

Food and Agriculture Sector Meeting Report

Minutes of 8 May 2018

Chair: Joseph ONEKA

Venue: Four Seasons-Palmyra Hall

Agenda:

Subject	Agency Presenting	Time
Introductions (of agenda and participants)	All	5 min
Review and approval of previous minutes	All	5 min
Alerts/ongoing emergency response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - East Ghouta and Afrin update/situation and response/convoys - Stock and pipelines for Southern Damascus - GOPA distribution of 4,000 RTEs inside E.Ghouta - SHF updates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - OCHA/Coordinator - Food assistance partners - Coordinator - Coordinator 	20 min
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MEI presentation 	ICRC	20 min
<p style="text-align: center;">CBT activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Major outcomes from CWG meeting and Cash Workshop 	UNRWA/WFP	15 min
Sector update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - January Actuals maps - March Plans 	IMOs	10 min

Action Points:

- Sector to circulate online emergency response mapping template for NNGOs to members for sharing with any NNGOs who they are aware intervened in the East Ghouta emergency
- Sector will contact shelter coordination focal points to make a presentation in the next meeting on upcoming issues around response to shelters.
- It was agreed that partners need to look at the whole country including inside Ghouta where needs are expected to be high instead of focusing on E. Ghouta including likely new emergencies (Homs) in terms of preparedness.
- Sector to summarize the gap analysis in a more user friendly form for sharing with the partners.

Alerts/ongoing emergencies

Humanitarian Updates:

East Ghouta responses

The sector provided updates on the response to East Ghouta which aims to reach the displaced within 72 hours of the onset of a crisis to cover a minimum of one to four weeks of their immediate food needs. When the IDPs have access to cooking facilities, regular monthly food assistance will be provided. Quick impact livelihood assistance will be considered whenever feasible to protect IDPs and host community livelihood within 3-6months.

The immediate response that has been provided by the sector and other humanitarian partners to the IDPs in shelters include: 77,775 ready-to-eat food rations; 93.27mt of milk (milk was distributed as an initial response to cover school-aged children within the families, with necessary measures in place to avoid the utilization of milk as a breast milk substitute. Moving forward, milk will be provided to children only through schools, once they become functional); 25,000 bread packs daily inside East Ghouta and in the shelters respectively (in total 50,000 bread pack is being distributed) and hot meals through the three kitchens:-

- The kitchen in Dumair is catering for the IDPs in the Adra area (Electricity building Adra and Adra school compound), Fayaa Alsham, Akram Abu AlNaser; cumulatively 14,800 bulk food rations were delivered which are currently providing hot meals to 12,000 persons per day.
- The kitchen in Hafeer is catering for the IDPs in Al Dweir Camp; 1,000 bulk food rations were delivered which are adequate to provide hot meals to 5,000 persons per day.
- The Herjalleh kitchen is catering for the IDPs in Herjalleh; 10,000 bulk food rations delivered and currently serving hot meals to 5,500 persons per day.
- Additional Kitchen planned to be setup in Karna to provide hot meals for 8,000 IDPs but so far there is no IDPs yet in this settlement.
- Other locations are covered through above kitchens on an ad-hoc basis especially through NNGOs (Hfz Al Naema & Mubadret Ahl Alsham) provided 14,650 hotmeals to Adra Electricity building. While MSJM currently provides 10,250 hot meals in AlDweir and 5,000 hotmeals in Akram Abu Naser shelter

The sector also initiated tracking of weekly food assistance responses in each shelter to determine response gap analysis and requested the partners to provide the information when requested to feed into this analysis.

There was no updates from GOPA on 4,000 RTE pipeline for East Ghouta.

Responses outside the shelters

Responses inside East Ghouta, crossing points and rural Damascus include:-

- 20,720 food parcels to Ain Tarma, Kafr Batna, Hamouria, Saqba and Douma. The delivery in Douma (10,720 food parcels was through IAC).
- 25,000 Bread packs inside E.Ghouta /day.
- 3,000 canned food parcels and 3,000 bread packs/day to Harasta.
- 36mt of date bars at the crossing point.

Emergency response to displacement of from Afrin (137,000IDPs to Tal Refaat, Nubul and Zahraa)

Responses

The sector response aims to reach the displaced within 72 hours of the onset of a crisis to cover a minimum of one to four weeks of their immediate food needs. When the IDPs have access to cooking facilities, regular monthly food assistance will be provided.

- The immediate response that has been provided by the sector and other humanitarian partners to the IDPs is as follows: 22,750 ready-to-eat food rations; 3,000 canned food parcels; 5,000 food rations; 7,000 bread bundle per day; 31,200 litres of milk; 15,000 bread packs daily and hot meals for 20,000 (started on 30th March 2018 on the assumption that additional funding would be available to ensure continuity).

North West

- WFP prepositioned 2,000 RTEs in Hama with additional 3,000 RTEs to be dispatched.
- Food rations distribution are ongoing in Suran and Maardis on a regular basis for IDPs and returnees.
- Coordination underway to start distributions in Tibat Alimam.

Stock and pipelines for Southern Damascus

WFP has a good adequate stock and pipeline until end of the year and there is likelihood to increase coverage from 3million to 3.5million.

ICRC reported having good stock of 100,000RTE for the rest of the year to respond to any emergencies however did not look at the Southern Damascus in specific.

UNRWA will take a lead role respond to Yarmouk however there is capacity gap. UNRWA is asking partners to support respond to upcoming emergency. In collaboration with WFP, UNRWA has prepositioned 14,000RTE.

Updates in Deir-ez-Zor response:

For the first time since 2014, WFP distributed 14,700 FR with WHF to cover rural area of Deir-ez-Zor which is facing critical food security situation. WFP distributed only WHF in the city and rural areas with no FR delivery since the suspension of the airdrops. The food which were loaded from Homs warehouse and escorted by SARC team were delivered in mainly 2 areas: **Eastern Rural Area:** Miadeen city, Boqrous Tahtani, Boqrous Foqani with 5,500 FR with WHF and **Northern Rural Areas** close to the city and above the river: Hatlah, Al Housaniya, Marat, Kasham, Tabiyah and Madloum with 9,200 FR with WHF. The distribution was done by SARC at the same time in these 2 areas directly from the trucks due to unavailability of the storage facilities in these areas. The remaining of the planned 17,000 FR will be delivered soon with the possibility to increase the allocation by additional 3,000 as requested by SARC.

ICRC response to Deir-ez-Zor include distribution of 25,000 bread pack daily until June 2018. In addition, ICRC will rehabilitate 4 bakeries.

MSJM continues to provide 5,000 hot meals inside Deir-ez-Zor city daily.

In summary partners felt that there will be no gaps left following the end of Oxfam response in Deir-ez-Zor with FR, Bread packs and hot meals being provided currently.

WFP and ICRC plan to undertake a mission to Deir-ez-Zor on 27May 2018. In addition, all the UN Agencies have received approval to open up hubs in DEZ city.

SHF Reserve allocation

- Sector recommended 3 proposals for SHF reserved allocation.
- So far only one out of the 3 partners have confirmed approval of the proposal by SHF.
- One partner still in discussions with SHF regarding their proposal.

The sector will also make follow up on the progress of discussions and advocate for the partner

ICRC Economic Security Interventions : [\(download 2 MB\)](#)

Food and Agriculture Response and Plans Updates

AGENCY	Notes/highlights
ACF	<p><u>Achievement during April:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Distributing home gardening kits (vegetable seeds, N P K fertilizers, and agriculture tools) in Rural Aleppo for Menbj district finalized reaching 1800 individuals. <p><u>Plan for May:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No inputs so far.
MSJN	<p>April 2018 Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Distributed 5,000 hot meals, around 31,554 individuals were served in Der Zoir city funded by PLC - Distributed 5,000 hot meals, around 30000 individuals were served in Afrin - Tal Refaat city funded by PARTNERS - Distributed 20,000 hot meals , around 100.000 individuals were served Eastern Ghouta (Dwier , Adraa and Duma) funded by PLC <p>May 2018 Plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To continue serve in our kitchen in Der Zor - To continue serve in our kitchen in EG - To continue serve in our kitchen in Tal Refaat. - To be distributed 10000 nutrition bars in EG.
AKF	<p>April Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement filed day for 101 farmers on the Conservation Agriculture, cultivation of mushrooms and irrigated wheat. - Provide training for 408 farmers involved in the FFS activities. - Distribute drip irrigation nets with grape seedlings to 20 farmers under (FFSs) Farmer Field School activities. - Provide training for 21 agronomists from agriculture extension on supervision of FFSs. - Provide 60 livestock farmers with lab screening services and 6 livestock farmers with (EW) Early Warning services. - Conduct workshop on “Smallpox disease” to 29 livestock farmers and veterinary technicians. - Conduct training on “Laboratory diagnoses” to 15 veterinary technicians. <p>May – July Plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carry on the activities of Farmer Field Schools in Hama and Tarots, - Provide technical training to extension workers on (FFSs management, drip irrigation system, agriculture media and communication). - Launch drought (EWS) Early Warning System, in collaboration with (MAAR) Ministry of Agriculture and Agriculture Reform - Provide managerial and technical training to CBOs, (Community Based Organizations) to establish new community assets in livestock and agriculture sub-sectors. - Implement Cash for Work projects, and follow up the agro-processing, home and kitchen garden activities and CBSGs (Community Based Saving Groups).
FAO	<p>March- April Achievements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -32 veterinarians (28male and 4female) were trained in Damascus during the reporting period

	<p>May-June-July/2018 Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 500 households will have support and capacity building for beehive and honey production in Aleppo. - 3,400 Households will be provided with Mushroom Production kits in Aleppo as income generating activities as well. - 50 HHs will be provided with Soap production tools as an income generating activities. - 35 School in Aleppo and Rural Damascus will have school gardening to improve students nutrition knowledge about nutrition sensitive agriculture. - 75 households will be provided with food processing machine in Hama as income generating activities - 280 HHs will provided with irrigation kits in Tartous and Hama - Rehabilitating for irrigation systems in Homs governorate in the upper Orontes valley.
<p>ICRC/SARC</p>	<p>April 2018 Update (ICRC-SARC joint activities)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In April, over 0.85 million beneficiaries were reached with food parcels, canned food parcels, bulk food and bread packs. - A large scale agro program has been planned and concept of community based livelihood program has been developed. This program aims at reaching over 50,000 HHs with agricultural inputs (seeds, fertilizer and tools for staple and vegetable crops). - Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) exercise for the ICRC-SARC Agro program 2017 (winter season) has been completed. Findings of this exercise will be documented in the form of PDM report during May. - In April, More than 50 returnees and people with disabilities received material support (equivalent of 1,000\$ each) to initiate/restart or boost their small businesses (Micro-Economic Initiatives - MEI) in Damascus, Rural Damascus Homs and Aleppo. <p>ICRC-SARC Plan for May 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cover about 800,000 beneficiaries with various food packages per month. - Together with the SARC, continue to engage and coordinate with the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform and its directorates across several governorates. - Supporting bakeries and flour mills with new production lines and generators - over 10 structural support (with Generators and production lines - Rural Damascus, Homs, Aleppo, Deir Ez zor etc.) continues.
<p>IFRC/SARC</p>	<p>April Achievements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finalised the analysis of the PDM survey for the past distribution of vegetable kits for winter season in Hama, Homs, Rural Damascus, Quneitra 2. Finalised the PDM Survey in Hassake for distribution of vegetable and irrigation kits (pending the analysis) 3. Finalised the procurement for the distribution of vegetable of 7,300 HHs (Hama, Rural Damascus, Homs, Aleppo, Quneitra) <p>Plans for May</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finalised distribution of vegetable kits and irrigation kits for summer season in Homs, Hama, Rural Damascus, Aleppo and Quneitra.

	<p>2. Assessments on going in Lattakia, Hama, Homs, Rural Damascus and As-Sweida</p> <p>3. Distribution of 200 kg of feed for 550 families in Hama and Lattakia</p> <p>4. Kick off the project of land rehabilitation in Deir Balbeeh (Homs) by distributions of water pumps.</p>
COOPI	<p>Final phase of the ongoing project in Qatana till end of April 2018</p> <p>Here is the latest evolves of COOPI ongoing project in QATANA :</p> <p>Finish the distribution of 2150 gardening kits in Qatana / rural Damascus, and starting the PDM.</p> <p>On 9/5/2018 will start the distribution of egg laying hens (with fodder plus vitamins) and training for 200 beneficiaries.</p>
TDH	- Finalizing the plan for distributing food vouchers
UNRWA	<p>Achievements during April</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNRWA was able to distribute Food assistance to 49,040 families under cycle 01-2018 emergency food. - 79 families (208 individuals) from East Ghouta received special assistance including Cash, Food and NFI assistances. <p>Plan for May 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNRWA is planning to continue the distribution of food baskets to the remaining 27,625 families (121,741 persons) under cycle 01-2018 emergency food - Starting the distribution of round 2/2018 regular food assistance (SHCs) to 10,735 families (31,170 persons).
WFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - . During March 18, only 611,249 FRs have been distributed to feed 3,056,245 beneficiaries, which is more than the plan due to some late dispatches in Feb. - During April 18, WFP dispatched 548,801 food rations enough to feed 2,744,005 Beneficiaries (91% of the plan), equivalent to 30,029 MT, including 5,554 MT of WHF. - The operational plan for 2018 is considered a resource-based plan covering around 3.002 million people with the possibility to increase based on fund. - Cross Borders deliveries during April 18: 141,207 FR (included in the above figures): 69,205 FR from Turkey to Rural Idleb, 19,982 FR from Turkey to Rural Aleppo, and 54,200 FR from Jordan to Rural Dara'a and Qunitera. - WFP managed to start the regular program in DZ Gov controlled areas by delivering and distributing 14,700 FR in Rural areas. - Idlib cross borders deliveries were affected and couldn't complete the plan due to the insecurity and the closure of the transshipment point - May Cycle deliveries started aiming to reach 3.002 million people without IACs. - WFP prepositioned enough RTEs to respond to the needs of evacuees from K&F, North Homs, and YBB. - WFP started the response inside Raqqa city by April 18 with an allocation of food for 30,000 people. This will continue until further notice. - WFP response for EG and Afrin is still ongoing with less trend for RTEs distribution. Daily bread distribution of 7000 bundles per day in Tal Refa'at and Noubl & Zahara was extended for one more month. - WFP will take over the responses in Roj, Niroz, and Areasha Camps in Hassaka starting June for the first 2 camps and July for the third one because INGOs are not any more able to cover these camps. - WFP signed MoU with UNRWA to provide them with 10,000 RTEs for the responses in

those mixed communities of Palestinians and Syrians like YBB.

Micro Economic Initiative Presentation by ICRC (attached)

ICRC made a technical presentation on MEI outlining followings:-

- Back ground (components of economic security interventions, economic characteristics of vulnerable households, economic impact of crisis on households and coping mechanisms).
- MEI components (productive grants, vocational training, microfinance, types and characteristics of MEI).
- Designing and implementation of MEI project
- Current status of ICRC MEI projects in Syria 2016-2018.

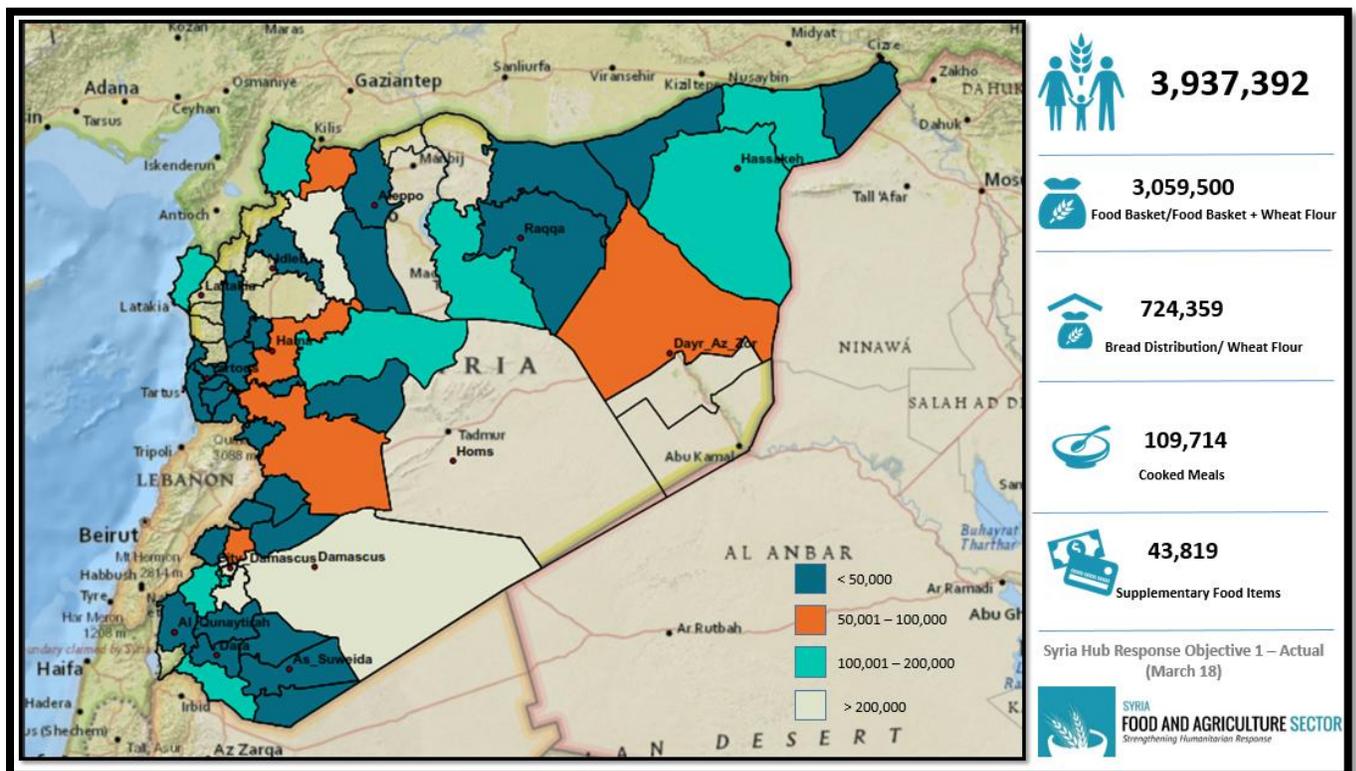
Cash working group updates

The CBT chair briefed on the meeting convened by OCHA under WOS relating to leadership and link of CBT to ISC. The proposed leadership include OCHA, OCHA and operational partner and operational partner/NGO. The CBT will remain under the sector for the moment with link to intersector. The TORs has been finalized. The technical tasks to be undertaken include financial services mapping, (ACF), SMEB and policy environment.

Gaps/Coverage Analysis:

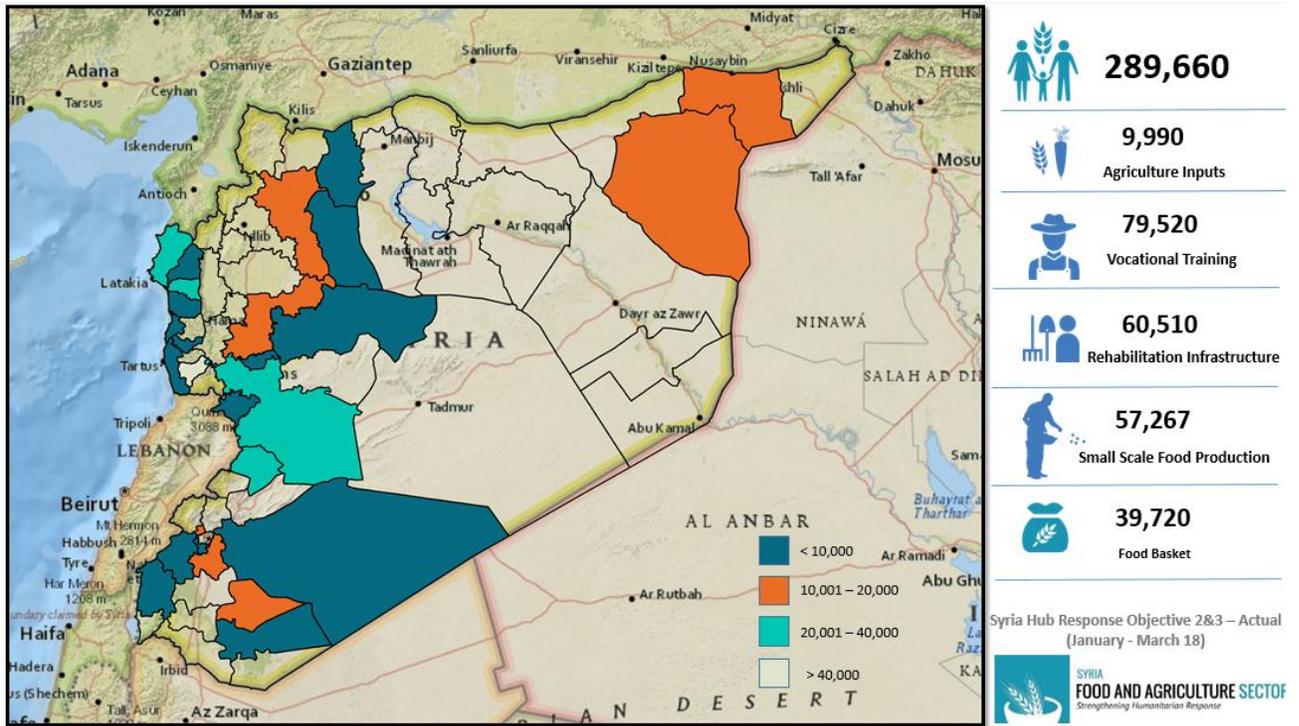
Sector Objectiv1 Response – Syria Hub – March 2018

<https://goo.gl/MEZFdq>



Sector Objectiv2&3 Response – Syria Hub – March 2018

<https://goo.gl/MEZFdq>



Next Meeting: To be held on 24th June 2019 at Syria – Damascus – Four Season Hotel – Palmyra