

MEETING MINUTES



LOCATION: Kyiv (via Microsoft Teams)

DATE: November 26, 2020

CHAIR: Charles Hopkins, FSL Cluster Coordinator

- AGENDA:**
1. Self-introduction and review of the previous meeting minutes
 2. FSLC Monthly Update.
 3. Presentation of ICRC's livelihoods projects
 4. REACH presentation of the recent MSNA in GCA assessment and ongoing Household Economic Resilience Assessment
 5. Dorcas presentation of pre-feasibility study report on agriculture sector development Donetsk oblast
 6. Other updates / AOBs

1. Self-introduction and review of the previous meeting minutes

- Action points of previous cluster meetings were reviewed.
- FSLC SAG shared their comments on the revised food basket.
- FSLC published the third quarter dashboard on the webpage <https://fscluster.org/Ukraine>
- 15 FSLC partners submitted online projects for 2021 HRP.
- Cluster Review Committee (CRC) reviewed 18 projects and approved 17.

Action points:

- FSLC team – to consolidate comments on the food basket updates and Cash-Based Transfer value.
- FSLC team – to send request for 4th quarter 4W data collection. FSLC partners – share 4W data on actual beneficiaries' coverage for 4th quarter by 15th of January 2021.

2. FSLC Monthly Update, FSLC quarterly dashboard and Partners' Operation Presence

FSL Cluster Coordinator updates:

- Attended regular meetings (ICCG, GCM, etc.); revised the intersectoral indicators and strategic objectives, worked closely with OCHA and other clusters on the HNO and HRP
- FSLC submitted the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) narrative to OCHA/
- FSLC Reviewed Committee reviewed HRP 18 projects for 2 days and approved 17.
- FSLC participated in the virtual 10th anniversary of the Food Security Cluster – it was a global event.
- FSLC secretariat has been working with partners on the UHF allocation projects.

FSLC HRP update:

- Out of 1.5M people in need, 80 K people are targeted with 18 HRP projects submitted by 15 partners.
- 21M USD requested and of the 21M financial requirement 13M USD will address the critical needs.
- People to be targeted by different type of assistance:

FSLC 2021 Cluster objectives

- Ensure immediate access to food for the most vulnerable people affected by conflict and/or COVID-19.
- Improve food security through the provision of emergency and time-critical agriculture assistance.
- Enhance resilience of vulnerable people affected by conflict and/or COVID-19 through restoring of agriculture and non-agriculture livelihoods and promote resilience to shocks at community level.
- FSLC Response Strategy for 2021 embraces:
 - Prioritize food assistance (in-kind and cash-based transfers), enhancing crop and animal production and restoring and strengthening livelihoods and vulnerable household capacity to cope and withstand shocks and stresses.
 - Focus on seasonal food assistance with other multi sector integrated actions (e.g. with WASH, Protection and Health actors).
 - Inform assistance through robust assessment and monitoring that should ensure targeting of severely food insecure HHs.
 - Capacity building, skills and knowledge development and community engagement.
 - Accountability with information provision, participation and complaint and feedback mechanisms.
 - Focus on restoring and strengthening livelihoods alongside more multi sector integrated actions.
 - Strengthen cluster coordination and advocacy (e.g. access to NGCA of humanitarian partners).
 - Develop the FSLC transition strategy (especially for GCA) and the way forward for the cluster to explore medium to long term sustainable food security programming. A need for multi-year funding especially in NGCA.

Action points:

- FSLC team – to draft the HRP narrative and submit it to OCHA.

3. Presentation of ICRC's livelihoods projects

ICRC presented the Livelihood (agro & livestock) projects.

- Livelihood support activities aim to restore livelihoods through agro & livestock projects, microeconomic initiatives, vocational trainings, etc.
- Key activities within agro&livestock projects: poultry distribution, beekeeping, greenhouses, berry crops, livestock project, meat and milk processing, land cultivation improvement.
- Targeting criteria:
 - Area within 5 km from the line of contact (LoC)

- Directly affected by the conflict, e.g., due to damage of property; lack of access to (or loss of) previous livelihoods; disruption of job opportunities; etc ☒
- Social economic vulnerability
- Families of missing
- Family of detainee or a released detainee
- War Wounded civilians and their families

Action points:

- FSLC team—to share the presentation with partners.

4. REACH presentation of the recent MSNA in GCA assessment & ongoing Household Economic Resilience Assessment

REACH presented:

Multi Sectorial Needs Assessment (Ukraine 2020, Government Controlled Areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts), July - August 2020. Key points:

- An interactive dashboard was created, which allows for the exploration of indicators by different demographic filters: https://reachinfo.org/ukr/TA_2020/
- Three percent (3%) of HHs in 5 20 km urban areas were recorded as severely food insecure, while 9% were found to be moderately food insecure.
- Eighteen percent (18%) of HHs residing in 0 5 km rural areas were recorded as being moderately food insecure.
- Almost 30% of HH living within the 5km zone of the Line of Contact spend on food more than 75% of their total expenditures
- The proportion of HHs that borrowed food/purchased food on credit as a coping strategy to meet basic needs has increased since 2019 by 8%.
- Over a quarter of HHs reported purchasing food on credit or borrowing food.
- Quarter of HHs reported that food was more than 75% of their expenditure, 82% (of those reporting a problem accessing food) reported the cost of food as a problem, and over a quarter of HHs reported borrowing or purchasing food on credit. HHs issues accessing food looks to be a symptom of HHs poor economic situation.

Household Economic Resilience Assessment (HERA), Government Controlled Areas in eastern Ukraine, November 2020

- Objective of the assessment if to inform the humanitarian community about household economic resilience of the population close to the contact line in the Government Controlled Area (GCA) of eastern Ukraine in the face of the compounded COVID-19 and conflict crisis, specifically through measuring the impact on livelihoods and food consumption, in a winter context.
- HERA – Components:
 - SDR of GCA MSNA 2020

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UKRAINE
FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER
Strengthening Humanitarian Response

- Definition of Baseline “normal” period
- Survey – current situation
- Post-winter survey
- Currently, data collection ongoing. Expected to finish by mid-December, with first results published in early 2021.

Action points:

- FSLC team—to share the presentation with partners.

5. Dorcas presentation of pre-feasibility study report on agriculture sector development Donetsk oblast

Dorcas jointly with Academic Consultancy Training team presented the results of a pre-feasibility study focused on land, water and market commissioned by Dorcas. Key points are:

- 4 scenarios for 7 coal town areas were elaborated.
- 5 promising crops scenario (potato, maize, wheat, sunflower, barley).
- Wood and energy scenario (biomass production and processing).
- Labour intensive crops scenario (garlic, blueberries, mushrooms).
- Environmental rehabilitation scenario.

Action points:

- FSLC team—to share the presentation with partners.

6. Updates from partners / AOBs

Updates from partners

- **ACTED.** Started distribution of first transfer of assistance for three months within Food for Peace component in amount of 825 UAH per person per month. Assistance was distributed in Nyznioteple, Svitlodarsk, Toretsk, Novhorodske, Verhniotoretske and Novotroitske. In total, 3447 people received the assistance.
- **TGH.** During winter months TGH will be distributing voucher for food through cash for work modalities to 198 households, 284 elderly persons and persons with disabilities, and 41 community volunteers, as well as health care supporters in 7 locations of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts in GCA.

Other update

- **ICRC.**
 - *NGCA, Donetsk region-* continue distribution of food parcels, broilers and layers, animal feed, grinders, drip irrigation systems, and greenhouses. Within livelihood income-generating project in in-kind modality, beneficiaries were provided with agro-items.



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- *NGCA, Luhansk region.* Distribution of polycarbonate greenhouses, fertilizers, seeds, irrigation systems, water tanks. *GCA Luhansk and Donetsk region.* Ongoing implementation of Livelihood Projects, including micro-economic initiatives at HH level in Novoaidar district, Popasna district, Stanitsa Luhanska district, Mariinskiy district, Volnovakskiy district, Yasunyvatskiy district, Toretskiy district, Bakhmutskiy district. More grants are planned to be transferred soon.
- 500 CHF were provided for existing micro-economic initiative affected as a result of covid-19.
- Registration for the livelihood project is ongoing in locations: Pisky, Pisky-2, Novoselivka, Kalianka, Lastochkyne, Tonenke, Zhovanka, Bakhmutka et other villages mainly in Donetsk region.
- Distribution of polycarbonate greenhouses in Stanytsia Luhanska, Valuiske, Makarove, Vilkhove villages.

Action points:

- The next Cluster meeting is tentatively scheduled for **December 17th, 2020** beginning at **15:00**.

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PARTICIPANT LIST:

36 participants represented 24 institutions attended the FSLC monthly meeting. The institutions include NGOs, government, private sector, research institutions and international organizations, including UN agencies.

| No | Names of attendees | Institution | Position | Contact |
|----|----------------------|--|---|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Tetiana Totska | Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) | MEAL Coordinator | Tetiana.Totska@adra.ua |
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| 7 | Ryota Ojima | Deloitte | Senior Consultant | |
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| 15 | Yana Voitovska | Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) | Programme Support Specialist | Yana.Voitovska@fao.org |
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| 23 | Astrit Brasha | OSCE SMM | Human Dimension Officer | |
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