**Minutes of IM Network Meeting: 7th March 2018**

Chair: Shon Campbell, MIMU Manager.

Participants: IOM, NRC, WVI, UNHCR/MIAG, WASH cluster (UNICEF), UNICEF, OCHA, SfCG, MIMU

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|  | **Issues discussed** | **Next steps** |
|  | **INFORM Index – OCHA** The INFORM Index for Risk Management is a global, open-source risk assessment for humanitarian crises and disasters designed to support decisions about prevention, preparedness and response. It is currently the only open index and main one in use and includes 191 countries. It was developed to measure the risk of humanitarian crises and disasters ad to identify where the international community can support. The Index website includes available data, validated by a variety of locally-based partners, which can be used for different purposes. The tool is generally applied at country level and assesses government and community capacity to respond to emergencies. Myanmar has been selected by EU to develop a sub-national index at TS level in 2018. OCHA is hosting the initiative in Myanmar with INFORM consultants for several weeks to work on the model. This will include arranging a workshop to discuss and collate the data.In terms of methodology, the INFORM index comprises a score from 0 to 10 (highest risk) calculated based on the scores for hazard/exposure, vulnerability and lack of coping capacity. Data sources at the country level have included FAO, UNDP, WB, CRED etc however this is using global data which doesn’t always reflect the reality on the ground at lower levels. Also includes a Reliability index for each dataset used. Myanmar scores with the highest risk in the Asia region, ranked 12th in the world with a score of 6.4 with a hazard and exposure rating of 7.5, vulnerability of 5.5 and lack of coping capacity of 6.4. the score remains high though it has increased slightly in the past year.  The process of developing the sub-national INFORM index in Myanmar will involve the RC/HC, government, civil society, and seeks to include sex and age disaggregated data. Considers natural and human-made disasters. Anticipating consultations in the coming weeks to gather available data, and an INFORM workshop to discuss how the data will be used in the Index, after which the preliminary information can be shared with a wider group. Olivier/OCHA is a facilitator in the process and will convene people together for the process and for the core group to facilitate collection of data. More information can be found on [www.Inform-index.org](http://www.Inform-index.org)  The aim is for the RC/HC to “own” the dataset and be responsible for its maintenance – final arrangements have yet to be defined and may be with government. |  |
|  | **World Vision proposal – Pre-crisis Information Management for Responsive Decision-making in Emergencies**  WVI is finalizing a proposal covering 4 countries (China, Myanmar, Vietnam and Thailand) for 24 months from June 2018. The project aims to support people affected by crisis through faster initiated humanitarian response by being better prepared in information management. To this end it will focus on strengthening institutional links, advocacy, and capacity building in DRR and disaster preparedness. A core part of the project will be contextualizing and rolling out the pre-crisis information management tools (PCIM) developed by WVI. The project will select several locations across the 4 countries to pilot the PCIM tools with beneficiaries (i.e. people living in areas more exposed to risk, representatives of vulnerable groups, community members working with government and non-government agencies, community leaders). It was suggested to have a dedicated discussion with the IM Network members specifically involved in IM in emergencies to share more on the project and PCIM tools so as to strengthen linkages and avoid duplication | WVI to share more information when available for MIMU to set up a small meeting. |
|  | **National Coding Initiative – MIMU**  MIMU with OneMap Myanmar and ADPC is providing support to GAD in the development of a National Coding System, aiming to determine unique reference location codes for administrative levels down to village level across Myanmar. Then purposes of this system are to avoid confusion where villages in different areas may have the same names, enable exchange, aggregation and combination of data from different sources, to enable mapping, and ultimately to facilitate more detailed inputs to evidence-based policy. Currently there are various systems in place at government level but none of them are comprehensive and no agreed or commonly used system. The MIMU Place Code structure is the most comprehensive geocoded system which also includes transliteration of place names to English.  Steps so far have included a review of coding structures in use across the various ministries, capacity building of GAD on the principles of coding structures, and a meeting in December of key government departments suggested by GAD to clarify the coding system outline (i.e. DoP, CSO, GAD, Forestry, DLMS, DRD, Survey). MIMU and OMM are preparing the Access database which will, at GAD request, start from the 2015 GAD Gazette and include changes made since that time. GAD staff will be trained to administer and maintain the system, and steps taken together with GAD to roll it out with other ministries.  The National Coding System comprises independent codes across 7 admin levels, each starting with a prefix (GA1 for state/regions for example), followed by a 6-digit consecutive code. The system includes tracking of historical changes. Particular challenges include the availability of GPS coordinates, alternate names (not included in the GAD plan but in the MIMU Pcodes), harmonizing information for areas with different administrative structures such as Wa and Kokang Self-Administered zones (TS differences +183 VTs in the MIMU list which are not in GAD listings), villages not currently recognized in the Gad system (over 2800 villages listed in MIMU and not in GAD), and ensuring a robust system of transliteration that can manage the various languages of Myanmar. |  |
|  | **IM in Rakhine**  The meeting included a short discussion on specific IM tools developed in recent months in Rakhine, namely the access tracking systems developed by OCHA/IRI and by UNHCR/MIAG. Involved agencies will meet to discuss the details of the various tools that have been used. The need for various types of information on the whole of Rakhine so as to better support the implementation of the Rakhine Advisory Commission recommendations was also noted. |  |
|  | **Cluster/Sector/agency updates**  **OCHA** –completedIDP maps for Kachin and Shan, and snapshot for 2018  **IOM** – providing Emergency Response Training in Maungdaw, DRR training, emergency response toolkit in Maungdaw and Sittwe. Focus is RRD/DDM (TS and VT levels) and school level.  **NRC** – implementing school competencies, shelter, WASH, information counselling and legal assistance, and livelihoods. Using KOBO for data collection for monitoring. Developing mobile applications to enable IDPs in the camps to access housing, land and property information, and mobile applications for better leaning programmes. Red Rose application is now in use for distribution of cash transfers via e-voucher to NRC beneficiaries.  **World Vision International WVI** – implementing relief and rehabilitation in Kachin using Wave money for cash distributions. Also short term relief project with food distribution and nutrition projects in Maungdaw. Projects in 32 areas, extending to Taikkyi (Yangon) which include 4 sectors - health focusing on MCH and WASH, Child Protection, Education (NFE, ECCD), and livelihoods (vocational training, livestock…). A technical baseline was conducted in Oct-Nov for 25 area programmes.  **Search for Common Ground** – social cohesion training for media, government staff and celebrities as the basis for development of movie episodes, followed by dialogue and evaluation. Designer workshop to initiate M&E toolkits to support CSOs in measuring hate speech.  **UNHCR** – MIAG is tracking staff access to field sites and conducting a simple 3W tracking at VT level to assess implementation. Results indicate that 45% of VTs have one or more partners active, mostly food security partners (this does not assess the level of activity possible in these areas). Producing a humanitarian overview considering different aspects of the situation, looking specifically at education, food security etc on Rakhine and N Shan which is now available on the global shelter cluster website, as well as the Protection dashboard.  Protection dashboard  **UNICEF (WASH Cluster)** – completed the WASH4W and now starting to work on emergency contingency stocks and staff capacity (done every 6 months) to be completed at the end of April. The Strategic Operations Framework is being updated for 2018-19 based on workshops conducted in Rakhine/Sittwe and soon be conducted in Kachin/N Shan.  **MIMU:** TheMIMU 3W is currently underway with a deadline of 13 March for agency inputs. Based on the suggestions from the last IM Network meeting, the next MIMU Distance Excel training course will focus on participants from Shan state. Roll out of the MIMU Village Place Collect tool (a mobile-based application to clarify and gather the GPS coordinates of villages, countrywide) began in southeastern Myanmar with the support of the UNHCR team, and will be extended to TS with particularly poor mapping as a priority. For this, the MIMU team will seek agencies active in these areas which are interested to support this in the course of their work and field visits. Work has also started with some partners in Kayah state to clarify the location over some 270 villages which currently do not have GPS coordinates in the MIMU Place Codes. The MIMU Online Photo Archive is expected to be released in late April. The MIMU-HARP Vulnerability Study is being finalized for release and will be shared with govt in a short presentation in NPT. The township level dataset brought together for this purpose will also be shared. |  |
|  | **Next Meeting**  The next meeting will be on April 4th, 2018 at 3:00 pm in the MIMU. Suggested Presentation by MRCS/IFRC on the chatbot being developed to gather information in emergencies. |  |

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