



Program Quality Working Group (PQWG)

Outcome Monitoring Webinar, 23 March 2017, 03:00-04:30 pm (CET)

Title: Presentation of Whole of Syria, Food Security Sector Outcome Monitoring Initiative (OMI)

Agenda

- **Whole of Syria Cluster Coordinators overview:** Samantha Chattaraj and Barbara Bitton
- **Presentation of the Outcome Monitoring Initiative:** Anne-Marie Cunningham and Alycan Mushayabasa
- **Partner presentation from International Relief and Development:** Abeer Altaher
- **Q & A**

The following **speakers** will present during the webinar:

Samantha Chattaraj is the coordinator for the Whole of Syria Food Security Sector. She has over 14 years of humanitarian experience particularly in programme designing, implementation and coordination. She has been associated with the Syria operations since 2013, setting up the cluster in south Turkey, Jordan and the Whole of Syria. She also worked with global Food Security Cluster for two years with particular focus on surge missions and programme quality.

Barbara Bitton-Neault is the co-coordinator for the Whole of Syria Food Security Sector since October 2016. She worked on Syria pre-crisis, and in the human rights and humanitarian sectors since 2011, notably as a program analyst for the cross-border operations in Lebanon and more recently as the INGO coordinator for the cross-border operations in Iraq.

Abeer Altaher is the Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, working for International Relief and Development (IRD) based in Jordan, since December 2014. She is responsible for monitoring of food assistance distributions from two IRD donors - Food for Peace and WFP. She is also responsible for monitoring of other IRD activities including the non-food support from OFDA and UNHCR, WASH activities and Quick Impact projects.

Anne-Marie Cunningham joined the Whole of Syria Food Security Sector in May 2016 and initiated the Outcome Monitoring Initiative. She has worked in the humanitarian sector since 2002, with a focus on M&E in the food and livelihoods sector, as well as complimentary areas. She has previous experience in the Cluster with WFP, and has worked also for IFRC, UNHCR and UNDP.

Alycan Mushayabasa joined the Whole of Syria, Food Security Sector in January 2017 as Monitoring and Reporting Officer, based in Amman. He has 12 years of experience in emergency humanitarian operations, including in Darfur, Zimbabwe and Syria. Previously, Alycan worked as monitoring and Evaluation officer for WFP in Syria.

The webinar will be facilitated by **Elisabeth Vikman**, Assessment Coordinator from IMPACT Initiatives.

Background Summary

The Whole of Syria (WoS) is a five country coordination platform to provide a mechanism for effectively reaching the people in need in Syria from various locations and across various areas of control. The WoS Food Security Sector (WoS), co led by UN FAO and WFP, is among these sectors and is supporting three formal “hubs” – south Turkey, Jordan and Syria – as well as two informal locations in prioritizing and responding to food security and livelihood needs of vulnerable households in Syria. The sector is co - chaired by three NGOs – Mercy Corps at WoS, IRD in Jordan hub and CRS in south Turkey. The sector coordinates with over 100 partners based across various hubs.

In order to have an evidence based response mechanism, the 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), for the Food Security Sector(FSS) has both the output and outcome indicators that provide the basis for decisions on various operational activities. It was also needed to demonstrate the sector’s capacity in monitoring and Accountability to Affected Populations. In the food security sector, three outcome indicators - food consumption score, household dietary diversity and coping strategies (food consumption based) are reported in the HRP in order to measure the performance of projects implemented by sector partners in Syria. The livelihood based coping mechanisms were also added in some locations, to better understand longer-term coping capacity of assisted households.

The Outcome Monitoring Initiative was developed in 2016 through a participatory process to report on above indicators and also provide capacity to partners on monitoring food security indicators. Partners were consulted during the design of the data collection tools, sampling of locations that were monitored and in the data analysis process. All partners that participated in the data collection exercise used a standardized monitoring tool that was harmonized and integrated in their existing monitoring systems. Data collection of the first round was conducted from September to December 2016, with support of 17 partners from the three hubs, including national and international organizations and UN agencies. In this process, the WoS provided a coordinated approach by training partners on above food security indicators, data collection process, during the data analysis and the dissemination of the preliminary results. This has enabled partners to appreciate the need for evidence based programming of food security activities and provided the WoS with evidence on performance of various projects implemented and coordinated through the sector. In 2017, the same process will be followed, including data collection in April/ May and November/ December.
