With the support of the Lebanon National Mental Health Program

Workshop

« Psychosocial response to vulnerable population’s needs in Lebanon: Managing the transition from a humanitarian to a development approach »

The scale and duration of the Syrian crisis’ effects in Lebanon lead the actors of international assistance to operate a transition from humanitarian to development interventions. The French Development Agency, in collaboration with the Mediterranean Centre for Integration, with the support of the National Mental Health Program, are organizing a stock-taking workshop with actors of the psychosocial sector in Lebanon and also those active in the neighbouring countries.

This workshop’s objectives are, through sharing of experiences and perspectives between Ministries, NGOs and donors, to identify major issues for future psychosocial programs, and to reach shared conclusions to sketch ways of improvement.

On Tuesday, 19th December 2017
From 9.00 am to 5.00 pm

Meeting room, media library, French Institute, French Embassy, Damascus street - Beirut

Contact: afdbeyrouth@afd.fr
8h30
Welcome

9h00
Introduction
- Humanitarian - development transition: Thierry Liscia, Deputy Director, AFD Lebanon
- Psychosocial response challenges: Zahi El Haiby, Director of cabinet, Ministry of Social affairs
- Agenda of the day (and moderation): Thierry Liscia

9h15
1st panel discussion: Adressing the needs
The Lebanon crisis response plan defines a framework for action for international assistance donors. Psychosocial actions are mainly mentioned in education and protection interventions. Donors and operators have led their actions in this frame, giving priority to specific vulnerable beneficiaries (children, victims of SGBV...) and had also to take into account the prevailing insecurity in different areas for their field operations. This panel will aim to provide a global picture of the needs, responses and difficulties encountered so far, to reflect together on ways to provide a better coverage.

9h15: Interventions and speakers
Moderator: Alissar Rady, National public health officer, WHO Lebanon office (to be confirmed)
- Psychosocial needs: Mario Abou Zeid, General LCRP supervisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Areas and people « left behind »: Haneen Sayed, Human development, poverty, employment and gender referent, Worldbank, MENA region.
- Difficulties encountered in access to beneficiaries: Virginie Lefevre, Programs and partnerships coordinator, AMEL

9h45: Open-floor discussion

10h30
Coffee break
11h00
2nd panel discussion – challenges in field operations

To tackle the humanitarian emergency, psychosocial programs have been implemented vertically. In the field, interventions are covering a large range of programs. The mapping of field interventions reveals mainly implementation of « one-time » initiatives from field actors. In addition, impact studies, necessary to get a critical and constructive overview of these interventions often depend on projects’ funding availability. This session will reflect on the organizations of actors and responses to better tackle the needs.

11h00: Interventions and speakers

Moderator: Olivier Ray, Director, AFD Lebanon
- Forum for dialogue: Hala Abou Farhat, Health sector, inter-agency, coordinator, UNHCR Lebanon
- Coordination of actors in the field: Camilla Jelbart Mosse, Country coordinator, international NGO forum in Lebanon
- Challenges for an integrated approach: Sahar Alnoury, Program director, Mercy corps

11h45: Open-floor discussion

12h30
Lunch break

14h00
3rd panel discussion – The institutional response

The impact of the Syrian crisis on the whole Lebanese territory, conjugated to the pre-existing constraints the country faces, have limited the monitoring of practices by the Lebanese authorities over the work being done. Circulars were recently published by the Ministry of Health for the supervision of specific practices. At the same time, a reform of primary health care and social development centers is in progress. This discussion will aim to get an overview of the existing tools regarding supervision of practices and to discuss good practices in place and lessons learnt from the field.

14h00: Interventions and speakers

Moderator: Ghida Anani, Director, ABAAD
- Contributions of the institutional decisions to the NGO’s operations: Ahmed Elmetwally, Public Health Advisor, Médecins du Monde
- The PHC - SDC - operator relation: Rabih El Chammay, Director of the Mental Health National Program in Lebanon, Ministry of Health and Adnane Nasereddine, SDC network Director, MoSA (to be confirmed)
- PHC and SDC reform for a better mental health - psychosocial continuum in care: Rabih El Chammay, Director of the Mental Health National Program in Lebanon, Ministry of Health.

14h45: Open-floor discussion
4th panel discussion: regional dimension

The Syrian crisis, with regional reach, led to several national responses. Within the framework of the national sovereignty, states have adopted a variety of rules toward refugees, the operators are concentrated on their actions in the country they work in and there are no regional forum for dialogue on this issue for actors in the field to share experiences and lessons learned.

Field workers and country program managers, on the bases of field testimonies, will share their experiences and good practices in place in psychosocial programs in countries affected by the Syrian crisis.

15h15: Interventions and speakers

Moderator: Dr Brigitte Khoury, American University in Beirut

- Iraq: Francoise Ghorayeb, Head of Programs South and Central Iraq, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- Jordan: Claire Withney, Program director, International Medical Corps, Amman
- Turkey / Syria: Manuel de Lara, World Health Organization (WHO), Gaziantep

16h00: Open-floor discussion

16h30

Conclusion

This last session will aim at summarize the conclusions of the day's discussions and at opening tracks for short-term action.

Speakers:

- Olivier Ray, Director, AFD in Lebanon
- Rabih El Chammay, Director of the Mental health national program in Lebanon, Ministry of Health.

16h45

Goodbye coffee