DTM&Partners Cooperation in Comics!

DTM MSLA is being rolled out in a crisis-affected country. The new DTM coordinator arrives to the office...

Welcome! I am part of the DTM Team. We need your help rolling out the Multi Sectoral Location Assessment!

Good to be here! Tell me, how far did you come with planning for the MSLA?

We did a risk assessment and identified modalities to minimize risks during the exercise. We explained to the authorities what DTM MSLA is and got their green light. Through the Baseline Assessments, we now know areas and locations where IDPs are. We are recruiting more enumerators for the MSLA and staff for data analysis.

DTM MSLA = Multi Sectoral Location Assessment collects sectoral and intersectoral information per each location, usually through Observation & Interviews with Key informants who are not sectoral experts (see: https://displacement.iom.int/dtm-partners-toolkit/what-dtm)

Very good! Do we have a good understanding of what the humanitarian community needs to know? Are we sure MSLA through Key Informants and Observation is the appropriate tool for that?

Well, the usual: how many people are displaced, where they are exactly living, who is displaced, for what reasons, and what basic goods and services people are now missing!

Do we know who else is collecting data, what they collect and where?

Not yet, but we asked OCHA to organize an Information Management working group meeting for later today.

OCHA chairs the Information Management WG (IMWG) in responses where Clusters are activated. If OCHA is not present or does not have this role in your response, replace OCHA with whatever Organization or Authority has this role (e.g., Government, UNHCR, IOM).

Later that day, after a useful IMWG meeting...

We now have confirmation of what info are needed. Earlier you listed the main info needs quite accurately!

Yes, but we also realized that some more info are needed by various sectors. I think we can fill some of them through the MSLA!

A Data Analysis Plan links information needs, questions & analysis and documents how data will be used: https://displacement.iom.int/dtm-partners-toolkit/analysis

We need to consider all the info one by one, and include in our Data Analysis Plan those we can collect through key informant interviews and observation, at location level.

And then we can check if the DTM Field Companion* has suggested question phrasing for some of the information we need. They are recommended for MSLA by Global Clusters and other experts.

Selecting the information that can be collected through MSLA takes a few hours of focused work. The DTM Field Companion is useful for developing the appropriate phrasing for many questions & time is saved using the existing mock-ups!

Excellent work! Let’s now check that our questions DO NO HARM. We can verify each question with Protection & colleagues who understand this context & culture*.

The day after, Protection colleagues & colleagues who know the Context&Culture help DTM with Do No Harm analysis.

Thanks for your help! Before we collect data, we must consider if each question puts at risk 1) enumerators, 2) interviewees, 3) population and 4) our organization. What negative consequences may they face when data are collected, stored, analysed and disseminated?

Mock-ups

According to key informants at a site have... In so says, ...

*DTM Field Companion should be adjusted to the context: https://displacement.iom.int/dtm-partners-toolkit/field-companion-sectoral-questions-location-assessment

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DTM Partners are all humanitarian actors, organizations, institutions and groups who use DTM data for humanitarian response. They have different information needs.
DTM, global clusters and other partners developed an approach on how to get useful and usable data. You start by identifying the information you need and for what specific use. At that point, we jointly develop questions and an analysis plan.

An Analysis plan links the data to its use and question... it is necessary to ensure DTM collects the data that Partners need (and not data that will not be used).

DTM & Partners Planning together

DTM & Partners engage for Useful and Usable Data

The next day, at the Governmental Emergency Response Cell...

Thank you for finding the time to meet. DTM is continuing data collection in all the affected areas, and we were wondering if we can provide you specific information for better coordinate the response.

We need to know how many of the IDP children are vaccinated!

Information Needs have been very clearly identified!

You could use some data from DTM-MSLA: estimated number of children in each location, where the IDPs come from, the distance of communities to health centre and also problems they face in accessing healthcare.

Mmmh...how could I use that?

You could use your Health Ministry information on vaccination coverage in the locations of origin of IDPs to understand whether or not a new campaign is necessary. You can use the number of children and the healthcare information to organize any needed vaccination campaign. Of course we will share the coordinates and name of each location.

OK, then! That would be useful. When and how will we receive the data?

We gave you a 2-pager handout with more info on how we can help. You can look at the DTM&Partners Toolkit, jointly created by DTM, Global Clusters and other experts.

And these are our contact details. Let us know if we can help!
This data is already available: I will send you the link to the DTM website where you will find all publicly available data, and you will also see that we update the dataset regularly, at each round.

Hello! Thanks for organizing this meeting on your information needs & identify what DTM MSLA may be able to collect for you.

In the meantime, DTM also meets the Child Protection and Mine Action sectors’ coordinators...

Very good. Thank you!

Happy to see you, but I am not sure why we had to meet for this. CP sector has 5 questions to add to the questionnaire, and I can simply send them to you.

Identifying the info we need to make decisions is important to ensure that we get data we can use. After that, we can work together with DTM to phrase the questions that work in this context.

Yes and No! An info need is NOT a question you put in the questionnaire. It is the information you need to make decisions for your response.

But an information need IS a question, no?

For example, Mine Action sector colleagues need to prioritize areas for intervention. We need to know where people face high risk from Explosive Ordnance!

...While the "question" is one of many possible ways and phrasings to get that information

Now we phrase the questions! There are many ways to obtain a piece of information: we choose the most effective way, considering for example method of data collection, age and expertise of the person who will answer it...

And DTM can give you information to help make that decision: for example, where communities moved to, how many people live in each location, where EO incidents are reported...

...And considering the cultural sensitivities of the context... we need to be mindful of the potential harm!

Review each question before using it, so to DO NO HARM! You can use the Do No Harm Checklist* on the DTM&Partners Toolkit.

This also means that it may take two or three questions to provide me one piece of information...

Exactly! You see now why you, the response actor, must identify the precise information you need and for what use, before we phrase the questions together!

Which means... we better get down to work now!


CP = Child Protection; MA = Mine Action; EO = Explosive Ordnance (e.g., mines)
According to key informants xx% of sites have limited physical access. In xx sites, KI could not answer.

DTM & sectoral experts work together & soon questions are ready! Questions are included in the Analysis Plan, adding a description of results done with fake data. CP & MA colleagues use that simulation (Mock-Up) to ensure that they can use the data they will receive.

Later that week, OCHA IMO comes to the DTM office...

Hi, good of you to come! Ready to work on this? Yes! We did our homework in the OCHA team and realized we need some more information on humanitarian access.

This information is already included in the data I shared!

Yes, but the data do not tell us why there is no access to some locations... is it lack of roads? Security? It helps us find a way to re-establish access!

Let us find a different question that gives us these details! I went online on the DTM&Partners Toolkit and saw one we could adapt from the DTM Field Companion...

At the same time, the GBV AoR coordinator meets DTM & CCCM colleagues.

Hello! I took your invitation and came to see if DTM can collect some information to complement the data we have.

Good to see you! Let us find a way for DTM to help!

You are about to ask me what information we need. But I am not sure! I can tell you that we have very limited resources and we would like to know where to focus our interventions.

We cannot even rely on the number of cases per location, as that only indicates where the reporting is happening, not where the incidents are happening...

We could look at site infrastructure, shelter, WASH and security aspects to identify locations where the risk of GBV is higher.

In the next days, DTM Team prepares Mock-Ups (simulation) of charts, using fake data. This helps partners understand the type of info each question will provide, & agree on the descriptive analysis.

Mock-Ups: illustrate end results

According to key informants xx% of sites have limited physical access. In xx sites, KI could not answer.

It is important to plan how to share data before collecting them!

We cannot risk to put people in danger by publicly sharing the answers to these two questions! How can we get the data without doing harm?

Let us list all the info we should not share publicly & share them safely.

DTM & a Partner may enter in data-sharing agreement or MoUs, to ensure clear data-sharing modalities that protect the interests of staff & beneficiaries.

GBV = Gender Based Violence; AoR = Area of Responsibility (Sub-Cluster); CCCM=Camp Management Camp Coordination;
DTM Field Companion includes Mock-Ups of results, in the forms of charts and narrative.

Before collecting data, DTM asks partners to verify the questions will give the needed information!

We used fake data & simulated results. Before we start the data collection, please, try making your decisions using this analysis. If you cannot do it, let us modify the questions or reply options until you get what you need.

DTM & Partners agreed that DTM will provide some descriptive analysis, while explanation, interpretation and response planning are the task of Partners!

DTM presents descriptive analysis to interested partners and coordination fora (HCT, ISCG, IMWG...), so to increase their use of data and promote interpretation and response planning.

https://displacement.iom.int/dtm-partners-toolkit/analysis

...and DTM Team in the office receives, cleans, processes and verifies data!

https://displacement.iom.int/dtm-partners-toolkit/predictable-approach

HCT = Humanitarian Country Team, a strategic and operational decision-making and oversight forum. If you work in an emergency without cluster activation, interpret HCT as the group /actor/actors holding that mandate, and adapt as appropriate.

ISCG = Inter Sectoral Coordination Group; IMWG Information Management Working Group

These meetings are also great opportunities for DTM to immediately verify what data are useful and what should be modified.

We cannot use these data as they are, while these other data are very useful... We would need also this other info...

DTM has given us quite useful data!

Let us consider these changes in our next revision!

Now we analyse them further, using our sector’s info & other secondary data.

And we can plan our response based on a joint understanding of the situation!

After all this work, Partners safely receive data they understand and CAN USE & use them to better respond to people's needs.

And remember that new data are available at each round...

Which means that you can MONITOR the changes over time!

DTM MSLA provides information for monitoring situation changes over time.

...To be continued, by DTM & Partners in the Field!

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