

DRAFT TOR FOR EARLY RECOVERY & LIVELIHOODS SECTOR WORKING GROUP

INTRODUCTION

There is widespread agreement as to the importance of the early recovery approach in response to humanitarian crises; to its place alongside emergency relief in the humanitarian response as the foundation for building resilience, maintaining functioning systems to the extent possible (markets, service delivery, livelihoods), maintaining stability and providing the platform for a rapid return to development. An integrated approach to recovery makes the gains of humanitarian action gradually sustainable, paving the way for the achievement of longer-term development objectives.

All humanitarian actors are responsible for integrating early recovery approaches into their programming. In cases where the existing sectors do not adequately cover specific Early Recovery programmatic areas that can benefit the humanitarian response, a dedicated Sector Working Group (SWG) may be established following a proposal by UNDP, the global lead agency for Early Recovery.

OBJECTIVES OF THE EARLY RECOVERY & LIVELIHOODS SECTOR WORKING GROUP

The Early Recovery & Livelihoods Sector Working Group (ERL SWG) ensures timely recovery and minimizes the gap between relief and recovery through initiation of recovery planning and key programming. This is to be accomplished by ensuring that specific recovery tasks that bear the importance and urgency are undertaken as an integrated part of the emergency response. These include but are not limited to restoration of local government administration capacities to provide vital public services and infrastructure, immediate livelihood recovery and strengthening of community peace architecture.

The SWG mobilizes and leverages the resources and expertise of UN agencies, government departments and agencies (both at federal and state levels), NGOs, Civil Society Organizations, and the Private Sector. Cross-cutting themes such as human rights, gender, HIV/AIDS and environment, should be integrated as core components of the ERL SWG Group's mandate.

Overall coordination of Early Recovery & livelihood interventions including identification of membership (including national authorities), assignment of responsibilities on specific issues to different agencies; establish working groups at the federal and state level where necessary and ensure that all programming interventions follow a human rights based approach.

The SWG will:

- Cover all the identified and evolving sector needs of the affected population, and not only those that relate to the specific mandate of individual SWG members, including that of the SWG Lead Agency/s.
- Harmonize assessment, monitoring and reporting tools and to the extent possible, undertake joint field missions, needs assessments and analysis among sector partners and participate in joint inter-agency sector needs assessment exercises as appropriate to ensure consensus on identified needs, gaps and priorities;

- Facilitate the development of an overall strategy and response plan for the SWG with linkages between peace building/ social cohesion, relief, recovery and development. To the extent possible, ensure the strategy complements government policies, plans and priorities;
- Ensure that the response plan of the SWG is updated regularly according to evolving needs and that it establishes indicators by which performance of the ERL SWG can be measured.
- Ensuring that SWG strategies are adequately reflected in overall country strategies such as the Strategic Response Plan as well as in Flash and Consolidated Appeals.
- Identify issues of mutual interest and identify information which (i) should be proactively shared with other SWGs, and (ii) should be acquired from other SWGs to ensure a more effective overall response. Identify potential areas of duplication between SWGs so that they can be avoided, and identify potential gaps which may fall between SWGs so that they can be addressed through the clear assignment of responsibilities.
- Advocate for the use of participatory and community-based approaches in the planning and implementation of projects. Promote measures which increase accountability to affected populations and promote the identification of durable solutions.
- Mobilize resources to support SWG priorities.
- Support efforts to strengthen the capacities of ER & livelihoods stakeholders and partners.

UNDP as lead agency is specifically responsible to:

- Represent the interests of the SWG in discussions with the UN Resident Coordinator on prioritization, resource mobilization and advocacy;
- Coordinate with the UN Humanitarian Coordinator to ensure effective links with all other SWGs;
- Act as focal point for inquiries on the ERL SWG's response plans and operations; and
- Perform day-to-day coordination of the ERL SWG.

COMPOSITION OF THE ER & LIVELIHOODS SECTOR WORKING GROUP

Members of the SWG are agencies and organizations whose mandate and services are pertinent to the specific recovery tasks. This includes UN Agencies, Funds and Programs whose mandate will be relevant to specific early recovery interventions, international and national NGOs, donors (and their key implementing partners), Red Cross/Crescent and other relevant organizations.

In accordance with global cluster/sector working group lead designations, UNDP shall serve as lead agency of the ERL SWG for the UN system and will co-share this role with federal government's designated focal point (i.e. NEMA). Membership may be revised based on need on the ground and as the situation evolves.

The ERL SWG shall determine its meeting schedule (preferably once a month) and secretariat support services as needed.