Communications and ER Working Group Meeting - Minutes

2 August 2023, 14:00-15:00 Coordination Hub



Participants: BRAC, IOM, HI, IRC, MSF, Save the Children, UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP. The meeting was chaired by the ISCG External Relations Coordinator.

1. Key Messages Update:

- The funding level of the Rohingya refugee response continues to be grim. As of early August, the FTS shows a 29% funding level. Funding cuts are resulting in further reductions in assistance across several sectors for the refugees, who are almost fully dependant on humanitarian aid. Moreover, the camps and host communities are facing additional challenges such as fires, floods, landslides, and cyclones.
- It is crucial to construct safer communal structures and shelters in the camps to address these issues.
- Additionally, improving the self-reliance of refugees can be a wise move. These steps would also be beneficial to control negative coping mechanisms and lower tensions in the camps, which are currently impacting the security outlook.

2. Donor Mission Updates:

- For August 2023, there have been 10 reported visits in the ISCG External visit tracking sheet.
- 93 visits were reported by 31st July 2023, which is more than the total visits recorded in the entire year of 2022
- Agencies are reminded to keep the external visit tracking sheet up to date.

3. Media Attendance in Camp Visits Update:

- The expectation of increased media presence during high-level delegation visits in Cox's Bazar, especially leading up to the national election, needs a coordinated approach.
- Embassies expecting 'no media' should inform MofA so appropriate actions can be taken.
- Agencies are advised to facilitate media visits by requesting coverage from outside the facility with support from Security Guard/APBN/Embassy Security Officers.

4. Upcoming UN and Special Days:

- 12 Aug, Saturday: International Youth Day
- 19 Aug, Saturday: World Humanitarian Day: Agencies plan to keep the celebrations for Human Rights Day on 19 Aug low-key this year
- 25 Aug, Friday: 6th Year of the Rohingya Influx to Cox's Bazar: To mark the 6th year of the Rohingya influx, ISCG will provide clear guidelines based on discussions with RRRC.

5. Threads, Twitter/X Updates:

- Agencies and partners are advised to assess their positions regarding having an account on Threads.
- The change in the name of Twitter to X will affect digital (website etc.) and printed materials (publications, brochures) and templates (letterhead, digital signature etc.).
- For the blue tick application refer the meeting minutes dated 22 May 2023.

6. Website and RRRB Logo Update:

- The new Rohingya Refugee Response website has officially been launched.
- ISCG will provide a guidance note for the use of the RRR-B logo in sectoral and inter-sectoral products, which is currently under review by ROCT.

7. AOB

 We will continue the meeting in a hybrid format. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for 4 September 2023 at 14:00