

National Emergency Education Cluster Meeting

Date: **22nd February 2008** Time: **3.00pm – 4.30pm**

Venue: Save the Children in Sri Lanka (SCiSL), 58a Horton Place, Colombo 7

Chaired by: SCiSL

Attendees: SCiSL, UNICEF, World Vision, ZOA

Apologies: CARE, Caritas

Minutes

Introduction

The aim of the working group was outlined – to coordinate and facilitate the provision of education to all children affected by the conflict (IDP children and those in resettlement areas) and in the long term to develop a framework for coordinating education provision in the event of any emergency context within Sri Lanka.

Scope

The geographical and sectoral scope of the agencies was discussed. All four agencies have a network of offices throughout the north and east. Whilst World Vision and ZOA do not have specific education projects, education is an important element to their integrated programmes. UNICEF and SCiSL work directly with local government in education provision both during emergencies and as part of the resettlement process. In addition all four agencies look to provide child friendly spaces in IDP camps and host communities for children. These can also double up as study areas and Early Childhood Care and Development Centres.

Local Coordination

It was agreed to provide coordination details at a local level. UNICEF and SCiSL have taken the responsibility to ensure that a coordination mechanism is set up with local education departments (Zonal Offices) to map needs and gaps. Other agencies will provide focal points to work with this group. Further linkages are to be pursued between the local education group and other sectors.

INEE Training (Note – Date change).

SCiSL are organising a day workshop covering INEE minimum standards for education in emergencies from 7th -9th April (Monday – Wednesday) in Trincomalee. Places are limited but SCiSL will try and accommodate as many NGOs as possible. The workshop will be in English medium and should be free except for food and accommodation costs.

National Coordination

There is a meeting of the Education Sub-committee of the Consultative Committee on Humanitarian Assistance (CCHA) on March 18th. It was agreed to meet before this date to discuss any issues that the group felt should be brought to the meeting.

Next Meeting

Scheduled for Friday March 14th at 3pm, SCiSL Office.