

## MEETING MINUTES



- LOCATION:** Kyiv (via Microsoft Teams)
- DATE:** March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021
- CHAIR:** Charles Hopkins, FSL Cluster Coordinator
- AGENDA:**
1. Self-introduction and review of the previous meeting minutes
  2. FSLC Monthly Update
  3. FSLC 2020 Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM) results
  4. Partner plans for 2021 on beneficiary coverage (updated results)
  5. Updates from partners & AOB

### 1. Self-introduction

16 participants representing 12 institutions attended the FSLC monthly meeting. The institutions include government, NGOs, international organizations including UN agencies.

### 2. FSLC Monthly Update

- **FSLC transition plan 2021- 2022** - working with the cluster lead agency (FAO) to identify the counterpart for the transitioning.
- **ICCG meeting** –Residents in NGCA are being discourage from participating in phones interview. UHF 2021 reserve allocation in 2021 was discussed (Underfunded projects).
- **Request from LNGO “Eleos-Kostiantynivka”**. The institutions prepare cooked meals for vulnerable people in Kostiantynivka, Donetska GCA (20 km zone) and they are appealing for donation/assistance to purchase kitchen equipment.
- **Request from Selydove health facility** (where people, crossing the EECP go for observation) – the health facility is requesting food assistance - Proliska intends to respond to this case once funding is confirmed.
- **Technical Working Group Meetings**. The agriculture and non-agriculture technical working groups will meet in April - the schedule, agenda and link to the meetings will be circulated. The FSLC Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) will meet to discuss the cluster transition plan, Accountability to Affected Population (AAP) and FSLC advocacy priorities for 2021.
- **Advocacy priorities.**
  - *Humanitarian Access to NGCA* remains an increasing challenge. partners acquiring permits/accreditation to operate in non-government control areas are waiting for approval.
  - *Food security situation in Luhansk oblast* calls for early action to protect the gains made over the years. Based on REACH pre-winter assessment, a high proportion of households are found to have a poor and borderline Food Consumption Score in Luhansk oblast, notably higher in Luhansk large urban area (28%) and Luhansk urban area (21%), compared to overall 11% of people in poor and borderline food consumption within the sample. This calls for early action to avoid reversing gains made.
  - *Low investment in livelihoods activities* despite most areas being favourable for livelihood enhancement including isolated communities. There is an urgent need to support livelihoods activities such as agriculture production, micro-

economic initiatives including income generation at household level. There is a need to assess partners' capacity and encourage new players with specialized skills in livelihood development and capacity enhancement of local NGOs.

- Partners indicated several advocacy priorities related to agriculture:
  - *Landmine contamination*. Returnees need access to farmland that are currently contaminated by landmines.
  - *Legal issue of access to agricultural land*. Moratorium on sale of agricultural land will cease to be in force in June 2021. The partners expect limited access to agricultural farmland in Eastern Ukraine for small farmers, IDPs, returnees and other vulnerable categories.
  - *Use of pesticides*. FSLC partners are concerned that soil is being polluted by the use of pesticides by farmers.
  - *Drought*. The climate is becoming dryer and therefore a need to develop climate smart agriculture techniques including irrigation infrastructure for agriculture production.
  - *Wildfires in Luhansk region* might occur more often in the future due to climate changes. Efforts and complex programs in fire prevention and forests recovery are required.

### Action points:

- FSLC team – to share with partners the CCPM report.
- FSLC team – publish draft transition plan on the website. Continue working with the cluster lead agency (FAO) to identify the counterpart for the cluster transition. Discuss the possibility to work with legislative branch with the cluster Strategic Advisory Group.
- FSLC team – develop cluster advocacy priorities considering partners' inputs and to present at HCT.
- FSLC – conduct TWG meetings.

### 3. FSLC 2020 Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM) results

Cluster Coordinator presented results of Country Cluster Performance Monitoring (CCPM) for 2020. 22 partners out of 34 responded (response rate is 65%) to the CCPM. Key points:

- Overall satisfaction with FSLC performance in 2020 is good.
- 86% estimated satisfaction with FSLC meetings as good.
- 82% estimated satisfaction with FSLC informational products as good.
- 2020 CCPM allowed to reveal areas of improvement:
  - Develop new cluster products: Interactive dashboard, factsheet, bulletin.
  - Contingency plan: should be updated in accordance with government protocols.
  - Advocacy: undertaking advocacy, identify concerns and contributing key information and messages.
  - Accountability to affected population. Mechanisms to consult and involve affected people in decision-making process.

### Action points:

- FSLC team – to share the presentation and CCPM report with partners.

#### 4. Partner plans for 2021 on beneficiary coverage (updated results)

The cluster asked partners to share the plans of their organization to cover beneficiaries with food security and livelihood related activities in 2021. The goal of this planning document is to collect FSLC partners' plans to cover beneficiaries in different locations. This would help the FSLC team to facilitate effective coordination in 2021. As of March 24<sup>th</sup>, 17 FSLC partners shared their planning figures with cluster secretariat.

The preliminary cluster plans included:

- **Cluster objective 1 – Ensure immediate access to food.** The FSLC targets 53,000 people for immediate access to food—a figure generated from the partners' HRP projects. From the planning figures submitted by the partners recently, 14 organizations plan to target 43,000 people with 54% funding confirmed. The implementation modalities are in-kind (43%), cash (37%), and voucher (20%) as of March 2021.
- **Cluster Objective 2 – Emergency agriculture.** The partners targeted 18,000 in the HRP for CO2 however, in March the planned to assist 37K surpassing the HRP target. The bulk of response is expected in Luhanska GCA (31K) following by Donetska GCA (4K) and Donetska NGCA (1K). No emergency agricultural assistance planned in Luhanska NGCA. 12% of the financial requirement has been confirmed. See the attached dashboard. According to REACH recent pre-winter assessment results, over 60% of the respondents in Donetsk rural, Luhansk urban and Luhansk rural areas are meeting part of their food needs through own production, and 38% in Donetsk urban and 37% in Luhansk large urban. Therefore, it is important that we support agriculture production to enable beneficiaries meet their food needs through own production.
- **Cluster Objective 3. Enhance the resilience of vulnerable people by restoring agriculture and non-agriculture livelihoods.** The 2021 target to reach people affected with livelihood support is 10K, and partners plan to assist 100% of the target. As of March 2021, the response is planned for GCA. Besides the Eastern Conflict Area, partners plan to reach people affected by conflict in other regions of Ukraine (Zaporizka, Khersonska, Kyivska). 39% of the funding is confirmed. See the attached dashboard.

#### Action points:

- FSLC team – publish the updated planning map at the FSLC webpage and share with partners.

### 5. Updates from partners / AOBs

#### Updates from partners

- **ACTED** providing payment for cash for food assistance for about 1,540 beneficiaries in March in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. The assistance will be provided for 3 months for 936 UAH per person per month.
- **ASB.** The previous distribution is finished. Planning next distribution for three months starting in April.

#### Other updates

- **ICRC.**
  - Food parcels distribution Donetsk NGCA took place.
  - Other projects are ongoing as stated at the previous meeting:

The FSLC is strongly encouraging partners to coordinate bilaterally to avoid duplication of the limited resources in the field.

#### Action points:

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

## MEETING MINUTES



### PARTICIPANT LIST:

No	Names of attendees	Institution	Position	Contact
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