



WoS Food Security and Agriculture Sector - Recommendation on regular food assistance during earthquake response Syria, February 2023

The recommendation of regular food assistance during earthquake in Syria is an effort to ensure harmonized response through a minimum package recommended for each of the activity listed under the sector strategy for HRP 2023 and [FSS response package SO1](#) and is applicable to all sector partners – HRP or non HRP. The modality for delivering this response package should be contextualized as per the area of operation, implying all response packages can be delivered in kind, cash or voucher based on the feasibility of such modalities. FSC partners are recommended to follow FSS recommended response package to provide emergency food assistance, ***Considering the magnitude of the needs of people affected by EQ, FSC issued the following recommendations: -***

- FSC partners to conduct a rapid needs assessment and assess needs of targeted households;
- FSC invites partners to consider the frequency and duration of assistance provided;
- Ready To Eat rations are designed to cover the needs of a family of 5 for one week.
- FSC recommends hot meals to be provided mainly at shelters and reception centers, where HHs do not have access to cooking facilities;
- FSC recommends partners ensure majority ensure continued/sustained coverage of food needs;
- FSC recommends supplementary food distribution (such as free or subsidized bread) to be sustained over time;
- FSC recommends Cash and voucher assistance be coordinated with CWG. MPC to follow CWG recommendations.
- In order to respond to the needs of people affected by the EQ, FSC partners have reprogrammed regular interventions to emergency intervention.

FSC recommends and encourages partners to support advocacy with donors to ensure flexibility for reprogramming due to urgent needs. At the same time, ***FSC continues to advocate to donors for funding to ensure the scale-up of emergency response and at the same time maintain regular programming as per FSC recommendations to ensure coverage of food security needs.***

Example:

Regarding this problem, considering the emergency of the situation, the FSC considers that it is temporarily acceptable to plan to distribute 6 or 7 rounds of regular food assistance instead of the normal 8 rounds with current funding.

This allows partners to reallocate funding from 1-2 rounds of regular food assistance to emergency response. Also, several partners used their stock (flour) to respond to EQ's response and they need additional quantities for resuming the general food assistance. The Cluster is strongly advocating for additional funding to fulfil the standard 8 rounds and to replace flour stocks as soon as possible for the regular response target.