

CAMP COORDINATION & CAMP MANAGEMENT CLUSTER

1. Cluster Lead and Composition

The cluster working group meetings are attended by UNHCR, IOM, OCHA, UNICEF, OHCHR, NRC, and IRC. At a recent Global Cluster Workshop in Uganda, NGOs associated with the consortium InterAction decided to set-up a reference group in support of the cluster and to increase NGO participation therein.

UNHCR leads the cluster as far as conflict induced IDPs are concerned while IOM has assumed this responsibility for IDP situations resulting from natural disasters. Following a meeting between IOM and UNHCR, it was agreed to jointly lead the cluster proceedings at the global level and to jointly staff a (virtual) secretariat, work together on standards, guidance and procedures, undertake capacity mapping, and administer expert rosters together. In this spirit, IOM and UNHCR will shortly establish a common web portal in support of the cluster.

2. Work plan for 2006

The global Cluster Working Group will continue to fine tune concepts, roles and responsibilities related to this new cluster. It will network and encourage more NGOs to join, map gap and capacities, and establish expert rosters, guidance material and a portal to access it.

In general, the cluster working group agreed that NRC would be solely responsible for capacity building on camp management in particular training of UN/IOM and NGO staff. Camp coordination and camp management requires IT support at the camp level. UNHCR will continue to work on the digital mapping of camps, in order to lay the groundwork for the development of a simple software tool that allows to store and present the protection and welfare data of camp residents. This information will feed into the humanitarian information systems run at the country level (HIC) by OCHA.

Another challenge will be the development of policies and guidelines relating to IDP profiling. A common approach which caters for the specific information needs of different actors is needed both under the overall Protection Cluster and the Camp Coordination and Camp Management Cluster.

3. Staffing Support

Both UNHCR and IOM will support operations by staff deployed to regional offices. Each agency foresees two posts at their respective headquarters while establishing multiple positions in the Field. This replicates the approach taken in other areas of Field support conducted by UNHCR, notably in refugee registration and information management.

4. Horizontal Linkages: the Camp Management Project

The CCCM cluster is building on the Camp Management Project, in particular its “Toolkit”. All activities of the cluster are complimentary and avoid any duplication. Thus, the CCCM cluster plans to increase the number of country trainings and Training of Trainers (ToT) to increase knowledge and competence in camp management issues and the number of trained experts in camp management. In co-operation with other cluster working groups, crosscutting themes such as gender, human rights, HIV/AIDS, and mental health will be addressed.

5. Conclusion

The CCCM Cluster working group has jointly developed the concepts, work plan and budget for this new and important cluster. It is appealing for funds to further develop the concept; increase capacity and support the management of the global cluster while at the same time provide tangible advice to offices in the Field. It does not establish stand-by capacity or stockpiles. Sufficient funding is a pre-requisite for the effective functioning of the cluster.

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