

UNDP (Early Recovery Cluster Lead)/NGO Meeting, Ramallah, 5 February 2009

Participants: PNGO Network, Oxfam Novib, UNDP/PAPP, UNDP/BCPR, Care International, International Relief and Development, OCHA, Sharek Youth Forum, World Vision, UNSCO

Participants met to share information on early recovery efforts in Gaza.

The Gaza Early Recovery and Reconstruction Plan (GERRP)

UNDP updated on the process of developing the 'Gaza Early Recovery and Reconstruction Plan: based on a damage and needs assessment'. It was clarified that the Plan is owned and led by the Palestinian National Authorities (PNA), developed with technical support from the UN and others. The UN's primary contribution to the Plan is to share the results of the Gaza Early Recovery Rapid Needs Assessment (GERRNA), which will provide the evidence base for the priorities outlined in the Plan.

The timeline for developing the Plan is:

- 12 February – first full draft;
- 2 March – launch of the Plan in Cairo.

NGO participants reiterated their request to read and comment on the Plan before its finalization.

Once the Plan has been disseminated, the UN and partners should focus on organizing their own early recovery response to the needs in Gaza. Discussions are ongoing to design a mechanism for this organizational planning process that allows for both UN and NGO participation.

Concerns were raised again regarding agency association with the Palestinian Plan, and the potential security risks that this may bring for staff working on the ground in Gaza. There may be an opportunity to present the main findings of the GERRNA, carried out by UN and partners, separately; from the priority-setting exercise for early recovery response, led by the PNA and set out in the PNA Plan. This will be discussed further and a decision taken within the next few days.

Implementation of Early Recovery

Participants discussed issues relating to the practical implementation of early recovery interventions. The PNGO Network has been working to design a position paper for a national implementation team, including the private sector, CSOs, etc., to oversee the delivery of early recovery inputs (to be shared by Sharek Youth Forum).

On security, it is understood that UNDSS will be asked to carry out a threat assessment and make recommendations for future mitigation measures. Further details to follow from UNSCO.

UNDP/PAPP and NGOs shared information on their involvement in the work of the various clusters/sector working groups, and the design and implementation of early recovery projects in Gaza. Discussions confirmed that there has been significant NGO engagement in clusters/sector working groups.

Early Recovery Cluster/Network

The Early Recovery Cluster/Network will meet regularly on Tuesdays from 11.00 to 13.00. It is envisaged that these meetings will include a videoconference link-up with colleagues in Gaza. NGOs are invited and encouraged to participate in the meetings whenever possible. NGO participants agreed to be

included in the Early Recovery Cluster/Network mailing list, so as to receive notification of upcoming meetings and other updates.

For the time being, it was agreed to also continue meeting as an informal UN/NGO information-sharing group. The next meeting will be hosted by the Sharek Youth Forum in Ramallah and Gaza: Thursday 12 February from 12.30 to 13.30 (further details to follow).

Next steps:

Action	By Whom
Share Position Paper on national implementation teams	Sharek Youth Forum
Confirm whether there will be a stand-alone report on the Gaza Early Recovery Rapid Needs Assessment (GERRNA)	UNDP
Confirm if NGOs will have an opportunity to comment on the Gaza Early Recovery and Reconstruction Plan (GERRP)	UNDP
Clarify details of the UNDSS threat assessment exercise	UNSCO
Organize next meeting of this group: Thursday 12 February, 12.30 to 13.30	Sharek Youth Forum

Participants

Gaza

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