community learning centres, undertaking organisational mapping, research, and capacity assessment for funding of local partners. **UNHCR:** Protection data collection is underway and data will be available in June. The protection incident monitoring system is being reviewed, and camp information from Rakhine and Kachin is being finalised. **OCHA**: The Humanitarian Response plan for 2014 is almost finalised and includes a comprehensive monitoring framework contributed by the sectors/clusters. The draft has been shared with Government and donor counterparts for comment prior to being finalised. Activities to define the Contingency Plan are beginning and an inter-agency meeting will be held on March 11th in Yangon, and on March 13th in Sittwe. **NPA**: The initial pilot non-technical survey in 8 villages in Mon and Kayin suggested by the various authorities has been completed and indicates no mine contamination. The next survey (18 further villages, mainly in Mon state or in areas of Kayin with Mon population) is beginning **WASH Cluster**: activities are ongoing and the WASH Cluster page on the MIMU website is now active.**MIMU**: The redesigned MIMU website was released on 14 February and garnered 48,000 views in its first 6 working days of operation. It currently holds over 2,500 documents, and includes dedicated pages for the WASH Cluster, Education in emergencies, DRR, Cash Transfer working group, and uses a new server which enables pages to load 70% faster than on the previous website. New features include online uploads of assessment, contact, calls for proposals, meetings and events, and jobs for nationals and internationals; a dynamic contact search function, and wider content with sector pages for economic infrastructure, governance, mine action, peacebuilding and gender. This will be released in Myanmar language next week.  |  |  |
| **6.** | **Next scheduled meeting** will be held at **3pm Wednesday April 2nd** in the ground floor meeting room of MIMU, No.(5) Kanbawza Street, Bahan (opposite the Toyota Service Centre).  | MIMU to send a reminder |  |

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| **Sr.** | **Participants** | **Designation** | **Agency/ Organization** |
| 1 | Serif Bajric | Information Management Advisor | NPA |
| 2 | Thi Thi Lwin | WASH Cluster | UNICEF |
| 3 | Luis Sena Esteves  | IM Officer | OCHA |
| 4 | Lyndy Worsham | IM Coordinator | TBC |
| 5 | Sally Thomson | Executive Director | TBC |
| 6 | Nilar Myaing | Myanmar Programme Director | TBC |
| 7 | Zin Moe |  | Plan Myanmar |
| 8 | Aye Thi Khine | Communication Officer | FSWG |
| 9 | Vincent Ricouart | IM Officer | UNHCR |
| 10 | Hnin Yu Aye | Information and Communication Technology Manager | MEC |
| 11 | Nway Aung | GIS Manager | MIMU |
| 12 | Shon Campbell | Manager | MIMU |