

## ExCom 2004 : Global Programmes

### Major developments and progress on UNHCR's global objectives and the Agenda for Protection

#### Gender and age mainstreaming project <sup>1</sup>

- By September 2004, country assessments and workshops had been undertaken with gender and age multi-functional teams in eleven country operations: Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, Greece, Guinea, India, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Venezuela, and Zambia. Two more exercises are scheduled in the Islamic Republic of Iran and Uganda by the end of 2004. Canada was also visited to learn about gender and age mainstreaming in the Canadian context.
- In July 2004, headquarters and regional staff convened in Geneva to reflect on the methodology and modalities of the 2005 “roll-out,” which resulted in changes to the pilot to reflect the initial “lessons learned.” In the remaining pilots, a review of project submissions for 2005 will be conducted and agreements reached on applying situation analysis in preparation for the county operation plan.
- It is envisaged that the systematic application of situation analysis with a gender and age perspective to the development of protection strategies,<sup>2</sup> project submissions, country operation plans and reporting systems, in coordination with partners, will provide a reasonable first building block for gender and age mainstreaming in UNHCR's operations.
- The workplans of the multi-functional country teams referred to above have been signed by the respective Representatives and shared with the Bureaux and the Division of Operational Support (DOS). It is anticipated that the final results of the workplans will be considered by the Director of each Bureau in the Career Management System process - a first step in establishing the accountability of senior staff in relation to gender/age mainstreaming.<sup>3</sup>
- In a related area, efforts to strengthen prevention and the response capacity of field offices to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV)<sup>4</sup> continue. Four regional SGBV training workshops were convened for countries in Central and Eastern Europe, Asia-Pacific and West Africa. By the end of September 2004, a fifth regional workshop for CASWANAME will be completed. Moreover, a SGBV training-of-trainers workshop was held in Geneva at the end of July to train 21 UNHCR staff to build capacity in their respective regions.
- Additional funding was made available to nine countries to implement projects, including theatre performances to raise awareness, advocacy targeting behaviour change in the community, an SGBV prevention and awareness raising video, and a comprehensive situational analysis to assess the prevalence of SGBV amongst the community.

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<sup>1</sup> Global objectives 4.3, 4.6 and 4.9, Agenda for Protection 1.9, 1.10, 5.2, 6.1 and 6.2

<sup>2</sup> Agenda for Protection 1.10

<sup>3</sup> Global objectives 9.3 and 9.4

<sup>4</sup> Global objective 4.9, Agenda for Protection 4.4 and 5.7

## Standards and Indicators<sup>5</sup>

- Through an inclusive process of consultations, a training manual was developed, aimed at upgrading knowledge and skills in the application of standards and indicators in UNHCR's planning processes. This is the basis of a training programme which has been launched, targeting middle and senior managers. Two pilot training exercises have been held: one in Nairobi (17-19 August 2004) for staff in Djibouti, Eritrea and Kenya; the other in Bangkok (6-8 September) covering Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, Nepal and Thailand. A robust training schedule is being pursued with the aim of reaching the largest possible number of offices by the end of 2004, through ten regional and two headquarters training exercises. The expectation is that the training programme will impact positively on the quality of the 2005 project submissions, 2004 country reports and 2006 country operations plans.
- In order to expand and refine the standards and indicators relevant to urban-based and scattered or spontaneously settled refugee populations further, two working groups have been established to review a comprehensive inventory of available indicators.
- The 2004 Camp Indicator Report has been prepared which contains data on conditions of some 130 different refugee camps world-wide as at end 2003. The data is currently being reviewed. The lessons learned from analysing the data will not only assist UNHCR to improve its programme design in order to strengthen the protection and assistance delivery, but also help refine the data collection process.

## Registration and Project Profile<sup>6</sup>

- Project Profile has now become a reality in the field. The first version of the new registration database application was completed on schedule in June 2004 and field implementation began in July. Today, the Profile team has provided advanced training in new registration standards and procedures, and installed the new "proGres" registration application in nine country operations, namely Turkey, Egypt, the Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, Ghana, Kenya, Thailand, Malaysia, and Sierra Leone. The three implementation teams are currently working in Rwanda, Liberia and Jordan.
- In 2004, training, data migration and software installation will be completed in 20 countries. An additional 40 operations are targeted for 2005.
- Work on completing the final first edition of the Handbook for Registration is under way and should be ready for publication in late 2004.

## Framework for Durable Solutions<sup>7</sup>

- In promoting the "4Rs" (Repatriation, Reintegration, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction) framework<sup>8</sup> in areas of return, a series of initiatives have been supported, including the establishment of the Geneva 4Rs Inter-Agency Support Group (FAO, ILO, OCHA, UNDP,

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<sup>5</sup> Global objective 3.3 and 4.2, Agenda for Protection 3.5 and 5.1

<sup>6</sup> Global objective 3.1

<sup>7</sup> Agenda for Protection 5.1

<sup>8</sup> Global objective 5.1, Agenda for Protection 5.2 and 5.3

UNHCR UNICEF, UNOPS, WFP and WHO), dealing with areas such as integrated planning, information, advocacy and training. At the same time, missions to countries of origin, such as Angola, were complemented with a number of other informal steps, including field-based planning workshops to review development needs in key areas of return, jointly with national, provincial and local authorities, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and donors. Similar missions led to the active involvement in the inter-agency process of developing strategies for the return and reintegration of refugees from neighbouring countries to southern Sudan. These missions also related to UNHCR's co-leadership of the cluster dealing with displacement in the Joint Assessment Mission for Sudan. Finally, UNHCR supported inter-agency workshops on 4Rs in post-conflict situations like Liberia, where government, the United Nations, development agencies, and NGOs interacted and agreed on the way forward.

- Financial support has also been provided to UNHCR offices for additional 4Rs activities in some eight countries (Angola, Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Liberia, the Republic of the Congo, Sri Lanka and Sierra Leone) using new funds made available from NORAD. These funds will provide support in a flexible manner to meet unforeseen and/or newly emerging, operational activities. Countries have submitted project proposals and will start implementing the country-specific activities as of September 2004.
- As an instrumental feature of the 4Rs framework, close collaboration with JICA<sup>9</sup> has continued and included support to the formulation of projects in return communities (e.g. in Afghanistan and Angola) and the provision of technical support to the African Union's NEPAD (within the sub-cluster on "Humanitarian Response and Post-Conflict Recovery", led by UNHCR).
- To promote development assistance for refugees ("DAR") and development through local integration ("DLI")<sup>10</sup> in refugee-hosting areas further, a workshop to raise awareness and engage host governments in DAR and DLI programmes was held in Zambia (9-14 August 2004). It included government officials from Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Uganda, and Sudan, who were also given the opportunity to visit project sites where activities within the Zambia Initiative are being implemented. At the same time, together with host governments, UNHCR has technically supported the development of DAR programmes, e.g. the one in Uganda that builds on the ongoing Self-Reliance Strategy (SRS). This was based on the recommendations made by a comprehensive mid-term review of the SRS conducted in the refugee settlements and host communities of northern Uganda. The review team recommended a six-month transition phase to move towards a DAR programme for Uganda building upon the SRS experience. Finally, support has been provided to the review of ongoing local integration programmes, as in Serbia and Montenegro, where a comprehensive review was undertaken. The support in Serbia and Montenegro has included the deployment of an ILO technical expert to assist UNHCR in these efforts.<sup>11</sup>
- To improve the tools and guidelines available to UNHCR and partners, a Handbook for Repatriation and Reintegration<sup>12</sup> was published and disseminated (French and Spanish translations initiated); a Provisional Guide for Quick Impact Projects finalized and

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<sup>9</sup> *Global objective 7.6, Agenda for Protection 5.3*

<sup>10</sup> *Global objectives 4.4 and 5.2, Agenda for Protection 5.1, 5.4 and 5.7*

<sup>11</sup> *Global objective 5.2 and 7.3, Agenda for Protection 5.4*

<sup>12</sup> *Global objective 5.1*

disseminated; and Self-Reliance Guidelines,<sup>13</sup> as well as those for DAR and DLI,<sup>14</sup> are in the final stages of preparation.

## **HIV/AIDS<sup>15</sup>**

- On June 24 2004, UNHCR became the 10<sup>th</sup> co-sponsor of UNAIDS, which will help UNHCR include refugees in host Countries HIV/AIDS programmes.
- UNHCR continues with its implementation of its 2002-2004 HIV/AIDS and Refugees Strategic Plan; the report on 2003 activities has been published and the 2005-2007 Strategic Plan is being finalized.
- A policy on antiretroviral treatment for refugees is being developed.
- Important issues regarding HIV and protection, such as discrimination in host countries and repatriation, as well as mandatory testing for resettlement, have become more apparent as the programme has expanded. These are being addressed in collaboration with the Department of International Protection.
- Expansion of HIV/AIDS programmes into West Africa has occurred; this includes hiring of an HIV/AIDS Regional Coordinator and assessment missions to Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone as well as additional funds for these country programmes.
- Following an HIV/AIDS mission undertaken to Thailand, a concept paper for expansion into Asia, with Bangkok as the base, has been developed.

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<sup>13</sup> *Agenda for Protection 3.4 and 5.7*

<sup>14</sup> *Global objectives 4.4 and 5.2, Agenda for Protection 3.5, 5.1 and 5.4*

<sup>15</sup> *Global objective 4.7*