

Minutes 2020/6

Tuesday 12 May 2020 at 02:00pm - 04:00pm PNG time | via Zoom

Chair

Mr. Brown Konabe, Director Food Security Branch DAL

Co-chair: Helmtrude Sikas-Iha FS Cluster Coordinator FAO

Participants

Refer to Annex 1.

Agenda

- 1. Overview on coronavirus (COVID-19) and African swine fever (ASF)
- 2.

1. Introductions and overview of previous minutes

- 1. As of 12th May, 2020, there are no new COVID-19 cases in PNG
- 2. COVID status there are no new cases. Number of cases remain at eight (8)
- 3. Restrictions were in place in place for domestic air travel and inter-provincial travel
- 4. Chair opened meeting and members added a statement to the previous minutes in relation to the article by Professor Glen Mola, the disease has not got to the epidemic stage in this country
- 5. More PPEs received by PNG Government
- 6. A brief update on ASF mission to Southern Highland was provided
- 7. From the update the aim of that mission was to contain the spread of ASF as the infection has spread to Kandep, Teramanda, Margarima, upper and lower Mendi
- 8. Paula provided information on the sites where the roadblocks and LDCCs will be set in the 3 affected provinces
- 9. Allan/World Bank enquired if there was any new information on ASF to support the Bank for planning of their program

2. Partner updates and plans

- Rex reported that the NCD Food Bank delivered more food last weekend. They
 were working through the Catholic sisters and delivering food at Kaugere and
 Sabama
- 11. They received donations from Trukai 10,000 kg of rice for food distribution



Minutes 2020/6

- 12. Doreen reported that ACIAR had conducted a food system rapid assessment on 5 countries in the Pacific including PNG
- 13. This assessment has three phases where there is rapid assessment, integrated analysis and the identification of risks in the food systems. This project will involve Dr Bourke
- 14. James of DFAT reported that his team are working developing strategies including the discussions on food supply chains within both urban and rural area and the longer term economics on agriculture
- 15. He also reported food distributions in the Treaty villages near Daru. He added the second lot of food procurement is done in Port Moresby and will be sent to this villages end of this week
- 16. While this is happening, food assessment is happening on the ground and is near completion in the Treaty villages
- 17. Willie of ADRA reported that faith based organization continue to program food security activities- supply seeds and planting materials in the Bosavi area
- 18. However they are facing challenges with shipment of cargo and enquired the support from the cluster
- 19. Allan reported that they will be supporting both ASF and FAW
- 20. He stressed again for the release of new information on both the FAW and ASF to help them plan better their response to PNG
- 21. Brown reported on behalf of FPDA/IFAD/DAL that had their first meeting to reprogram, the MVF to support COVID activities. They will continue with discussions
- 22. Joe of FPDA enquired if anything was done about the farmer passes.
- 23. FAO released its first situation report as a contribution to the cluster activities. The sitrep will come in subsequent versions. If there was any feedback, members were to email to the cluster coordinator
- 24. Cluster members said they will try to provide feedback via email
- 25. Cluster were also informed of the socio-impact assessment web-based survey from the Resident Coordinator's Office for participation and that it was going to be sent out.

3. Any other Business

- 26. Emily of IFPRI noted that we don't if food consumption baskets have changed. In PNG there is the opportunity to shift consumption on foods given other staples. Model shows that rice price projections are now at 30-35%
- 27. She added the rural highlands is the area with the highest consumption because of the high population density in the rural areas
- 28. AROB dedicate only 22 % of budget to rice. East Sepik won't see a massive hit from the rice price shocks. ASF and FAW may affect food gardens and people will need to turn to rice



Minutes 2020/6

- 29. She concluded that a targeted cash transfer could offset negative impacts of a rice price shock
- 30. The Regional Pacific cluster meeting was coming up and that a PNG cluster coordinator should represent PNG and join. Most of the discussions are in relation to seed multiplication
- 31. Cluster agreed to reschedule FSC meetings to every two weeks. Chair said, that was ok but if there was need for adhoc meetings, he will call for the meeting

Action Items

- 32. Cluster coordinator with other members of PNG FSC to attend the Pacific region FSC meeting.
- 33. Emily to share related reports to COVID-19 with the food security cluster
- 34. Cluster coordinator to continue to update the 3W and the action item matrix and share the final version with cluster.

NEXT MEETING Tuesday 26 May 2020 | 2 pm PNG time via Zoom

ANNEX 1 – ATTENDANCE LIST

Attendees:

- 1. Anna Kimam, DAL
- 2. Regina Nukundj, DAL
- 3. Steven Hoko, DAL
- 4. Emily Schmidt, IFPRI
- 5. Aaron English, ACIAR
- 6. Steve Burns, AHC
- 7. James Marshall, DFAT
- 8. Katie Francis, AHC
- 9. Lavinia Tovue ,Phamplus
- 10. Alex Kerang, Phamaplus
- 11. Mathew Kanua MDF
- 12. Mike Bourke, ANU
- 13. Allan Oliver, World Bank
- 14. Geethi, World Bank
- 15. Clement Chipokolo, World Vision
- 16. Hudson Tabara, DMT Secretariat
- 17. Douglas Apeng, SUN movement
- 18. Rex Paura NCD Food Bank
- 19. Brown Konabe, DAL, Chair
- 20. Helmtrude Sikas-Iha, FAO, CO-chair