



WHOLE OF SYRIA (WoS)
FOOD SECURITY SECTOR
Strengthening Humanitarian Response



WHOLE OF SYRIA (WoS)
NUTRITION SECTOR
Strengthening Humanitarian Rponse

Food Security and Nutrition Sectors

Integrated Approach in Whole of Syria

07 June 2017, Rome, Italy



Background



- In 2012, an Inter-Cluster Working Group (ICWG) on Food Security and Nutrition was created with a view to provide technical direction to the global Food Security Cluster (gFSC) and global Nutrition Cluster (gNC) on key areas of synergy in humanitarian responses. Since then, both clusters, including their respective partners, have worked together to integrate food security and nutrition responses in a humanitarian context, aiming at better understanding complementarities of joint food security and nutrition activities and to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of the response based on the comparative advantages.
- Against this backdrop, a workshop organized jointly by the WOS Nutrition and Food Security clusters, supported by gNC and the gFSC was held in Amman on October 17, 2016, where a set of recommendations and “opportunities” were thought through and developed in order to promote and design an enhanced inter-cluster collaboration at the operational level.



Subsequently, an Action Plan (cf. below) was consolidated and in March 2017, both WoS Nutrition and Food Security sectors/clusters organized a two-day workshop to follow through the Action Plan, and develop concrete and actionable outputs in the four agreed upon main thematic areas in which the two sectors will be closely working together.

The outputs of the workshop focused on these four main areas

[Assessment and Analysis](#)

[GFD as a delivery platform for nutrition specific interventions](#)

[Delivery nutrition messages in FSL programmes](#)

[Capacity development](#)



Outputs of the Joint Workshop



• **Outputs**

- Rapid Assessment Tool jointly produced and disseminated to all partners in all hubs.
- Common set of indicators agreed to be used in household level assessments by both sectors.
- In the FS household level FSLA, nutrition section included on child feeding practices. This analysis will be conducted by nutrition sector, and will be in the FSLA report.
- After the completion of the FSLA analysis, nutrition and food security related findings will be presented in a common platform (an interactive dashboard to complement the report)
- Anthropometric measurements included in the Outcome Monitoring initiative.
- Inclusion of available nutrition evidence in the upcoming IPC analysis.

• **Capacity building**

- 7 partners already trained for using the joint rapid assessment tool. More partners are to be trained in the coming month.
- Nutrition sector trained 25 FSS partners on measurement of anthropometric indicators (weight, height and MUAC).
- Nutrition sector trained 30 FSS partners on basic nutrition concepts in preparation for FSLA household level data collection. A dedicated day was included within the FSLA training package on nutrition.



GFD as a delivery platform for nutrition specific interventions

Outputs

- 1- SOP drafted for the joint delivery platform, package of services and the target groups for endorsements by the hubs, six Joint platforms agreed upon (RTE, GFD, Schools, Cash & Voucher based transfer programme , Livelihood programmes, and agriculture programmes).
- 2- Agreed on the responsibilities and accountabilities for each sector .
- 3- Agreed on the guiding principles , areas of cost sharing and operational processes .
- 4- Action plan developed for the roll out of this initiative.
- 5- Established working groups at the hub levels and Strategic Advisory Group at WOS level for decision making (ongoing with different level of maturation and adhoc arrangements so far).
- 6- Start the Joint delivery in South Syria (Daraa) for IDPs , and interest among FSL partners is under exploration in the rest of the hubs

Forward actions

- 1- Finalize the TORs of the SAG and Working groups.
- 2- Orientation on the SOP and capacity development for interested partners .
- 3- Finalized systematic Joint operational plans at hubs level for the rest of the year



Delivery nutrition messages in FSL programmes

Outputs

1. Key nutrition messages developed and/or adapted for use in each type of FSL activity
 - Four infant and young child feeding (IYCF) videos available in Arabic for use in FSL trainings
 - Food Safety Poster in Arabic available for use at Bakeries
 - Key nutrition message brochure drafted in Arabi available for use with general food distribution rations.
 - Four IYCF brochures finalized in Arabic to be used for pregnant and lactating women receiving fresh food vouchers.
 - Nutrition product information brochures (High Energy Biscuit, Plumpy Doz, Micronutrient Powder) drafted in Arabic

Forward actions

- 1- Finalize Arabic translation for the remaining nutrition messages.
- 2- Send to designer for formatting.
- 2- Once finalized, conduct an orientation among interested FSL partners on use of nutrition messaging with FSL activities (review what messages are available and explore how to use them in program activities).

صحة عائلتي من سلامة تحضير طعامي

Food Safety Poster in Arabic





Capacity Development

- The group reviewed the Nutrition Sensitive Agricultural Training materials based on the workshops material that took place last year in Amman, Damascus and Gaziantep
- Based on the review, a set of recommendations was consolidated in order to improve the next Training Materials and the forthcoming workshops
- A clear timeline was also established till the end of the year to ensure consistency and implementation of the outputs
- A small Capacity Building Working Group (CBWG) was created with the support of the FSL Cluster Co-Coordinator in an attempt to :
 - Collect feedback from last year's participants in the workshop to integrate in the recommendations and based on the checklists that were developed for each hubs after the training
 - Ensure a proper follow up on the Action Points established at the end of the two-days
 - Follow-up closely with the ICN WG on their feedback on the recommendations and new training materials



Joint Information Management Platform

Both Sectors' IMO's also worked closely together in developing a joint information Management Platform in order to look at the coverage of the two sectors' partners and look at overlapping areas for enhanced field coordination and better integrated activities.

[Joint FSS and Nutrition Sector Response Mapping](#)



Next steps



The outcome of the workshop was to aim at improving the impact and performance of the two sectors in their activities delivered to conflict-affected populations across Syria and maximize together their resources on the ground.

As such, It is thereon recommended that both Cluster/Sector Coordinators at the Hub levels discuss the main outputs and consult with their respective partners jointly in order to start implementing the aforementioned outputs with a view to enhancing joint partnership operationally.

Core WG/TF should be established at the hub levels too in order to follow up on progress of the outputs' implementation and relay any challenges that may occur.