

Sub-national Partners' meeting in Kharkivska oblast

Minutes | August 18, 2023



Місце зустрічі 93, Klochkivska str., at Centre for Civil Society Development, Kharkiv

Chaired by: Katherina Lavrova Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster (FSL) CFP in Kharkivska oblast

Co-presenters: Alistair Short Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster (FSL) Coordinator, Vitalii Razzhyvin Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster (FSL) IMO

Agenda:

1. Opening Remarks and Introduction of the Participants
2. Updates of the FSLC in Kharkivska oblast and Gap Analysis
3. Discussion of the Frequency of Coordination Meetings of Partners in the Kharkivska oblast
4. Criteria for Receiving Humanitarian Aid
5. Partners Updates
6. AOB

Participants: CF "Blago", NGO "Chuguivske Pravozahtysne objednannya", CF "Peaceful Heaven of Kharkiv", ACTED, WCK, HUB Vokzal, CF "Bunker", NGO "Hugs", CF "Dr. Isaenko CF", Kharkiv Regional Advisory Center, CF "Svit ta Ukraina", Kharkivska Oblast Civil Military Administration Department of Social Protection, NGO "Source of Revival", People in Need, URCS, NGO "Kharkiv", Action Against Hunger, Blahorob, Care Ukraine, NGO "Food for Kharkiv residents", CF "Yednist ta syl'a", CF "Peaceful Sky", NGO "HOCD", Relief Coordination Center, IOM, OCHA, WFP.

The meeting was attended by 35 representatives of 27 organizations active in Kharkivska oblast including local authorities. We thank all our partners for their presence and participation in the discussion. The Food Security and Livelihoods Cluster (FSLC) presented an overview of the partners' response in Kharkivska for July, allowing partners to understand how Cluster uses the information they provide. In detail, 26 partner organizations supported 651,715 people in the oblast during the last month (including 95,130 of Rapid Response Ration – Bread), while the number of people in need is estimated as of 724,200. Cluster used the opportunity to highlight the importance of reporting to the Cluster via the ActivityInfo platform.

During the overview of the FSLC [Interactive Dashboard](#), which was presented in detail to all participants, Cluster addressed the respective questions by the audience. After receiving information about the activities of the Cluster's partners, those present at the meeting recommended to work closely with Collective Centres which are receiving the constant number of IDP from Kupianskyi rayon according to Mandatory Evacuation.

After an update on the Cluster's activities, a lecture on the definition of the Humanitarian Aid Criteria was given to the partners and participants. Targeting vulnerable populations for humanitarian aid involves identifying and reaching out to those who are most in need and at greater risk in times of crisis or emergencies. This process requires a thorough understanding of the context, careful assessment, and a commitment to ensuring that aid reaches the right people. Here are steps you can take to target vulnerable populations for humanitarian aid effectively:

1. **Needs Assessment:** Conduct a comprehensive needs assessment to understand the specific vulnerabilities and challenges faced by different populations. This assessment should consider factors such as age, gender, disabilities, socioeconomic status, displacement, and access to basic services.
2. **Data Collection and Analysis:** Gather and analyze data from various sources, including government agencies, NGOs, local communities, and international organizations. This data will help you identify areas with the highest concentrations of vulnerable populations and determine their specific needs.

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3. **Geographic Targeting:** Use geographic information systems (GIS) and mapping tools to identify areas with high vulnerability and limited access to basic services. This can help you prioritize locations for aid delivery.
4. **Partnerships and Coordination:** Collaborate with local government agencies, NGOs, community-based organizations, and international partners to ensure a coordinated and comprehensive approach to targeting vulnerable populations.
5. **Community Engagement:** Engage with local communities to understand their priorities, concerns, and perspectives. Community members can provide valuable insights into who is most vulnerable and how aid can be effectively delivered.
6. **Inclusive Approaches:** Ensure that your targeting approach is inclusive and takes into account the unique needs and challenges faced by different vulnerable groups, such as women, children, the elderly, people with disabilities, and displaced individuals.
7. **Vulnerability Criteria:** Develop clear and transparent vulnerability criteria based on the assessment and data analysis. These criteria should be objective, non-discriminatory, and specific to the context.
8. **Registration and Identification:** Implement a registration or identification process that allows you to verify the eligibility of beneficiaries based on the vulnerability criteria. This process should be respectful of privacy and dignity.
9. **Feedback Mechanisms:** Establish mechanisms for feedback and complaints from beneficiaries to ensure that aid is reaching the intended recipients and address any concerns or issues that may arise.
10. **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Continuously monitor the distribution of aid and assess its impact on vulnerable populations. Regular evaluations will help you make necessary adjustments and improvements to your targeting approach.
11. **Adaptability:** Be prepared to adapt your targeting strategy as the situation evolves. New vulnerabilities may emerge, and your approach should remain flexible and responsive.
12. **Cultural Sensitivity:** Respect cultural norms and values while delivering aid. Understand the local context to ensure that aid delivery is culturally sensitive and appropriate.
13. **Gender Considerations:** Recognize and address gender-specific vulnerabilities and ensure that aid is equally accessible to all genders.

Update on Winterization 2024 from FSLC:

Representatives of the Cluster made a presentation on the possibilities of participation of the organisation's representatives in the Second Reserve Allocation Strategy issued by the UHF.

The cluster partners received important information on the purpose and objectives of the projects, the use of the voucher and cash system for implementation and received comprehensive information on Eligible partners. The Cluster team noted that the application deadline is 25 August 2023.

Partners' Update: URCS updated information on its activities especially related to livelihoods (in-kind poultry farming, fodder for Kharkivskiy rayon), The NGO "Food for Kharkiv Residents" identified problems with the distribution of food parcels for people with disabilities and people who cannot move without assistance. CFSR representatives informed the partners about the availability of 8 evacuation buses, including a bus for transporting people with special needs and bedridden people.

The local Charitable Foundation "Blago" invited partners to apply and disseminate information about the opportunity to receive small grants to implement minor repairs. Both individuals and small NGOs can apply. The grant is up to UAH 150,000. In total, it is planned to provide grants for 10 projects for a total amount of UAH 1,500,000. For more information, please contact this phone number +380503435009.

The CFP of FSLC in Kharkivska oblast provided a table of needs from the Collective Centres and an up-to-date list of addresses of the Hubs that provide humanitarian assistance to IDPs.

The partners agreed to have a meeting after September 18, 2023 at Centre for Civil Society Development on 93, Klochkivska str., Kharkiv. Approved agenda for the next Oblast coordination meeting will be shared shortly prior to meeting. Partners from this meeting are encouraged to join [FSLC East Group](#) in Signal and to [join WhatsApp Group for Kharkivska oblast](#).

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