**GBV Sub-Sector Monthly Meeting Minutes - February 2024**

| **Date** | 12 February 2024, Thursday | **Venue: UNFPA Conference Room** | |
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| **Meeting Modality** | In person | **Time:** 11.00 am to 1:00pm | |
| **Chair** | Kristin Schmitz, Coordinator, GBV Sub Sector | **Preparation of Minutes:**  GBV SS Coordination Team | |
| **Partner’s present** | GBV Sub-Sector (GBV SS) participants attended from the following organizations (**as reported in the attendance sheet**: BRAC, CODEC, NGO Forum, Mukti Cox’s bazar, RW Welfare Society, UNFPA, ASD, COAST Foundation, Caritas BD, PRANTIC, UN Women, ISCG, UNHCR, Protection Sector, Care BD, UNFPA, PSEA Network, DSK, WVB, Plan International, WEAB, ASK, LAW, SKUS, HAP, SCI, SKUS, DRC, Aid-Comilla, Nari Maitree, OXFAM, IOM, GiHA WG, UNKS, PHD, Friendship, Muslim Hands International, CPSS,GBVSS. | | |
| **Agenda** | **1.Welcome, opening remarks and introduction**  Kristin Schmitz, welcomed all the participants of the agencies to the February 2024 GBV SS Monthly Meeting.  **2. Documents for endorsement** (by the GBV SS Coordinator)   * **Final agenda (draft circulated for comments)**   The GBV SS Coordinator presented the February 2024 draft agenda, circulated prior to the meeting for feedback. The agenda was endorsed   * **January 2024 GBV SS Monthly Meeting Minutes**   Minutes from the January 2024 GBV SS Monthly Meeting were also circulated prior to the meeting, to be endorsed at the next meeting..  **3. Review of the action points:**   * The IMO-GBVSS shared the progress of the January 2024 action points. | | |
|  | **4) GBVSS Member survey 2024 and GBVSS Training log & support mechanism in 2024 :**  **GBVSS Member survey 2024:** Jay, IMO-GBVSS presented GBVSS member survey analysis updates in terms of training, field level coordination and advocacy, non GBV actors engagement, advocacy and messaging, new/small organization members orientation and translation. Forty Three (43) partners participated in this survey.   * **Discussion points**    + **CiC advocacy activities:** Efforts shall come from both Sub-Sector level & individual organization’s program work plans.   + **Service mapping for rationalization:** Partner raised that the definition of service points (MPWC, WLCC, WGSS etc) needs further standardization in 2024 to better assist in meaningful rationalization & service coordination. Suggest a follow-up action to work on standardizing service facility types and alignment of standardized service provision content.   + **Youth and gender-centered AAP assessment:** Youth and gender-centered AAP assessment in the Rohingya Context in Bangladesh: Strengthening Humanitarian Coordination and Localization Efforts opportunity for collaboration offered from HAP (Humanitarian Assistance Program). UNFPA A&Y Unit expressed interest and will get in touch with HAP through GBVSS.   **GBVSS Training log & support mechanism in 2024:** Fahomida, NFC-GBVSS shared GBVSS training log where partners have a plan to conduct 119 training in 2024. She briefed SS members on the pool of the trainers initiative of GBVSS and plans moving forward. She also explained how GBVSS partners can seek support from GBVSS in terms of training and also requested that GBVSS partners check the training log before planning any new training.  *To request GBV SS support, partners are requested to send email to NFCs (Fahomida-msamin@unfpa.org, Alamgir-quaderi@unfpa.org,* [*Eumna-erahman@unfpa.org*](mailto:Eumna-erahman@unfpa.org) *) and Keep Kristin (*[*schmitz@unfpa.org*](mailto:schmitz@unfpa.org)*) in CC.*  **Feedback from participants**:   * Bora from PSEA Network shared that PSEA network can support in terms of PSEA training from their pool of trainers.   + Reminded SS members of     - [CHS alliance training](https://ready.csod.com/ui/lms-learning-details/app/curriculum/8eebd182-733b-4f18-b243-b6002f5b2c2a) 2 month training. Mentioned national partner discount possibility: CHS alliance is providing this training to strengthen the global capacity for conducting survivor-centered SEAH investigations. Tier 1 is free for all, Tier 2 is free for the National NGOs and for Tier 3, there are discounts available (e.g., For National NGOs-90% discount). For more details, please share/visit the links below * <https://www.chsalliance.org/get-support/training/investigator-qualification-training-scheme/> * [Tier 2](https://humentum.org/courses/investigator-qualification-training-scheme-iqts-tier-2-seah-investigation-theory/) & [Tier 3 Training](https://humentum.org/courses/investigator-qualification-training-scheme-iqts-tier-3/) Investigations training: To attend #3, complete #2 exam   + PSEA Network supported by GBVSS reminded partners that investigations is a tiered training process with each tier requiring multiple days. It is not something partners generally have the capacity to train in themselves but PSEA Network has been ramping up support (including financial support for organizations or sectors to organize training with PSEA facilitation support   + PSEA Network provided ToTs to 89 participants from 81 organizations in 2023. There will be more ToTs in 2024 and one will be in Bangla in March 2024 At the same time, if any organization needs support from the pool of trainers, the network will be happy to coordinate. * Thematic areas that require Pool of Trainers, too, as suggested by partners   + CCS (Caring for Child Survivors) training to be added in CM (IRC shared a training is in the CMTWG work plan to include)   + Inclusion of Persons with Disability & other gender diverse groups   + Adolescent and youth, CoC, GEMS, Girlshine, etc   **5) 2024 JRP activity indicators and 5W reporting template:** GBVSS-IMO presented JRP 2024 activity indicators- and there will be another follow up discussion regarding this with SAG members and WGs.    **Feedback from participants**:   * Johanna from the protection sector raised how we can measure impact.   + UNHCR partners responded: SASA! Together the end of cycle impact evaluation is out.   + If beyond SASA! CPSS Coordinator shared about perception surveys at the beginning of the year and end of the year to know the impact of prevention activities.   + Jay flagged the need to carefully assess what type of impact measurement can produce findings and analysis that is scientifically significant, there are limitations in operational research that we will need to consider (e.g. measuring impact from SS may not be the right methodology, since the “intervention” design to be measured is at program level, and impact evaluation is normally done for those specific program interventions. From Sectors, we coordinate these interventions but to evaluate the impact of these interventions is exceeding the scope of control for Sectors.   + In addition, impact measurement should not be expected to measure “GBV prevalence” decrease. It’s globally recognized by all GBV actors and researchers that measuring GBV prevalence will not be viable and will further put women and girls in severe risks. Additionally, changes here would rather indicate changes in reporting rate, which does not equate prevalence. For example, a market increase can be explained by survivors gaining better access to service or an improved sense of trust amongst accessing services provided by GBV actors. * 5W activity indicators   + GBV mainstreaming is missing and can be added in 2024 GBVSS activity matrix as it’s a critical workstream for the GBVSS (Kristin)   + Prevention WG will work with IMO to finalize the revised indicators proposed (life skill non-structured) program indicators, for instance, can be added and tracked separately from other “structure” prevention programs), so as to distinguish the specialized and dedicated prevention programs from the rest.   **6. Comprehensive GBV Assessment scope:**   * This activity is planned by the GBVSS for Q2-Q3, which will allow for a thorough comprehensive review of GBV related assessments, reports and GBV situation and trends analysis since 2017 until now against the global GBV AoR GBV analytical framework, to generate a renewed understanding of GBV situation in 2024. * An external consultant will be engaged for this AWP activity to work with GBVSS IMO and members in SDR, FGDs and KIIs with key stakeholders.   + Scope     - SDR (Secondary Data Review):     - Context & gender lens renewed analysis     - Underlying GBV risk factors   + GBV trends & patterns     - GBV trends, situation analysis     - All key assessment reports before 2023 (updated assessment registry)       * GBVIMS (2019 - 2023)       * MSNA (2019, 2023)       * Gender analysis       * Operational research     - FGD, KII to be done by external consultant   + Capacity for response / Field coordination practice & gaps     - Stakeholder analysis: Mahji CiC     - Review of current practices   **7. Field Coordination issues:** GBVSS-Coordinators shared about the resources that GBVSS produced that will help for better coordination at field level. Fahomida and Alamgir shared block demarcation and case verification related challenges.   * CiC and field administration sensitization on code of conducts (CoC) around GBV, facility visits, and data sharing * UNHCR raised the need for a field guidance on “What to do” in dealing with field administration’s sometimes problematic engagement with GBV actors. For example, when visiting WGSS they may take photos of documents in the facilities, causing potential harm to survivors. Potential resource documents can focus on “GBV core principles and CoCs, including confidentiality” and rules for visitors to facilities * CPSS coordinator responded that they face similar challenges, and recalled working on a RRRC document on these guidelines. GBVSS to follow up with CPSS on this. * GBVSS has a plan for advocacy strategy, UNHCR colleagues referred to it and further echoed the need for an GBVSS “Advocacy strategy plan” targeting different actors, including field administration. * GBV SS discussed how a plan can be simple but also lay out GBVSS’ multiple venues for engagement with CiC, etc, and through what format and occasions, on what specific topics (e.g. confidentiality, GBV data sensitivity etc) Some other documents that GBVSS can use are: for instance, GBVSS quarterly bulletin, GBVCFP FGD findings on GBV risks, SASA! Together end of cycle report findings   + PSEA network Coordinator further echoed the need, but indicate it’ll be good to have ISCG senior management level advocacy with RRRC/CiC office, to sensitize RRRC/CiC office through senior management level conversations * Case verification issue   + NFC raised that problematic verification requests still persist, for example, some protection focal points still provide case verification for marital status changes (e.g. divorce, etc). GBV SS requests GBV actors in the camps not to be involved with any case verification. GBV SS also asked actors to contact NFCs regarding any issues of case verification. Identification or verification of GBV survivors goes against basic GBV core principles and MSs   **8. Operational updates**   1. **Case Management Working Group:**    * CMTWG Conducted a workshop on “*Planning of AWP development-* 22nd January 2024.    * Developed and shared Annual Work Plan of GBV CMWG    * Next meeting – 28 February 2024    * Budgetary support from GBVSS members for specific planned activities needed:      + Training for Caseworkers on Caring for Child Survivors (Version 2)      + Training: case management for IPV survivor: The draft PPT will be shared among CMWG members in the next meeting.    * IPV and CCS training to be added in CM workplan (CMTWG shared a training is in the CMTWG work plan to include), CMTWG seeks funding assistance through GBVSS and partners    * CMTWG will assist GBVSS coordinator in background briefing in relation to multiple versions of SOPs and the need for finalization and orientation (budgetary activities this year) 2. **Prevention Working Group: Gabriella provided below updates:**    * On January 30, 2024, the GBV Prevention Working Group met monthly.    * The list of WG members has been updated.    * The activity mapping and work plan will be updated continuously.    * At the meeting, JRP 2024 indicators were discussed. For JRP 2024, two prevention-related indicators were agreed upon. Additionally, one indicator related to the skill programme may be added. 3. **GiHA Working Group:** Farzana, interim GiHA Coordinator shared the below updates    * UN Women and GBVSS have organized JRP and GAM marker review meetings.    * GiHA WG Task Force Self Nomination: Task Force to lead International Women's Day 2024 campaign    * IWD 2024 — First ad hoc meeting: This session was focused on brainstorming a localized theme, planning activities, and discussing responsibilities.IWD 2024 will be celebrated on 7th March.    * GiHA intended to have an initiative highlighting human interest stories, focusing on women (root level to decision makers). There’s a plan for it to be published in 50 pager magazines. 4. **PSEA Network:** Bora, PSEA Coordinator shared below updates:    * Revision of SOP for PSEA Complaints referral in the Rohingya Refugee Response in Bangladesh    * Safe recruitment    * PSEA Workshop and ToT (Bangla) on 27 & 28 March 2024: further information will be shared in the March monthly meeting.    * PSEAH investigation Training: for more detailed updates please check the [PSEA network webpage](https://rohingyaresponse.org/cross-cutting/protection-from-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse-psea/) or reach out to Bora Ozbek (PSEA Network Coordinator) [bora@iscgcxb.org](mailto:bora@iscgcxb.org) or Rajib Rahman (PSEA Network Associate) [rajib@iscgcxb.org](mailto:rajib@iscgcxb.org)   PSEA network also shared about capacity building of PSEA investigation among local partners and facilitation to the process. PSEA Coordinator also reminded the Zero Tolerance policy to PSEA while mentioning mandatory reporting at any cases/scenarios and emphasizing the separation of SEA reporting and GBV service/SEA survivor assistance referral.   1. **Child Protection Sub Sector**    * CP-GBV Guideline review is under progress    * 1st round of Child Protection Situation Monitoring (CPSM) completed in the camps    * CPSS shared CCPM results with partners on CPSS meeting    * Developing Education-CP assessment tool for the learning centers    * CPSS Coordinator attended CP-Food security integration/Global workshop in Nairobi. 2. **Protection Sector:** Johana from Protection Sector shared below updates:    * The Protection Sector had a 2-day meeting with UNICEF and UNFPA (as lead Agencies of the CP and GBV Sub Sectors) to finalize the agreements that were discussed during the strategic protection dialogue set to guarantee protection responses and strong coordination needed to address protection gaps. This note will be accompanied by an action plan with a timeline listing responsible actors. The updated version of the document was shared with the heads of agencies for final red flags or comments.    * The Protection Sector finalized and released the Protection Monitoring Report for Quarter 4, 2023 which showed an overall increase of 10% in the total number of reported protection incidents in comparison to Quarter 3. Fighting between opposing criminal groups, targeted killings and reported threats to refugees remained a major concern during the last Quarter of 2023. A presentation and overlook of the protection situation for 2023 to follow    * On 7 February, the Protection Sector called for an ad hoc meeting to update and discuss the cross-border developments. Specific updates were provided by UNHCR, UNDP’s Centre of Analysis and Research Unit (CARU) and ICRC. UNHCR underlined the importance of access to territory, right to asylum and safety as a major concern while partners emphasized on the need to strengthen border monitoring and sharing of information to understand the situation. Concerns were raised about the civilian character of the camps, noting that some of the armed elements may try to enter and of people being forcibly sent back to Myanmar and not being able to re-enter Bangladesh.    * The Sector also finalized the Impact Report and response regarding the Camp 5 fire and shared the update with the ISCG.    * The Protection Sector met the Regional Advocacy Coordinator and the Regional Communication Expert of DRC in Cox’s Bazar to discuss how they could better support advocacy lines and needs as part of the Protection Sector.    * The Protection Sector had the monthly meeting with CARU, IOM and UNHCR on security incidents and their impact on refugees. In order to identify solutions and adopt prevention and response mechanisms to reduce violence, partners came together with the map showing the number of incidents, presence of criminal groups, presence of ABPn and community perceptions on security. For 2024, this working group will address what the impacts of insecurity are on different populations and what can be done to mitigate and respond to it.   **9) AOB**  Host community referral pathway: GBVSS will circulate the host community referral pathway focal point nomination link soon.  **10) Closure of the meeting:** Finally, Kristin thanked all participants for their active participation and closed the meeting while wishing to collaborate onward. | | |

| SL | **February Meeting Action Points** | **Progress** |
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| 1 | Updating JRP/5W activity indicators for 2024 | GBVSS updated indicators and 5W with Prevention WG |
| 2 | Need for a field guidance on “What to do” in dealing with field administration’s sometimes problematic engagement with GBV actors. | GBVSS is compiling resources for GBV CFP field guidance, including this item. |
| 3 | GBVSS to assess the need for developing an advocacy strategy on “sensitivity of GBV services and survivor protection” that would help actors to sensitize CiCs/other non GBV actors. It can cover how to act, what to do, how to do confidential referrals etc. | Advocacy strategy is drafted |
| 4 | GiHA WG will share the volunteer capacity assessment form with GBVSS and GBVSS will share it with partners for their review and inputs by end of this month | GiHA update: assessment analysis in progress |
| 5 | Impact measurement initiative for GBV interventions to be assessed and considered by GBVSS, beyond the existing program level impact evaluations from agencies (e.g. SASA! Together end of cycle impact evaluation) | Update:  IMO consulted Prevention WG during the monthly meeting |
| 6 | Youth and gender-centered AAP assessment opportunity for collaboration offered from HAP: UNFPA A&Y Unit expressed interest and will get in touch with HAP through GBVSS: GBVIMO to pass on HAP contact with UNFPA A&Y | GBVSS connected UNFPA / HAP on the request |
| 7 | IPV and CCS training to be added in CM workplan (CMTWG shared a training is in the CMTWG work plan to include) | CMWG to update in meeting |
| 8 | GBV comprehensive assessment (1) SDR portion will require partners to share key assessments done from 2019-2023 with GBVIMO for Q2 secondary data review to reassess GBV situation/ trend/ response gaps. Jay will reach out to agencies for assessment registry updates.  (2) GBVSS will put together clear guidance on safe data sharing, in line with ISP, and share with members on what are safe and ethical GBV-related data that can be shared and measured from global standards and guidance. | GBVIMO started consulting partners on assessment plans, and the draft TOR in process |

| SL | **January Meeting Action Points** | **Progress** |
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| 1 | Member Survey   * Draft sent for member review and input * Case Management/Prevention WG focal point nomination included in member survey circulation | Done |
| 2 | Prevention WG indicators discussed. Focal point nomination criteria recommended | Done |
| 3 | GBV Risk Monitoring mechanism   * Jay to share FGD Tool (GBVSS) to be shared for PSEA Network input * Jay to liaise with partners (e.g. IRC, UNHCR, IOM, PSEA) to share with GBVSS their respective risk assessments that may be existing data sources to feed into GBV risk monitoring in order to avoid duplication with existing Protection Monitoring efforts) | GBVSS will continue the existing quarterly CFP GBV risk FGD + GBVIMS analysis for risk monitoring.  GBVSS circulated a survey to solicit inputs from agencies to incorporate regular risk monitoring mechanisms related to GBV. |
| 4 | Recirculation of RRRC Office Memo regarding coordination between agencies and Sector/Sub-Sector both CXB and Camp level | Done. Link [here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nh3wsNCeWjqMbBnxkleiaOZi4ehJfQSA/view?usp=drive_link) |
| 5 | Child protection to share year-end workshop findings with GBVSS | CPSS shared with GBVSS |
| 6 | GiHA focal point to share GiHA’s changes in coordination structure/ personnel | Farzana from UNWomen is now the interim GiHA coordinator. |
| 7 | Updates to JRP Monitoring Framework activity/output indicators | Prevention WG reviewed the indicators and 5W. CM indicators are also included in the GBVSS monitoring framework. |
| 8 | CCPM survey to be sent to partners end of Jan | Done |