



## **MINUTES OF FSAC NATIONAL COORDINATION MEETING**

**Date:** 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017

**Venue:** NRC Offices, Sana'a

**Time:** 11:00 AM

**Attendance:** EU Delegation, ECHO, NRC, ITDC, HFY, QC, DRC, RI, LMMPO, IRY, SCI, YFCA, RRD, IRC, ADRA, YDN, CSSW, NFDHR, RDP, Saweed, OCHA, WFP, CHR- Taizz, ICAN, VHI, IOM, GC, ACTED, ACF, Arkan

### **Agenda:**

1. Introductions
2. Review of action points from last meeting
3. Refresher Training on FSAC Information Management tool
4. 2017 Response and Gap Analysis
5. Joint/coordinated FSAC Assessments
6. The Evolving Food Security Situation
7. AOB

#### **1. Introductions**

- All FSAC partners present did a round of introduction

#### **2. Review of last meeting minutes and action points**

- There was a follow-up of main action points emanating from the last meeting, followed with an endorsement of the last cluster meeting minutes.

#### **3. Refresher Training on FSAC Information Management tool**

- FSAC is planning to conduct a refresher training for all its active partners interested in acquiring knowledge on how to use the online or offline versions of the Information Management (IM) Tool, to enhance timely and accurate monthly reporting.
- The training is envisaged to start in Sana'a and will be in two sessions due to the big number of active partners present. Each partner will be required to nominate one relevant reporting focal point/person for the training.
- The training will also be conducted at hub/field level starting with the Hodeida hub.



- Each agency/organization is to submit one consolidated report from the respective reporting focal point. At times we have had occasions whereby one agency/organization sends in multiple and contradicting reports to FSAC.
- The deadline for submitting reports for the previous month is the 8<sup>th</sup> of the following month e.g. December 2016 reports are due by the 8<sup>th</sup> of January 2017. The cluster will be consolidating all reports once this deadline elapses for onward submission to OCHA. We will therefore not be in a position to include any reports sent after the deadline.

**Action point:** *The cluster Coordinator to share the proposed FSAC IM Tool refresher training dates with all partners.*

#### **4. 2017 Response and Gap Analysis**

- For a better, efficient and coordinated response, the cluster will be sharing monthly information products/ info graphics that will assist partners to monitor the response and direct needs to the most deserving/ under-served areas.
- These products assist in quick identification of gaps at both the governorate and district levels.
- FSAC will be producing the below mentioned three different types of maps on a monthly basis:-
  - ✓ Governorate level gap analysis - These maps will indicate the number of targeted vs. reached beneficiaries per governorate, for the three cluster objectives/activities (Emergency Food Assistance, Emergency Livelihoods Assistance & Livelihoods Restoration)
  - ✓ National 4W Partners' coverage map - This will indicate the 4Ws "Who, What, Where, When" for respective FSAC partners per activity, based on reporting for the previous month.
  - ✓ District Level response and gap analysis maps - These maps will indicate which partners are active per activity at the district level, within the 6 humanitarian hubs in the country. It will assist partners with potential planned activities to pinpoint where response gaps/needs exist. Moreover, it will lead to the avoidance of duplication in instances where more than one partner is present in any given district.
  - ✓ The cluster will aim to share these aforementioned three products on/ or around the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month.

**Action point:** *FSAC Coordinator to kindly share the three IM products on/or around the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month*

#### **5. Joint/ Coordinated FSAC Assessments**

- FSAC proposed to its partners to have coordinated and joint food security and agriculture assessments.
- As part of the discussion, some partners said that it might be difficult in certain governorates to conduct joint assessments due to the contextual, access and other



issues. That notwithstanding, it would still be paramount for FSAC partners to coordinate their assessments both with the cluster and amongst themselves to surmount the challenges together, and avoid “beneficiary assessment fatigue”.

- Partners gave examples of best practice joint assessments in other countries which were very successful and cost-effective by pooling resources together, and using standardized tools/questionnaires. These kind of assessments could be piloted in Yemen in certain governorates.
- Some partners suggested for the involvement of the CSO during the conduct of any assessment, based on suggestions by CSO in a workshop organized for humanitarian partners in Sana’a. As a reaction to this point, most of the partners rejected this idea and stated that CSO cannot be involved in programs or certain food security and agriculture related technical assessments. They could however be involved in some types of surveys and subsequently, their involvement will depend on the type of assessment.
- It would be important though to utilize their sampling frame during surveys/assessments

**Action points:**

- ✓ *Further discussions to take place with partners at hubs/ sub-cluster level to explore options of how to actualize joint/coordinated assessments*
- ✓ *FSAC to share the proposed assessment tracking and planning template (based on feedback from the hubs) for comments, and later for partners to fill in their 2017 assessment plans.*

## **6. The Evolving Food Security Situation**

- The current importers impasse, in tandem with the liquidity crisis is going to exacerbate the already precarious food security situation in the country.
  - ✓ The Central Bank of Yemen no longer guarantees payments to importers.
  - ✓ Yemen is highly reliant on food imports to satisfy domestic demand (over 90 percent wheat and 100 percent of rice was imported prior to March 2015), making Yemenis especially vulnerable to food price volatility. This puts a majority of vulnerable households in a precarious food security situation, particularly in light of import fluctuations/reductions
  - ✓ Two letters (one from Fahem group and the other from all the four main wheat importers in the country) were sent to the authorities in Sana’a. The letter indicates that “due to the financial problems with the Central Bank, none of them can meet their obligations to their suppliers and so unfortunately there will be no food imports into Yemen starting from January 2017”.
- The expected reduction in imports of staple commodities (mainly wheat) will have implications on food availability (food stocks) and lead to higher prices in the coming months. This could further compound the already precarious food and nutrition situation, due to the current crisis which has negatively affected employment



- opportunities and income, and devastated livelihoods exposing millions of the rural and urban population to destitution and hitherto unseen levels of food insecurity.
- A Liquidity Crisis Technical Working Group was set up to develop scenarios on the implications of the current liquidity crisis and reduction in imports, and present this to stakeholders (including the international community). The working group will be composed of the following 13 organizations/agencies:-
  - ✓ WFP
  - ✓ FAO
  - ✓ NRC
  - ✓ ACTED
  - ✓ IRC
  - ✓ IRY
  - ✓ ADRA
  - ✓ LMMPO
  - ✓ YFCA
  - ✓ CHR- Taizz
  - ✓ ACF
  - ✓ OCHA (Requested for their inclusion due to the importance of the working group)
  - ✓ FSAC
- ACTED would host the technical working group

## **7. AOB**

- The OPS project revision would be complete by the 10<sup>th</sup> of January 2013 after which the total FSAC financial requirements would be known (based on the number of submitted and approved projects)

*Action point: FSAC to update partners on the FSAC portfolio and way forward*