



MINUTES OF FSAC NATIONAL CLUSTER COORDINATION MEETING

Date: 31st January 2017

Venue: FAO Offices, Sana'a

Time: 11:00 AM

Attendance: IYCY, RI, NFDHR, YWU, ACF, OXFAM, SCI, FAO, YFCA, HFY, EU Delegation, CSSW, FSTS, NRC, WFP, DRC, IOM, SFD, QC, RRD, ACTED, CARE, YDN, KFD, CHR-Taizz, VHI, SMEPS, ADRA, YLDF, ICAN, FHD, LMMPO, YWT

Agenda:

1. Introductions
2. Review of last meeting action points
3. Preliminary Emergency Food Security and Nutrition Assessment (EFSNA) results
4. District level response and gap analysis
5. Feedback from the "Food Availability Technical Working Group"
6. Feedback from the "Beneficiary Privacy and Personal Data Protection Technical Working Group"
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 meeting minutes.

3. Preliminary Emergency Food Security and Nutrition Assessment (EFSNA) results

- A presentation highlighting the preliminary EFSNA results was made to the cluster partners
- The EFSNA is the first national, household-level assessment of its kind to be conducted in Yemen since the escalation of conflict in mid-March 2015. It was a jointly conducted exercise by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United



Nations (FAO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food Programme (WFP), and coordinated by FSAC in cooperation with the Yemeni authorities.

- The objective of the assessment was to update/enhance the knowledge base on the current Food Security, Agricultural Livelihoods and Nutritional status of the Yemeni population. Moreover, it would also support the 2017 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (YHRP) and other country reports with updated data for advocacy, fundraising, and implementation
- Key Food Security Highlights:-
 - ✓ The severe food insecurity situation in the country has worsened sharply in recent months, with an estimated 65 percent of households now food insecure.
 - ✓ Three-quarters of all households indicate that their economic situation is worse now than before the crisis. Incomes have fallen and many public-sector workers have gone for months without being paid. As a result, 80 percent of Yemenis are in now in debt, and more than half of all households have had to buy food on credit.
 - ✓ Many households (60 percent) have resorted to negative coping mechanisms such as eating less preferred foods, reducing portions or skipping meals altogether.
- Key Agricultural Livelihoods Highlights:-
 - ✓ The agriculture sector is the main source of livelihoods for at least 60 percent of Yemeni households. The livelihoods of this critical segment of the population have been hit hard with agricultural production falling drastically in 2016, compared to pre-crisis levels.
 - ✓ Up to 1.5 million households engaged in agriculture now lack access to critical agricultural inputs (including seeds, fertilizer, fuel for irrigation) and are in urgent need of emergency agricultural support. Of these, 860,000 households engaged in livestock production lack access to animal feed (fodder, concentrate, and mineral blocks) and many livestock-dependent households have been forced to sell their herds to cater for other household needs.
 - ✓ Inadequate control of crop and livestock disease further erodes an already struggling agricultural sector and requires emergency protection and safeguarding of assets
- Key Nutrition Highlights:-
 - ✓ Over two million children are acutely malnourished.
 - ✓ In four governorates - Abyan, Al Hudaydah, Hadramaut, and Taizz, - malnutrition rates have passed the "emergency" threshold, meaning an acute malnutrition rate of more than 15 percent. In seven governorates - namely Aden, Al Dhale'e, Al Jawf, Al Mahwit, Hajjah, Lahj, and Shabwah - rates now exceed the "serious" threshold, which indicates an acute malnutrition rate of more than ten percent.

Action point: *The FSAC Coordinator to share the EFSNA preliminary results once the public circulation is allowed.*

4. District level response and gap analysis

- The FSAC December 2016 hubs Emergency Food Assistance level response and gap analysis maps were projected to highlight the importance of the maps in:-
 - ✓ Highlighting where response gaps existed in the preceding month, and actions required from partners in order to cover the gaps (based on the FSAC vulnerability criteria)
 - ✓ Emphasizing districts where more than one partner was active and preventing the risk of potential overlaps in assistance
- Partners were requested to share sub-district information in order to effectively curb any potential overlaps in assistance. The need for timely providing the upcoming month's organization/ agency activity plans are very important for effective and coherent coordination. It also assists in communicating with the relevant stakeholders (e.g. communities) on the planned FSAC interventions in their respective locations.

Action point: All FSAC Partners to kindly and timely share their planned monthly activities at sub-district level for more effective and enhanced coordination to avoid any potential overlaps in assistance

5. Feedback from the “Food Availability Technical Working Group”

- The “Food Availability Technical Working Group” was formulated and mandated to undertake an analysis of the food security situation, following the letter of no ability in importation from at least 4 wheat importers. The working group would come up with the current amount of food stocks available in country and develop scenarios on the implications. The brief would then be shared with all relevant stakeholders (including the international community) for advocacy.
- The working group was composed of the following organizations/agencies:-
 - ✓ WFP
 - ✓ FAO
 - ✓ NRC
 - ✓ ACTED
 - ✓ IRC
 - ✓ IRY
 - ✓ ADRA
 - ✓ LMMPO
 - ✓ YFCA



- ✓ CHR- Taizz
 - ✓ ACF
 - ✓ OCHA
 - ✓ FSAC
- An initial draft brief on the food availability (as of January 2017) was already developed and shared with the HC for his ease of reference during meetings with stakeholders.
- A revised food availability brief would be shared with FSAC partners for any comments and/or inputs.

Action point: FSAC to share the draft Food Availability brief with all FSAC partners for any comments/inputs.

6. Feedback from the “Beneficiary Privacy and Personal Data Protection Technical Working Group”

- The main aim of the “Beneficiary Privacy and Personal Data Protection Technical Working Group” was to highlight the difficulties being faced by partners with regard to beneficiary data sharing, propose a data sharing protocol for FSAC partners, and come up with a FSAC policy statement on beneficiary data sharing that will be shared with all stakeholders (including donors).
- The discussions/ recommendations in the group would be limited to Privacy and Personal Data Protection, no other operational issues will be part of the TORs of the Working Group.
- The Joint Operating Principles (JOP) is the overall guidance document on the subject matter and any proposals coming from the Group will be in line with the principles of the JOP and would contribute to the revised Framework under preparation.
- The working group was composed of the following organizations/agencies:-
- ✓ WFP (Chair of the group)
 - ✓ NRC
 - ✓ ACTED
 - ✓ YFCA
 - ✓ ACF
 - ✓ Mercy Corps
 - ✓ NFDHR
- The recommendations from the group highlighted the fact that providing beneficiary information revealing personal particulars is not an option. It is the obligation of all humanitarian actors to protect security, privacy and dignity of those receiving humanitarian assistance.



- There was also a recognition of the fact that providing some basic beneficiary information is inevitable due to the current situation in the country. The group thus deemed it necessary to share some basic beneficiary information with local authorities (Government bodies having stake in the project and recognized roles and responsibilities pertaining to the implementation of the humanitarian programmes.
- A draft of the key recommendations from the group would be shared with all FSAC partners for their comments/inputs and subsequent endorsement/adoption

***Action point:** FSAC to share the draft Beneficiary Privacy and Personal Data Protection draft paper with all cluster partners for any comments/inputs.*

7. AOB

- Partners were requested to confirm their participation in FSAC meetings by the agreed deadline in order to ensure smooth security, and other relevant logistical arrangements