

SAFE North-East Nigeria

Workplan 2018

Identification of needs and suggestions for 2018

The Safe Access to Fuel and Energy (SAFE) initiative is coordinated on the global level through the SAFE Humanitarian Working Group, co-chaired by FAO and WFP. The main objective of SAFE is to achieve a safe and sustainable access to energy for vulnerable populations in emergencies and protracted crises. Energy access is a multi-sectoral challenge, touching upon issues of food insecurity and malnutrition, protection risks, natural degradation and deforestation, health risks and unsustainable livelihood activities. In the context of Nigeria, the SAFE initiative is operationalized through the SAFE Working Group, which is within the Nigeria Food Security Sector since August 2017. The WG holds monthly meetings to coordinate and discuss energy-related issues in the humanitarian response. In December 2017, needs and action points were identified in four main categories. These will be guidelines for moving forward with the SAFE WG in 2018.

1. Evidence-based knowledge:

- Need for solid evidence, based on facts and figures
- Need for more pilot activities to test alternative energy solutions (briquetting, biogas, solar)

Suggestions:

- The SAFE Assessment report (FAO/WFP/UNHCR) will be published in March 2018, on the basis of which the SAFE WG will develop a SAFE Strategy for North-East Nigeria
- Support piloting activities with technical expertise/financial resources
- Organization of workshop for SAFE WG to capitalize on lessons learned and ways forward
- Capacity assessment of SAFE WG members
- Set-up of reporting mechanism for protection risks faced during woodfuel collection
- Development of SAFE indicators

2. Coordination within SAFE WG and with other Sectors/WGs, through the Food Security Sector:

- Need to coordinate energy-related activities of members of the SAFE WG
- Need to increase visibility of SAFE WG as reference point for energy access issues
- Need to link up with other Sectors/Working Groups, through the Food Security Sector, in order to create synergies and avoid duplication (e.g. Protection Sector and, in particular, its GBV Sub-Sector, Early Recovery and Livelihoods Sector, Camp Coordination and Camp Management/Shelter/NFI Sector)

Suggestions:

- Re-circulate SAFE Mapping Tool in harmonization with the existing Food Security Sector IM tools
- Strengthen linkage with the Food Security Sector and ensure SAFE WG updates as a standing agenda in the FSS meetings
- Presenting SAFE WG in other Sector/WG meetings and invite other Sector/WG to present in SAFE WG
- Strengthen connection to the global SAFE Humanitarian Working Group to learn from experiences in other countries

3. Communication, advocacy and public awareness:

- Need to raise attention on higher policy level
- Need for better engagement with different government levels
- Need to mobilize resources in order to scale-up energy-related activities

Suggestions:

- Explore opportunities for public awareness campaigns (e.g. EU grant)
- Monthly newsletter, to inform government and donors
- Highlight energy access during international days (e.g. Women's Day, International Day of Forests)
- Strengthen contact with government counterparts through sharing of information
- Development of joint proposals with energy activities

4. Holistic perspective:

- Need to work on the image of SAFE as a multi-sectoral challenge
 - o include energy supply issues (sustainable management of natural resources, reforestation etc.) to complement the current focus on energy demand issues (fuel-efficient stoves, briquetting, access to fuel)
 - o include other energy uses such as energy for lighting, heating, etc. to complement focus on cooking energy
- Need to explain opportunities to link up short-term with long-term perspective (humanitarian-development divide)

Suggestions:

- Organize presentations by relevant organizations/institutions (e.g. Forestry Department of UNIMAID) to build knowledge

Timeline February-June 2018

	February	March	April	May	June
1. Reporting mechanism established					
2. SAFE Assessment report					
3. Highlight SAFE during International Days					
4. Presentation on energy supply					
5. SAFE Strategy for North-East Nigeria					
6. Development joint proposal					
7. Workshop for SAFE WG					
8. SAFE Mapping Tool					
9. Coordination with other Sectors/WGs					
10. Communication and public awareness					