

Project Board Meeting / Project Steering Committee “Rule of Law Program ”

Date: 8th of September, 2016

Location (Or virtual): UN Compound – Meeting room

Project Director (National counterpart):

Development Partners:

- 1- Implementing Partners:
- 2- UNDP:
- 3- Donors:

Beneficiary Representative (Stakeholders):

Project Manager: Chamila Hemmathagama (over Skype)

Project Support: Orly Stern – Consultant

Project Assurance (UNDP Programme Officer, or M&E Officer): Nishtiman Aziz – Program Officer,
Aryan Yaba – UNV Project Officer M&E

Meeting Agenda:

Time from 10:30 AM
to 12:30 PM

Course of Meeting

OR

Major Points of Discussion:

A- Organizational issues

- Update the project board members list
- Dating project board meetings in the year

B - Brief information on the project activities and implementation in 2016

- Rule of Law’s consultant conducted case studies for the displaced people with special focus on GBV cases in Duhok in the IDPs and refugees camp.
- The Duhok camps have the highest number of displaced people. for that reason, an additional lawyer and a social worker were recruited. Which in total means having two lawyers and two social workers in Duhok (each legal centre has one lawyer and one social worker).
- Regular monitoring visits were conducted by the team to each legal centre. The purpose of these visits were to see the works of the legal aid centres and ensure the right implementation of the project.
- A meeting was held with UNFPA while the team were in Duhok. the outcomes of this meeting was discussed and possibility of working with UNFPA on conflict-related sexual violence cases.
- Discussion of project activities in 2016

1. Nishtiman and Orly had a meeting with UNOPS IDPs call centre, our team gave a brief about the legal centre's project. A report was later on sent to UNOPS of our contact details of the legal centres. It was agreed that posters of the call centre will be put up in our centres so that the camp residents will have the phone numbers.
2. Genocide committee: it was discussed ways and how we can support them. Nishtiman had a meeting with one of the committee members and discussed their needs for training.
3. one additional lawyer and one social worker will be provided for Duhok's legal centres. Because of their high number of cases and not being able to follow up on all the cases as needed.
3. The proposed plan for Mosul was discussed and to be shared with Harikar, which will be the implementing partner in this project.
4. A new monitoring form will be shared with the legal aid centres in the governorates Erbil, Duhok and Sulaymaniyah to be used when taking cases. these filled in forms will be shared with the Rule of Law team.
5. A meeting was held with UNFPA while the team were in Duhok. the outcomes of this meeting was discussed and possibility of working with UNFPA on conflict-related sexual violence cases.

D - The main areas of AWP (of year) and project progress report review

- **Presentation of project activities**
- **The progress will be defined in implementing of project activities**
- **Risk of project implementation**

E- The project board meeting decisions

One new lawyer and social worker were recruited for duhok legal centres.

F - Conclusions & Recommendations:

Duhuk:

- One of the reasons why the two centres we support in Duhok (IDP and Refugee) have started to progress better than the others may be that the continuation of the same project manager during Phase 11. Similarly, during the transition phase, they have done some useful awareness raising activities to spread the message regarding the centres and services provided as well to keep the momentum going until phase 11 activities start. Team there work 2 days in each centre (IDP and Refugee) and on Thursday meet in one centre to conduct a weekly review. Refugee camp has the DCVAW presence all week but not in the IDP camp
- Mobile service team: Duhok centres do not have a mobile service team currently and it was also agreed that it would be a worthy investment if we could make an investment from the UN Action to kick start this. We need to however first review the mobile team desk study which you are conducting to identify an appropriate methodological approach so our investment is targeted aimed at improving the services in-line with a context specific approach from the start. I believe we will have to do similar amount of thinking and revamping in this sphere similar to what we did to get the static centres into order over the past few months through our reviving process of the same.
- There is a massive change in case reporting from the past. The reason for the higher number of SGBV cases could be a combination of better reporting because the centre staff now have better clarity how to identify SGBV and non- SGBV cases and following our efforts to put together clear reporting guidelines the reporting has improved in terms of capturing all the cases that come to the centres. Same applies to rest of the centres in Erbil and Suli as well.

Erbil:

- Works 1 day in each center (IDP and refugee) and 2 days on mobile services. Thursday the team meets in the PAO office to review weeks' work. They may also have the review in DCVAW offices similar to what they planned this week. Invites UNDP team to attend the review meetings. However, team will speak to PAO to check why they can't do the review in one of the centre's similar Duhuk? (also see pending issues)
- Pending issues: PAO Project Manager is new and not so good. The monthly report he has done is not up to expectations either. Nishtiman had a meeting with PAO to discuss this and tell them clearly either he improves or we need a better replacement. It was decided that the project manager will be replaced and all the reports will be re-written including all the required information and re-submitted by PAO.

Sulaimaniya:

- Operates 2 days with DCVAW, DHRD and IBHR, 1 day DCVAW and DHRD and 1 x day DHRD
- Within DCVAW mandate they cannot hire lawyers to work as part of the DCVAW team and also cannot go in search of cases to investigate. They can only investigate cases that are brought/ presented to them. Similarly, their mandate will not allow to hire a project manager. Therefore, in order fill these gaps they have contracted DHRD in order to provide 2 lawyers and also to get clients to come with cases where they can help with investigations. Similarly obtaining approval to arrange logistics through the govt is time incentive and hence they are keen to get DHRD help with this aspect as well in order to operate in an efficient and timely manner. However, the overall running of the camp is overseen by DCVAW and they are also keen to have one of their staff to improve reporting skills by working with the NGO staff.
- We need to be aware of the above three specific areas that DCVAW are not mandated to do hence the need to rely on NGO support. Over the past few months DCVAW have begun to appreciate their partnership with DHRD and the added- value of this partnership. DCVAW are keen to continue developing this relationship further. In any handing over process in view of the areas that DCVAW are not legally allowed to operate by themselves, will have to be supported by a NGO and we need to understand and be mindful of this. This is not a reason to conclude that DCVAW are not leading the centre's operation. DCVAW appreciate these gaps and hence keen to continue working jointly with a NGO partner.
- Overall in view of the above the pilot is working well and also there is significant improvement in DCVAW's willingness to work with NGO partners (including in Duhuk and Erbil centres). It should be noted that this is the only instance that DCVAW involved in a joint project implementation with a NGO partner. (Another added value of UNDP engagement) Our efforts to make this process sustainable through developing strong partnerships between DCVAW and NGO partners are finally making progress with some evidently positive changes in the way the two stakeholders currently work together and plan to collaborate in future.

G- Next step and any changes in the project activities:

- A- Changes within the team: Nishtiman started her role to Project Officer (RoL Erbil) from 7 August. The recruitment of a new Project Assistant is under process. Aryan's UNV contract extended for another 12 months from August 2016.
- B- We will lay plans to fulfill gaps identified in the project through our new UN Action fund.
- C- A meeting to be held with head of Genocide Committee to further discuss needs.
- D- We will conduct a report writing training by November for project managers, DCVAW and IBHR representatives.

H - Closure of the project board meeting

Signed by:

Name and position

(signature)

(date)

Nishtiman Aziz

8th Sep. 2016

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nishtiman Aziz', written in a cursive style.