Second co-sponsorship meetings groups
UNHCR headquarter, 17 July 2019

Solutions

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Agenda
1. A quick overview of key outcome areas of the theme
2. Ways of working in the co-sponsoring group
3. How to mobilize others? Those who are not around the table
4. Next steps

Be as practical as possible for the next steps.
Few ideas and suggestions we have and wanted to share.

1. A quick overview of key outcome areas of the theme

   a) More actors
      - Engaging new countries – a key word – in undertaking resettlement and complementary pathways.
      - Financial and technical support to new and emerging resettlement countries including through supporting UNHCR-IOM Sustainable Resettlement and Complementary Pathways Initiative (CRISP).
      - Engagement of an expanded range of stakeholders in resettlement and complementary pathways including the private sector, citizens, academia, cities and municipalities.

   b) More places
      - Expanding the size of existing resettlement programs.
      - Establishing, piloting or expanding complementary pathways including community sponsorships programs, humanitarian visas and education, and labor pathways.
      - Facilitating refugee access to existing complementary pathways including family reunification and existing education and labor pathways.

   c) Better protection and quality
      - Expanding diversity and responsiveness of programs.
      - Supporting integration of refugees including through policy change in including refugees and engaging local communities and citizens.
      - Including protection safeguards and pathways.

Key outcomes to support voluntary repatriation, return and reintegration:
1) Promote enabling conditions for voluntary and dignified repatriation and return for refugees and IDPs.
2) Support country of origin to receive and reintegrate returnees.
3) Support return for refugees and IDPs.
4) Promote law and policies.
5) Support local integration and local solution initiatives.

d) Support to voluntary repatriation and reintegration situation
   - Promote enabling conditions for voluntary and dignified repatriation and return.
   - Political, financial and technical support for reintegration in selected countries, countries of origin, e.g. Syria, South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Afghan situation: how to get political, technical and financial support for these countries?
   - Technical and financial support to returning refugees and IDPs in selected countries.

e) Support to local integration and local solutions: Mozambique, Ghana, Ethiopia: examples where we see help to refugees to be integrated. How can we support these countries?
   - Political / technical support for laws and policies to promote, finalize and implement.
   - Financial and technical support for the implementation of local integration and local solutions initiative in some countries.

2. Ways of working in the co-sponsoring group

1) Frequency of the co-sponsors meetings?
2) Location of meetings. Where? UNHCR HQ; government missions; NGOs offices?
3) How to reach consensus?
4) Do we want a consolidated group or sub-groups? Separate thematic/regional working groups?

3. How to mobilize others? Those who are not around the table

Key to add:
   - Host countries not present in the meeting room including countries of origin.
   - International, regional and sub-regional financial institution.
   - Bilateral donors.
   - Refugees and representatives of host communities.
   - Private sector.
   - Academic institutions and civil society.

Questions and comments

International Organization for Migration
   • Where does the 3-year strategy on resettlement fit? Under Burden- and Responsibility-sharing theme? Under Solutions theme?

UNHCR
• Fit under Solutions and the strategy underpins all areas of pledges under the GRF.

Canada
• Should we deal with third country solutions and voluntary repatriation at the same time? For us it makes sense to have two sorts of breakdown due to different ministries scheme.
• Concern about what is the extent durable solutions and local solutions?
• How do we not replicate avenues in voluntary repatriation issues? Don’t want to replicate the Brussels conference for instance.
• Vague in terms of coordination.
• Don’t want to lose opportunity and good examples run, e.g. the Zambia initiative
• Is it possible to have a plan of action developed?
• Hoping to have ideas for all the stakeholders.

UNHCR
• Good idea to have one group on complementary pathways and resettlement and a second group on voluntary repatriation and others in line with important meetings and conference as Addis Ababa conference on South Sudan, Brussels conference.
• Risk for duplication with Jobs and livelihoods and Education is still there but we lower it with our interest to local solutions.

Carleton University in Canada, James Milner – online
• The themes under durable solutions described are helpful.
• Agree that the pathways and resettlement are more concrete.
• We can focus on where there is link between durable solutions and another initiative for instance triple nexus.
• 10th anniversary of the ExCom conclusions in October 2019: an opportunity to review guidance on strategy, on progress, on individual solutions and actors in humanitarian community.
• Pledges and best practices should be oriented around complementarity, how the 3 durable solutions can work in concert and identify pledges where they can have an impact.
• Linking with the UN Secretary General resolutions on triple nexus, reason to mention this anniversary.
• Don’t think enhance individual solutions but broaden cross-cutting around solutions.

Lebanon
• Confusing and complex modalities. We would like to see practical elements.
• Understand the concept but how the concept will take shape?
• We agree that we should have a discussion on all solutions, when we talk about solutions, it is interesting for Lebanon we cannot talk only about local integration.
• We need to be specific by regions. Situation are not the same in Syria, Africa, Asia.
• How we will have countries specific discussions on solutions?
• Don’t want the GRF to be a channel to talk about everything.
• Suggestion: we can engage more intensively day to day bilateral discussions and come with ideas for the next meeting.
• At the GRF, we would like to see conditions for return for Syrians but be pragmatic on possibilities.
• Pledges is the most concrete part but need further discussions to move forward.

**Denmark**
• An idea: attract more donors. The European Regional Development and Protection Programme (ERDPP) is as an example for the MENA region with a focus on solutions.
• There are at least 8 donors’ country in that room.
• Existing program that works wells can be duplicate.

**Spain**
• Complicated
• Are there limits for the group? What do we have to organize at the end?
• To what extent do we have to engage and how?

**UNHCR**
• We will find a right balanced all together.

**Canada**
• We could have a coordinated package that people can pledge.
• We could have lessons learned and good practices of voluntary repatriation in ongoing context for instance, e.g. triple nexus.

**4. Next steps**

- Date of next meeting?
- **How do we prioritize between now and December?**
- Content of the next meeting:
  ▪ We can have two sessions: one on third country solutions and one on voluntary repatriation and local integration.
  ▪ Dedicated discussions around specific situations, bilaterally or in another way, what situation we can highlight?
  ▪ Linking with the nexus and development institutions and peace building.

**United Nations Development Programme – online**
• Eager to work on local solutions, work done on nexus, where we can we learn from durable solutions and engaging new partners? What target we can have?

**UNHCR**
• We will count on UNDP to work on that.

**RefugePoint**
• Considering whether or not focus on local solutions under Jobs and Livelihoods or Solution.
UNHCR

- Important to see how the theme complement each other.

Denmark

- How will we link with development actors?
- How to link with financial institutions?
- How will we involve others actor in the GCR?

UNHCR summary

- Initiatives will be more discussed for the next meeting.
- Not focus on one solution but all the solutions as a comprehensive view.
- We could have a consensus on specific situations.
- Upon all of us to engage others.
- Between now and the end of the meeting, do you have specific suggestions?
- Can one partner organize/hosting the meeting?

- Location of next meeting:

International Council of Voluntary Agencies

- We will revert to you to inform you if we can host or not future meetings.

Denmark

- Preference at UNHCR headquarter, makes sense.

Pakistan

- Appropriate for UNHCR to convene the next meeting. When it will be more concrete, we can move from UNHCR to other spaces.
- We will see if we can link the work in the group with the 40th anniversary of Pakistan hospitality regarding the Afghan situation, to take place on 25-26 August, Islamabad.

UNHCR

Next meeting date?

Lebanon

- We should have constantly meetings even in August to remain focused because the Forum is not far away. Could be bi-lateral meetings between meetings with all the stakeholders.
- At the next meeting we should do a roundtable to know each other.

International Council of Voluntary Agencies

- Agree on the importance to have bilateral meetings and move forward but there is a need to have time to work on suggestions too.

Denmark
• We need time due to Government process in taking decision.

UNHCR
• We will make a proposal for next meeting, will reflect the views as much as possible.
• We will share meetings notes, the power point and the contact list.
• Encourage all to remain to the two sub groups under solution group.
• We will need a good balance between the thematic and specific situations.
• Think on good examples that can be extended, duplicated.
• The next meeting should happen at UNHCR headquarter.