

Local ETS Working Group - Maiduguri

Date: 20/09/18 Time: 14:30 (Abuja)

IHP Base Camp, Red Roof, Maiduguri, Borno State

Attendance

Chair	Ekue Ayih (WFP/ ETS Coordinator)
ACF	Solomon Ishaya
IOM	Sadiq Farak Timothy Anko
MSF	Umar Fugu (online)
NRC	Amina Haruna Onochie Pascal Eneka
Premiere Urgence Int'l	Oswald Michel Banga Evina
Save the Children	Abraham Aikhionbare (online)
Solidarites International	Nicholas Sanda
UNHCR	Wisdom Enalebor (online)
WFP	Dubem Umeasiegbu Erika Iglesias

Agenda

1. Brief update on latest ETS activities in NE Nigeria
2. Partners updates
3. AOB

1. Brief update on latest ETS activities in NE Nigeria

- The ETS continues to provide shared communications services- Internet, VHF and HF radio services, deployed COMCENs, Iridium PTT coverage- in the humanitarian hubs established in North-East Nigeria.

- PUI informed the ETS that Internet services in the hub in Monguno had been down for three days. The ETS Coordinator said the camp manager did not inform the ETS about this incident.
- Radio operators to man the COMCENs in Bama, Banki, Damasak, Dikwa, Gwoza and Monguno are not onboard; thus, the COMCENs are not operational. The ETS is funding the radio operators' positions and UNDSS/UNDP is leading the recruitment process.
 - WFP is assisting this process by recruiting 16x short-term radio operators while UNDSS/UNDP continue to identify qualified candidates for longer-term positions.
 - The offers for the short-term radio operators will be sent to the selected candidates shortly.
- A request has been sent to ASMT for their approval to extend the current 3- night stay in the humanitarian hubs. There is a plan to have 2x radio operators per site for 15 days continuously.
- The ETS conducted an assessment mission in August to identify the technical requirements to develop a hybrid power supply solution to power the ETS equipment in the hubs. The implementation of this solution will be probably take place in 2019.
- The HNO process for 2019, led by OCHA, has started. The ETS is currently present in Borno state and plans to expand its presence in Yobe and Adamawa states.
 - PUI shared that their plans for 2019 will be to remain in Borno state and perhaps extend to other parts of Nigeria. More activities will be carried out in Maiduguri, Monguno and in the North-East in general. PUI reported that their staff are actively using the humanitarian hub in Monguno.

2. Partners' updates

Premiere Urgence Internationale

- PUI enquired about radio training for their staff even if there are using old radio models. The ETS can provide security telecommunications procedures training, irrespectively of the type of equipment owned by the organisation.
- PUI asked about a technical provider to assess their electrical installation and possible deploy a back-up power system.
 - **ACTION:** ETS to share the contact of the technical provider with PUI.
- PUI was granted with radio licenses for their operations from the Ministry of Communication Technology through a consultant. The entire process took two months. PUI will share the documentation received with WFP to ensure the authorisation papers are legit. **ACTION:** PUI to share the contact details of the clearing agent with the ETS.

Solidarites Internationale

- Solidarites confirmed they purchased Motorola radio equipment to support their activities but they have some ICOM devices. They enquired about how ICOM and Motorola radio equipment could be compatible.

- There is a specific device (DMR to dPMR gateway) to allow interoperability of both systems. However there is no plan to integrate the two systems as the majority (over 85%) of end-user radios are Motorola as per the standard for ETS in North-East Nigeria

ACF

- ACF's office in Monguno uses Thuraya satellite phones and skype to communicate. They asked about the Iridium PTT device and services rates.
 - ETS is providing an Iridium PTT coverage of 300,000 km2 in North-East Nigeria.
 - Each PTT device has monthly running costs (US\$62) to be paid by the respective organisation.
 - The provider (IEC Telecom SAFA) usually requires a one-year service agreement with the organisation and fees can be settled quarterly.
 - Private talkgroups for each organisation can be set up by the ETS. There are currently talkgroups for ETS, WFP, UNICEF, WHO and a common one for all humanitarians.

3. AOB

- Participants had an in-depth discussion on the different ISP used by their respective organisations, such as CoolLink and Skymax, and shared experiences. **ACTION:** The ETS will engage with each of the participants to gather the technical details of their ISP links to consolidate information and share it with humanitarian partners when needed.

Next Local ETS Working Group meeting will take place on 18 October.

Acronyms

ACF	Action contre la Faim
ASMT	Area Security Management Team
COMCEN	Communications Centre
DMR	Digital Mobile Radio
dPMR	Digital Private Mobile Radio
ETC	Emergency Telecommunications Cluster
ETS	Emergency Telecommunications Sector
HF	High Frequency
HNO	Humanitarian Needs Overview
IOM	International Organization for Migration
ISP	Internet Service Provider
IT	Information Technology
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
PUI	Premiere Urgence International
UN	United Nations



UNDSS	UN Department of Safety and Security
UNDP	UN Development Programme
UNHCR	UN High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	UN Children's Fund
WFP	UN World Food Programme
VHF	Very High Frequency
WHO	World Health Organization

All information related to the ETS operation can be found on the ETC website:

www.etcluster.org/emergencies/nigeria-crisis

For more information, or to be added or deleted from the mailing list, please contact:

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Minutes: Erika Iglesias, WFP.