

MEETING MINUTES



LOCATION: Kyiv (via Microsoft Teams)

DATE: June 24th, 2021

CHAIR: Charles Hopkins, FSL Cluster Coordinator

AGENDA:

1. Self-introduction
2. Review of the previous minutes and action points
3. Monthly partners' update
4. FSLC monthly update
5. Food distribution monitoring results (July – Dec. 2021) —by Caritas
6. Joint Market Monitoring (Feb – March 2021)- by ACTED

1. Self-introduction

21 participants representing 14 institutions attended the FSLC monthly meeting. The institutions include NGOs, international organizations including UN agencies.

2. Action points from the previous meeting

- FSLC—updated the LTWG ToR.
- FAO will conduct the first Agricultural Technical Working Group meeting at the beginning of July.
 - FSLC—draft newsletter for January—June 2021 is being drafted. In addition, the FSLC will start the cluster newsletter. The newsletter will include stories from the field and cover the previous months beginning from January 2021.
 - Updated advocacy note—we republished the advocacy note on the FSLC webpage (<http://fscluster.org/Ukraine>).
- The FSLC interactive dashboard published—the dashboard did not include objective 2 (emergency agriculture) as there was no report from the partners. It is possibly because of seasonality.

3. Monthly partners' update

- **ACTED** plans to work in Nyzhnie, and Nyzhnie-1 (Luhanska GCA) will provide cash for food assistance to 250 individuals for three months. The beneficiary selection is at the final stage; the payment will start at the beginning of July. Thanks to ASB for the bilateral coordination.
- **ASB** received funding for a 2-year project and will continue with multi-purpose cash assistance. Thanks to the partners for bilateral coordination.
- **DDC** preparation has started for the agricultural grants under the UHF project.
- **Caritas Ukraine** has received project approval for the next two years and plans to provide 13,200 food packages to 4,400 people affected by the conflict.

4. FSLC Monthly Update

2022 HPC

- Global HPC guidance has no substantial change compared to last year.
- The most significant change - switch to activity-based costing (as opposed to project-based cost—used since 2016 HRP).
- Advantages of activity-based costing:
 - It promotes improved strategic coordination and coherence of the response plans.
- The planning and budgeting process of the HRP is less influenced by organizations—concerning projects and funding based on their capacity.
- Implications of activity-costing:

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- The overall HRP financial requirement (by the end of October) will be established using unit-based costing.
- The partners in a market-based system will still submit projects.
- The market-based system will allow competition & a shift from clusters selecting projects to donors.
- No more vetting of projects—open system instead of the (2-3 weeks window)—system open all year

Joint Intersectoral Analysis Framework (JIAF) revision

- The objective of JIAF is to provide a common framework for inter-sectoral analysis and inform strategic decisions and response plans.
- Three humanitarian consequences:
 - Living Standards - refers to the ability of the affected population to meet their basic needs. Access to essential goods and services. Planned indicator - Food expenditure share.
 - Coping Mechanisms - this sub pillar is used to understand and assess the degree to which individuals, households, communities, and systems are coping and understanding the severity of the coping strategies they are relying on to cope with living standards or physical & mental wellbeing issues —planned indicator - Livelihood Coping Strategy.
 - Physical & Mental Wellbeing - refers exclusively to information and indicators about the physical and mental health of the affected population. Measurement includes morbidity and mortality data, malnutrition outcomes, psychosocial and physical impairment, injuries, trauma, fears, etc. Planned indicators - Food consumption score (FCS) and Household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS). Planned sources of information – FAO FIES assessment, REACH, IOM National Monitoring System.

Ukraine Humanitarian Fund

- FSLC response priorities:
 - Lifesaving assistance – food ration (cash or voucher-based transfer)
 - Urban and rural interventions, including isolated communities to build resilience & contribute to durable solutions
 - The agriculture sector should take seasonality into consideration & agricultural inputs should be appropriate.
 - Strengthen market linkages & value chain development to improve markets
- Heads up for the competitive bid:
 - Multi-sectoral response
 - Identity specific location, target group & budget
 - Conduct quick needs assessment or review existing data such as REACH reports
 - Conversation with the local community on your intentions—activities planned to be implemented.
 - Identify bid partner with comparative advantage—start a negotiation.
 - Organize your proposal write-up team to put in a competitive bid.
 - Request specific information you need from the cluster that would help your bid if necessary.

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Other updates

- The FSLC developed a draft revised livelihood technical working, ToR —need to discuss with the SAG on the need to have one livelihood technical working group for both agriculture and non-agriculture
- The FSLC attended regular ICCG meetings, participated in GCM and gFSC webinars.
- The FSLC is planning the IM webinar to be held on June 30th beginning, at 10 am for IM focal point.
- FSLC partners to submit their actuals against planned for the second quarter by July 15th.

Action points:

- Partners are encouraged to share assessments, PDMs with the FSLC team.
- Interested partners to register for the webinar on FSLC informational products.

5. Food distribution monitoring results (July – Dec. 2021) - by Caritas

Caritas presented its accountability mechanism in food distribution projects in eastern Ukraine. The purpose of the survey was to receive feedback from the beneficiaries on their satisfaction with the food kits distributed and understand to which extent the households can cover their food needs.

- The sample of the survey: 412 out of 1998 beneficiaries.
- 82% of beneficiaries interviewed improved their food consumption within a month after receiving the assistance.
- 71% considered the assistance sufficient.
- 99% considered the assistance relevant.
- The most useful products in the food kit were considered flour, sunflower oil, buckwheat.

6. Joint Market Monitoring (Feb – March 2021) – by ACTEDs

ACTED presented the next round of the Joint Market Monitoring covering February— March 2021. The Joint Market Monitoring is conducted by ACCESS consortium, NRC, Save the Children, and is led by ACTED.

The Market Monitoring Dashboard is accessible at:

<https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoieYWI4MDFIYTgtYTU2OC00OGM0LWlxMTktNGRkYzBkNDRmMDlilwiwCl6ImQyMDBIOTAzLTE5YjAtNDUyZS1iZDIxLWQxYWUwMTEzOTBkNSIsImMiOiJh9>

- Markets were surveyed both within the 5 km zone and outside of the 5 km zone. Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, GCA (market sub centers, semi-periphery, periphery) and Donetsk and Luhansk NGCA.
- The most common issues for customers in accessing markets are like previous rounds: high prices come first (82%) and are the only significant obstacle in sub-centers, while assortment follows in peripheries (35%) and semi peripheries (36%). Transportation is a significant issue in peripheral locations (27%), while safety concerns are still low on the board.
- In GCA, the recent food price trend showed a significant annual increase in price (+35.6% change comparing to February 2020 and +27.5% change compared to August 2020.
- Analysis of average price levels per market category showed that prices for food in the periphery were 5.2% higher than the overall average, while in semi peripheries, they were

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1.8% lower than the overall average, and sub-centers showed below-average prices at—4.1%.

- In NGCA Donetsk, food price has increased since previous winter round (February 2020 by 30% and since August 2020 by 16%.

Action point:

- The next Cluster meeting is tentatively scheduled **for July 29th, 2021**, beginning at 15:00.

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PARTICIPANT LIST



No	Names of attendees	Institution	Position	Contact
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17	Alina Tereshchenko	OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (OSCE)	Language Assistant	
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