

**Afghanistan CCCM Working Group (WG)**

**Terms of Reference**

1. **Background**

Despite the Afghan government's initiative to repatriate residents of informal settlements to their places of origin, it is anticipated that a significant majority of the population will continue residing in these settlements. According to the latest ISET assessment concluded in December 2023, there are 871 ISETs spread across 24 provinces (in 111 districts), accommodating approximately 393,461 households. The complexities of the IDP situation encompass a mix of protracted IDPs, newly displaced individuals, recent returnees from neighboring countries (Pakistan & Iran), economical migrant workers, and impoverished host communities, with displacement primarily stemming from prolonged armed conflicts and natural disasters.

Collaborating closely with the Protection cluster, HLP, and Durable Solutions working groups, the CCCM is actively engaged in formulating specific response plans for Kabul's informal settlements and informal settlements more broadly. The primary objectives revolve around unifying approaches and delineating positions between humanitarian and basic needs partners concerning land rights allocation, vulnerability criteria, and target groups. Prioritizing liaison with authorities (MoRR – DoRR – Municipalities), coordination of activities, and vigilance in monitoring eviction situations are crucial tasks for the CCCM, particularly in light of recent eviction notices targeting some informal settlements in Kabul. Establishing a Data Task Force in collaboration with information management partners like REACH - DTM is aimed at facilitating comprehensive data sharing practices, while developing a communication strategy tailored for diverse stakeholders including humanitarian and basic needs partners, donors, authorities, media, beneficiaries, and host communities remain pivotal. Standardizing and harmonizing the approach is intended to optimize assistance, commencing with the identification and expansion of pilot projects based on specific needs and available resources. These collective goals are designed to streamline efforts, improve communication, and enhance effectiveness in humanitarian and development initiatives.

The Working Group supports the application of global and national commitments to CCCM, including in: [Camp Management Toolkit](https://www.cmtoolkit.org); [Minimum Standards for Camp Management](https://cccmcluster.org/sites/default/files/2021-07/CAMP-EN_0.pdf);; Sphere Standards, IASC Gender Guidelines [for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action](https://cccmcluster.org/sites/default/files/2020-09/2015-IASC-Gender-based-Violence-Guidelines_lo-res.pdf); [Camp Managers Guide to Cash-Based Interventions](https://cccmcluster.org/sites/default/files/2021-09/IOM_CampManagersGuide-to-CBI_2020s.pdf); [CCCM Cluster Paper on Area-Based Approaches](https://cccmcluster.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/CCCM-area-based%20approaches.pdf); Management and Coordination of Collective Settings Through Mobile / Area Based Approach Working Paper; Urban Displacement Out of Camps Desk Review; [IASC Data Responsibility in Humanitarian Action](https://cccmcluster.org/sites/default/files/2021-02/IASC%20Operational%20Guidance%20on%20Data%20Responsibility%20in%20Humanitarian%20Action-%20February%202021.pdf); [IASC Guidelines on the inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action](https://cccmcluster.org/sites/default/files/2019-11/iasc_guidelines_on_the_inclusion_of_persons_with_disabilities_in_humanitarian_action_2019.pdf); and [Camp Closure Guidelines](https://cccmcluster.org/sites/default/files/2018-10/Camp_Closure_Guidelines.pdf).

1. **Working Group Objectives**

The overall objective of the CCCM WG is to ensure a coordinated multisectoral response and protection provided for displaced people/communities (including newly internally displaced, returnees and protracted IDPs with life savings humanitarian needs)[[1]](#footnote-2) residing in informal settlements[[2]](#footnote-3) and communal settings, while advocating for transitional and durable solutions. While it is critical to provide lifesaving basic services to displaced people living in informal settlements, CCCM WG partners are aware to not create pull factors. CCCM WG will ensure active community engagement and participation by putting the affected communities and their needs at the center of the CCCM response, while ensuring minimum standards are meet and local capacity is developed. CCCM WG will achieve this overarching goal through below specific objectives:

* Coordination of CCCM partners and area-based interventions to ensure the timely, quality, and effective provision of basic humanitarian assistance in line with Camp Management Standards and Sphere Standards yet avoid creating pull factors.
* Support establishment of consolidated and standardized approaches to the informal settlements/ communal IDP sites profiles and Information Management.
* Facilitate discussions on transitional and durable solutions for displaced people living in informal settlements or communal settings (including discussions on exit strategies and guidance or position paper on safe and voluntary returns) and if possible, engage with variety of stakeholders.
* Support collaborative advocacy efforts for strengthened coordination, protection, and resource mobilization/fundraising for CCCM partners.
* Support and advise the ICCT and HCT on all issues related to the CCCM as well as work closely with other clusters, thematic WGs (Population Movement Task Force etc.…) \_
* Work with the Accountability to Affected People (AAP) working group to ensure that service provision is equitable and harmonized across informal settlements or camp/site settings and that partners apply participatory and community-based approaches. By building trust via regular, two-way engagement at community level partners responding in informal settlements or IDP site settings enable CCCM to play a unique role in strengthening AAP.
1. **Scope of Work and deliverables**
* Conduct a stakeholder mapping exercise to get a better overview of the key actors at the local level and ensure that partners adopt standardized community-based approach. This includes mapping of interventions by humanitarian and development actors and de facto authorities.
* Enhance technical CCCM capacity of local actors and stakeholders to implement CCCM activities including area-based approaches (trainings on CCCM, protection mainstreaming, GBV Risk Mitigation, develop guidance documents, localization/ToTs) and develop contextualized guidelines and tools to ensure consultation with the affected population.
* Develop tools for a consolidated site-level assessments, site profiling and services monitoring through a joint information management system, capturing multi-sectoral needs and response activities targeting informal settlements; and developing of IM products to report to partners, clusters, and other stakeholders for an informed decision-making.
* Strengthen operational CCCM coordination both at national and regional levels (including area-based approaches)
* Establish advocacy messages for resource mobilization and multisectoral service provision to displaced populations living in informal settlements.
* Identify linkages and complementarity with clusters, other working groups, and development programming to ensure effective designation of roles and responsibilities covering the needs of the informal settlements for service delivery and an effective transition that contribute to durable solutions.

*Gaps listed but potentially beyond the capacity limits for 2021:*

* There is a lack of trained partners and resources to provide service coordination or site management.
* There is no proper follow up or accountability mechanisms to follow up needs at the informal site levels.
* Potentially look at a wider scope beyond just informal settlements to better understand displacement issues (including poverty at the host and surrounding communities, dependency of vulnerable people to humanitarian assistance and pull factors effects of the informal settlement, Priority Areas of Return and Reintegration etc.).
* There is lack of coordination structures at both local, regional and national levels;
1. **Structure and Relationship with ICCT and other Coordination Bodies**

CCCM WG will be advising and reporting to the ICCT on CCCM matters.It will also work closely with other active Working Groups/Sectors/Clusters/OCTs and other local coordination mechanisms to support multisectoral needs analysis and service provision in response to humanitarian needs in informal settlements. It will ensure linkages and regular information sharing with other established coordination mechanisms for joint humanitarian and development response.

CCCM WG will particularly work with the Gender in Humanitarian Action Working Group, the Protection Cluster and HLP AoR and other sub-clusters (GBV and CP) to ensure integration of gender and protection principles in all CCCM initiatives. Regular updates on CCCM progress and challenges, including for situation reports (Sitreps) will be regularly provided to OCHA.

1. **Leadership**

CCCM WG will be led by UNCHR with full dedicated CCCM Coordinator for the duration of the WG. Co-chair arrangements to be to be determined according to the technical expertise and capacities of the interested agencies.

1. **Responsibilities and Accountabilities**

**Co-lead/Co-chair:**

* Convene and moderate meetings, arrange agendas and speakers, take meeting notes and coordinate CCCM interventions.
* Represent the CCCM WG at relevant coordination structures and facilitate the coordination of national CCCM partners and ensure inclusiveness at national and regional levels.
* Ensure CCCM WG TORs and Work Plans are in place, and monitoring and reporting on progress to ICCT.
* Ensure consolidated/standardized CCCM information management systems are in place and updated as needed.
* Advocate funding and resources for multi-sectorial needs at informal settlements, and promote attention to the vulnerable populations living in IDP sites/settlements as well as ensuring accountability to affected groups.
* Promote standardized and good CCCM practices, including participatory approaches.
* Contribute to the development of national/local contingency plans in case of further displacement or crisis in displacement regions.
* Co-lead/Co-chairs will not represent their respective entity while serving as co-chairs but rather act as impartial moderators and coordinators of the group.
* They will be the focal points for CCCM issues that arise across the response. They will also maintain the Working group mailing list.
1. **Frequency of Meetings and Reporting Arrangements**
* The CCCM will meet at least every fortnight, with additional ad hoc meetings to be called as and when needed, as determined by the co-chairs.
* The CCCM is accountable to and reports to the ICCT on operational issues. A representative of the WG will also be expected to present regularly (once every 6-8 weeks) at the HCT as one of its mandatory areas of responsibility and to attend fortnightly ICCT meetings.
1. **CCCM Working Group Membership**

Based on initial meeting: UNHCR, IOM, ACTED, NRC, REACH, DRC, UNHABITAT, OCHA, iMMAP, Education cluster, ProCap, CVWG, Protection Cluster, ESNFI Cluster, GiHA, AAP WG CH, GENCAP/Gender Advisor.

The CCCM membership will be open to all humanitarian and development UN and NGO partners (both national and international) interested in contributing to this area of work. Additional presenters and interested parties may be invited on an ad hoc basis to present or join discussions as relevant. Separate work streams / sub-groups may be established as needed to focus on specific themes or projects. Participating organizations should nominate a focal point for communications on these topics. Membership implies active participation in projects initiated by the Working Group.

The Terms of References of the CCCM WG and modes of operation, will be reviewed, and revised on a regular basis, considering evolving programming across the humanitarian and development spectrum.

Document endorsed by the CCCM WG

Date: June 2024

1. CCCM WG will follow HNO/HRP population groups definitions: Internally Displaced People (newly displaced in 2022); Vulnerable People with Humanitarian Needs (including protracted IDPs, vulnerable protracted cross border returnees, IDP returnees, people affected by economic shock and income loss); Cross-Border Returnees (newly returned in 2022) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. The term informal settlement refers to temporary settlements including self-settled settlements, communal IDP sites, collective centres, reception and transit centres, and evacuation centres established for hosting IDPs. It also applies to rural or urban settings, to ongoing and new situations, wherever internally displaced people are compelled to find shelter in temporary places. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)