

LOCATION: Zoom

DATE: March 24, 2022 (15:00-17:00 GMT+2)

CHAIR: Charles Hopkins, FSL Cluster Co-coordinator

Raquel Moreno, FSL Cluster Co-coordinator

AGENDA: 1. Overview

2. Presentation on FSLC alternative food basket

3. Sub – national coordination hubs

4. Cluster Review Committee (CRC) – nomination5. Partners update on response and presence

6. AOB

1. Overview

77 (seventy seven) participants representing 57 institutions attended the FSLC coordination meeting. The institutions include donors, Ukrainian government and local authorities, NGOs and international organizations (including UN agencies and the Red Cross movement).

Overview of the situation:

- Providing immediate food and other humanitarian support to the cities such as Mariupol, Sumy, Kharkiv is difficult and the humanitarian conditions in these cities continue to deteriorate. Therefore, there's an urgent need for humanitarian access to these cities.
- In Ukraine, the escalating war poses a clear threat to food security and the agriculture-based livelihoods of smallholders, although field assessments will be necessary to get firm data on damage, food security outcomes and needs.
- Prior to the expansion of hostilities, Eastern Ukraine was already exposed to eight years of armed conflict, isolation, deteriorating market and agricultural infrastructure, movement restrictions and the impacts of COVID-19.
- While the evolving situation remains unpredictable, the prevalence and severity of domestic food insecurity will depend on the length and scale of the conflict. Ukraine's food supply chain has effectively been broken amid the ongoing conflict.
- The crisis has pushed up world food prices sharply.
- The country's food supply chain is falling apart. Movements of goods have slowed down due to insecurity and the reluctance of drivers.

Action points:

- **FAO** will provide the presentation on Monday, 28 March.
- FSLC partners are encouraged to do and share their assessments on food security and agriculture-based livelihood.

2. Presentation on FSLC alternative food basket

Sphere Standards Food Assistance



 Outlines the necessary minimum calorie requirements required for average person per 1 day - 2,100 kcal, including fats and other nutrients; 10-12% of total energy (calories) provided by protein, 17% of total energy (calories) provided by fat.

• Meeting needs of vulnerable population

- First 1000 days of babies life is very important from a nutritional perspective and to build the immunity – and that breast milk feeding is vital in order to provide the necessary nutrients.
- Young children from 6-23 months, remains critical to have nutrient rich diet, with breast feeding and also possible supplements, such as infant formula.
- o Food ration has to be balanced.

• Calorie Calculator Tool

- Ration calculator is used to create a food ration, which enables users to select ingredients and calculate respective nutritional and calorie provisions. The tool is designed to be flexible to shortages in available ingredients, enabling users to manipulate based on their food supplies and respective ration makeup.
- ACF asked whether high-energy biscuits (HEB) can be included in the Food Ration calculator. The presenter responded that HEB requires caution as can exceed nutritional benefits, but that can be used for instance for targeted supplements to reach 6-23 months children, mixing with safe water and turning into a porridge.
- DEMAC noted about two different baskets: one for IDPs with ready-to-eat food due to limitations in cooking equipment etc, and the other package for those with access to cooking equipment etc. The responder notes that this is important and that such packages exist – emergency food baskets and full food assistance baskets.
- Caritas asked whether the calculator considers different people's requirements, such as nursing women, people with diabetes etc. Responder notes that pregnant and nursing women need 500 additional calories and therefore this has to be taken into account.
- USAID noted that food provided has to be culturally appropriate (kosher, halal). The
 presenter noted that there is a need to respect the religious and cultural expectations
 of the target group and that the tool can be flexible to these requirements.
- ASB asked questions on micronutrients and calories and whether need to reach 2,100.
 Responder noted that the examples provided are solely examples and that canned meat and other ingredients could be incurred and included based on context. 2,100 calories are the Sphere standard and the minimum requirement.
- Public organization «Motion «Pure Hearts» noted that discussions on ration size and respect for cultural and religious expectations are important, but at the moment the situation in Mykolaivska oblast is one of survival. Speaker noted that some locations in the oblast (Bashtan and Kryvyi Rih directions, Voznesensk etc) are cut off and access is not possible, an urgent need exists to have emergency food that can reach calorie requirements; drinking water is hugely limited in many locations and these needs to be included in support packages. The presenter noted that due to differences in needs, there is a recommendation to have varying packages to match different needs.

Action points:

WFP to provide additional information on HEB in the food ration.

3. Sub national coordination hubs



- OCHA, coordination bodies, Clusters and other stakeholders are discussing the potential for different hubs for clusters – conversation is ongoing.
- FSLC asks partners for inputs regarding the locations for potential hubs, except Vinnytsia and Dnipro.

Action points:

• **FSLC partners** to provide inputs on location of sub national Cluster hubs.

4. Cluster Review Committee (CRC) - nomination

- FSLC introduce the CRC which will consist of 9 voting members constituted by 3 representative organisations from respective NGO, INGO, UN.
- FSLC asks partners to nominate themselves or another partner by 29 March.

Action points:

• **FSLC** to share with partners the nomination form.

5. Partners update on response and presence

- Ukrainian Deminer Association (UDA) and NGO AirLight report to the Protection Cluster, but
 also undertaking now the food and cash assistance in different locations such as Mariupol,
 Sumy, Kyiv, Mykolaiv, Kharkiv, Bucha, Boyarka, Borodianka, Chuhuiv, Pervomaysk for IDPs and
 people who would like to move to other countries, for example to Portugal.
 - The speaker asked how the agricultural season will be in Ukraine, noted that before the war they had projects for farmers in Donetska oblast. They also noted that they have connections with organisations undertaking soil enrichment which can be used as substitute for fertilizers with current limitations. FSLC noted there is a need to have conversation on this topic and would be good to arrange a meeting.
 - UDA noted that the most difficult situation is in Mariupol (Donetska oblast) and Okhtyrka (Kharkivska oblast), where people don't have access to safe water and any food.
- AICM noted that they are based in Poltava and has a large warehouse, where have received food from WFP, and also they bought some ready-to-eat ration to distribute to the population, IDPs from Sumy and other surrounding locations. They are facing difficulties to buy commodities, to find human resources, lacking capacity to restock/repack. AICM are ready to support other partners. They provide food assistance, but also want to provide MPC and deliver hygiene kits.
- ForestCom is based in Lviv and distributes humanitarian aid to small community groups (1012 people). So far, they were able to distribute 2030 tons of food and first aid and increasing
 their capacities across Ukraine. The organization is ready to scale up their operations with
 support from larger operating partners.
- Ministry of Reintegration of Temporarily Occupied Territories informed that they coordinate
 daily and send 7-10 trucks to different parts of Ukraine such as Kyiv, Kyivska oblast, Sumska
 oblast. The government body send the information on humanitarian needs to OCHA on weekly
 basis. The most needed are food products, and the Ministry hope for partners support and
 collaboration.



- **PiN** was continuing receive the humanitarian assistance from HQ in Prague, so far 7 trains of 500 tons each have been delivered 80% of which is food. This assistance has been distributed with local partners' support to Sumska, Kharkivska, Donetska, Luhanska, Zaporizka, Mykolaivska oblasts.
- **Embassy of Switzerland to Ukraine** asked on whether platform is being developed on the coordination of humanitarian aid. FSLC noted that this interactive dashboard will be produced from the 5Ws, and the Cluster is working with OCHA on this topic.
- **Global FSC** asked if cooking fuel is an issue and if the Shelter Cluster has considered this. FSCL responded that there are initiatives with fuel vouchers, but the issue with fuel is very challenging and occurring in some areas.
- During the last week DRC supported 9 local NGOs that provided food, medicine, hygiene kits, sleeping bags, clothes, accommodation, rellocation to IDPs in Lviv, Chernivtsi, Vinnytsia, Dnipro, Kremenchuk, Poltava, Mukachivskyi raion, Sviatohirsk, Zaporizhzhia, Kyiv, Kharkiv, Ivano-Frankivsk. In the next weeks more local NGOs will be supported, estimated number of people to be reached is 77 000. Small NGOs that want to be financially supported are encouraged to contact DRC at kristina.chopa@drc.ngo.
- ADRA has 3 warehouses (one in Uzhhorod, two in Mukachevo) totally over 3k square meters.
 Within past two weeks ADRA Ukraine has been cooperating with ADRA network, 5 trucks of
 food and NFI have been received from ADRA Czech Republic, and plan to receive some food
 from ADRA Slovakia. ADRA is cooperating with volunteers and a project "Hope for Ukraine",
 and plans to cooperate with WFP and distribute assistance through churches. So far, 13 000
 people in 16 shelters has been reached.
- URCS are operational in all regions of Ukraine. URCS receives assistance from ICRC, and other RCRC partners including, Turkish Red Crescent, Danish Red Cross. URCS provides assistance in the central Ukraine and in Kharkivska, Sumska, Mykolaivska, Odeska oblasts. The organization has started a program of food vouchers distribution, and assessing different locations in the west of Ukraine to scale up.
- **ACTED** currently provides IDPs with hot meal and food kits in Lviv, Chernivtsi, Dobropillya, Vuhledar, Myrnohrad, Kyiv, Kharkiv, Sloviansk, Sviatohirsk, Kamianets-Podilskyi.
- **FAO** continues to implement a Rapid Response Plan targeting 100,000 HH (240,000 people) in rural areas with support comprising MPC assistance and agricultural inputs for household vegetable and potato production. Of immediate concern is to ensure that rural households are able to plant/sow vegetable and potato seeds this spring season through end-May.
 - FAO received a fifth of the USD 50 million asked and is planning to support small farmers in Donetska, Luhanska, Dnipropetrovska and Zaporizhzhia but also now expanding to other oblasts in West. Procurement actions for seeds are underway, local implementation partners have been identified in the east and FAO now is looking for potential IP in the West. FAO is looking to team up with other partners to provide humanitarian aid to support small farmers.
 - Planning is also underway to cover additional key agricultural inputs including animal feed and veterinary medicines for livestock, in close collaboration with local and national authorities.
 - FAO is implementing a rapid-needs assessment for the agricultural sector. Tier 1, national level assessment with local government stakeholders has been completed, data is currently being processed and results will be shared with partners and the government shortly. At present FAO is implementing a Tier 2, Household Need Assessment targeting three Oblasts in western Ukraine, where most significant influx



- of IDPs has been noted. A Tier 3, data triangulation assessment has been also initiated, with key informants from the commercial farming population that have as reported their spring planting needs to the Government
- FAO will also produce a regular high-level briefing note with the objective of informing national authorities and partners on the evolving impact of the war on the agricultural sector and the food security situation in Ukraine, outlining where issues may arise that could impact on food security. The first report will be published on March 25th.

5. AOB

- **FSCL** reminded on the UHF call for proposal, the deadline is 25 March.
- **FSLC** reminded partners to submit their 5Ws reports by every Tuesday COB.



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