

Protection of Children and Women Cluster Situation Report

Thursday 25 September 2008

Needs Assessment & Analysis

- Child Protection agencies have finalized the *Initial Assessments: Child Protection in Emergencies Technical Working Group, Response to Cyclone Nargis* report. A draft document was presented to the Department of Social Welfare for their comment and inputs. The report will be disseminated with the next set of PCW Cluster minutes early next week
- Preparation for the implementation of the Women's Protection/Department of Social Welfare's Assessment for all cyclone-affected areas is ongoing. Pilot testing has been completed, survey tools have been revised, and training for enumerators soon to take place
- The PCW Cluster survey has been circulated and feedback is requested by the 30 September

Field Coordination

- Child Protection agencies in a number of areas report that separated and unaccompanied children from areas where there is no CP agency presence are being brought to the attention of CP actors by other agencies working in these areas. These children are being registered with forms being sent to Yangon for processing and follow-up as required. Discussions are currently taking place between CP partners as to who will pick up these cases and areas. This issue will be discussed up at the next CPE TWG meeting
- The first draft of the household survey questions for the Periodic Review has been circulated to Cluster Leads by the Periodic Review Task Manager, ASEAN Humanitarian Task Force. It is anticipated that the household survey component of the Periodic Review will not cover many protection-related issues, and that instead a separate assessment on protection-related issues will be conducted, also through the Periodic Review process of the ASEAN Humanitarian Task Force. This separate assessment is being carried out as protection issues may benefit more from the collection of qualitative and "narrative" data that would be difficult for the household survey to capture. A leading social scientist, Professor Napier, will be dedicated to this task and will be arriving in country on Sunday. Professor Napier has been tasked with developing methods to assess issues around protection
- The dry season household water security situation is being addressed through cross-cluster efforts addressed at identifying & strengthening the weak links in the rural water supply chain. The Cluster approach is looking at reinforcing the traditional coping mechanisms, building on what people have and know, rather than bringing in concepts that are alien and unmanageable. For the PCW cluster, there are issues of access, purchasing power, and water quality monitoring etc. Issues affecting children and women are being discussed at Cluster meetings

Challenges

- Strengthening links and information flow between the various PCW Cluster agencies at Township and National levels
- To support other sectors in ensuring children and women's protection concerns are integrated into their activity implementation

Gaps and Future Planning

- The Child Protection in Emergencies Technical Working Group (CPE TWG) training workshop for field based Child Protection staff focusing on family tracing and reunification was held from the 17-19th September. Over 45 participants from 4 agencies and their implementing partners attended the training. This training was the third inter-agency training initiative since Cyclone Nargis focusing on assisting Child Protection field officers in their efforts to assist separated and unaccompanied children