



Minutes of Myanmar Geographic Information System Working Group Meeting

30th November 2022, 3PM MMT, online via Zoom

Agenda

1. Village Mapping exercise by using Google My Map – *Presented by MIMU*
2. WASH and Nutrition clusters' Information Management System – *Presented by UNICEF*
3. GIS / IM activities in the Humanitarian Program Cycle (HPC) process – *Presented by UNOCHA*
4. AOB and other discussions

Attendance

Chair: Zaw Win (MIMU)

Participants: 30 participants from 20 organisations

1. Village Mapping exercise by using Google My Maps – *Presented by MIMU*

The objectives of this exercise is to add new coordinates of the villages and to verify the existing location of villages. While the coordinates are part of MIMU Pcode database, only about 78% of the villages have them and this exercise aims to alleviate this. A map and table showing the status of coordinate coverage was presented and discussed. Since this exercise was conducted with the help of agencies on the ground, a table showing the villages without coordinates and number of respective 5W reporting agencies in that state/region was presented.

The overall workplan of the exercise is then presented. There are 9 phases starting from 21st July 2022 to the end of November: initial meeting, application for village mapping exercise, training of agencies' field staff, sending no location data survey to field staff, gathering feedback from location data survey from field staff, village data collection activity with MIMU team, data collection activity, data verification/processing/compilation, updating Pcode database and base maps. The updated database is expected to be launched in December 2022.

The components of the village information survey was presented. It includes information relating to MIMU Pcodes, location coordinates, and collected agency. Based on this survey, field staff contributed village locations. Those are put into two main categories: to be verified, and without location. Villages that need to be verified are then further classified as 'OK' if their locations are correct in the Pcode, 'Modified' if their locations are updated, 'Deleted' if they exist in Pcode but don't exist on the ground. Villages without location are also further classified as 'Moved' if they exist in Pcode list but no location previously and has been updated with new location, 'Deleted' if they no longer exist, and 'New' if they didn't exist in Pcode list before and has been updated with complete info + new location.

The Google My Map process was discussed, presenting the village layer attributes used. The process was demonstrated using a small sample of villages.

In terms of villages covered by township, field staff from 63 townships participated in the training and data was collected from 39 townships. This was also presented, broken down by aforementioned categories using maps and detailed charts at the state/region level showing Ayeyarwady region with the most villages processed and Mandalay and Shan (East) with the lowest number.

Overall, the exercise involved 1890 villages countrywide: 976 'OK', 557 'Modified', 273 'Moved', 79 'New', and 5 'Deleted'.

WASH and Nutrition cluster showed interest to participate in the future exercise. As there are many camps without coordinates and having difficulties in mapping them, a participant suggested to expand this exercise to camps, in coordination with and to support Shelter cluster. The importance of first defining 'what is a camp' is discussed.

2. WASH and Nutrition clusters' Information Management System – Presented by UNICEF

WASH Cluster

A brief history of the WASH cluster was presented, starting with its activation in 2012, initially covering Rakhine, Kachin, and Shan (North). By now, the coverage has been extended to include Chin, Magway, and Sagaing in the northwest, Kayah, and Kayin, Mon, Bago (East), and Tanintharyi in the southeast. WASH cluster is working with various cluster partners.

The IM process involves the following exercises: 4W (quarterly), 3W (Monthly), Funding Matrix, Emergency Capacity Matrix, and Contact list. Comparison between these was discussed. The IM products include quarterly products and monthly products based on the data collection exercise.

The collected data at the state cluster level are then processed and sent to National WASH cluster. This data is used to prepare monthly humanitarian updates. In other states and regions without cluster activation, the process is directly managed by national cluster. Other processes involved are also presented and discussed in details such as capacity building, and dissemination. The tools used for IM includes Excel, QGIS, PowerBI, Google Site, and Google Drive. Their use was discussed in details.

The results of the IM process ultimately contribute to quarterly Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) meeting which performs the collective analysis and advise on the action plan (and corrective measures).

Samples of the 4W data entry form and products such as snapshots, [WASH 4W PowerBI dashboard](#), and WASH-Health integrated snapshots are presented. Google site based [WASH cluster website](#) hosts all the available products. It serves as a one-stop place for all WASH related resources for Myanmar. The WASH resources are also shared through MIMU website's [WASH cluster](#) page.

Nutrition Cluster

IM system of nutrition clusters involve biannual 4W (using MIMU 5W template), contact list, monthly 3W (also called NIS – Nutrition Information System). The results from 3W contributes to Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) achievements and provide the data to update the HRP dashboard monthly.

Nutrition cluster also produces several reports based on the data collection exercises. Nutrition cluster also contributes to global nutrition cluster reports. It also supports HRP processes such as calculation of People in Need (PIN) figures, cost and targeting. Nutrition cluster doesn't have a website and instead, share the products through Google Drive.

HRP data flow process (using 3W data) was briefly explained, along with monthly partners' reporting format.

Nutrition cluster IM products are consolidated into the IM system and includes main database, national and sub-national level dashboards and analytical products. Some highlighted products are presented in further detail.

The data flow process of 4W was briefly presented, highlighting the use of MIMU 5W template in detail. Breakdown of the implementing partners (as of Nov 2022) was presented using a table. Currently, nutrition cluster has 84 implementing agencies based on 4W data. Starting from 2020 in Rakhine State, gap analysis is being done at the village tract level.

3. GIS / IM activities in the Humanitarian Program Cycle (HPC) process – Presented by UNOCHA

The aim of the presentation is to highlight the GIS / IM activities in the annual humanitarian program cycle (HPC) leading to the development of core products such as Humanitarian Need Overview (HNO) and Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP).

The work plan was presented in detail and discussed. Periodic Monitoring consists of quarterly reports and quarterly inter-cluster 3W that collects and maintains humanitarian response data. Regarding HNO and HRP, even though they are released at the end of each year, preparation took several months starting from May, collecting, processing and analysing the data. Important part of this process and the highlight of this presentation is JIAF (Joint Intersectoral Analysis Framework).

JIAF is a methodology to analyse the multiple needs of populations in crisis. A brief overview explaining its aim, being a global standard, and how it allows a people-centered holistic analysis, was discussed. Because the focus has been countrywide since 2021, JIAF approach is needed. It starts with the analysis of almost every possible context, considering political, economy, socio-cultural etc., using available secondary data. Primary data collection is also done through Multisectoral Need Assessment (MSNA). In the next stage, event/shock and related drivers and factors are considered. After that, impact was considered, regarding impact on humanitarian access, on systems & services, and on people. At the final stage, humanitarian conditions will be analysed, calculating People in Need (PiN) figures based on severity needs.

JIAF approach is executed in 5 steps: Planning and designing a joint intersectoral analysis process, Collating and collecting data, Consolidating JIAF data, Conducting JIAF analysis, Validating analysis. The steps and sub-steps involved are presented in detail. For more information, it is recommended to explore [JIAF website](#). While JIAF approach is designed at the intersectoral level, sectors / clusters themselves can use it to get their own PiN figures and related analysis.

The processes involved with baseline data for 2023 HPC was discussed, using data from sources such as MIMU, UNFPA, and UNHCR. For the case of Hlaingtharya (West) and Hlaingtharya (East) townships that were divided as of latest MIMU Pcode, mapping was made using WorldPop data.

Calculation of severity of needs at township level has been simplified with the use of Excel based tool. It was demonstrated. The excel sheet also consists of JIAF indicators and data as well as consolidated data. The excel tool can also produce a configurable severity of needs map for different population groups. This tool is very similar to MIMU Excel Mapping tool and more technical details can be found in the MIMU's tool.

Further discussion was made on caveats of using UNFPA population projects especially in the context of IDPs. It is important to note that the tools used in HPC are designed to support planning and they might not be completely accurate. However, the methodology tries to use the best available data.

4. AOB and other discussions

Please contact Zaw Win (MIMU) zaw.win@undp.org if you have anything to present or discuss.