

MEETING MINUTES



LOCATION: Kyiv (via Microsoft Teams)

DATE: January 28, 2021

CHAIR: Charles Hopkins, FSL Cluster Coordinator

- AGENDA:**
1. Self-introduction and review of the previous meeting minutes.
 2. FSLC Monthly Update
 3. Presentation: Household Economic Resilience Assessment (HERA) Factsheet, GCA of Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts by REACH
 4. Updates from partners & AOB

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

- Revision of the action points: FSLC team – sent request for 4th quarter 4W data collection. FSLC partners – shared their 4W data on actual beneficiaries' coverage for 4th quarter.

2. FSLC Monthly Update

- **FSLC quarterly & annual achievement.**
 - Objective 1 – Food assistance: The FSLC assisted 69,309 people (63%) out of 109,721 people targeted in 2020. 31,256 people (28%) were assisted in 4Q 2020.
 - Objective 2 – Emergency Agriculture Support: cumulatively, 7,540 people (18%) were assisted out of 42,962 people in 2020. 4,190 people (10%) were assisted in 4Q 2020.
 - Objective 3 – Non-agricultural livelihoods: cumulatively, 5,992 (65%) people were assisted out of 9,213 targeted in 2020. Of which, 1,692 people (18%) were assisted in 4Q 2020.
- **FSLC - Financial Requirements in 2020.**
 - The FSLC met 52 % (9.3mln) of the 2020 HRP financial requirement of 18 million USD. However, the HRP was reviewed to include the humanitarian needs triggered by the pandemic in mid 2020, and the FSLC requested an additional 9.3 million USD for the COVID-19 response. 4% (0.4 million USD) of the HRP financial ask was funded.
 - Cumulatively, the 2020 HRP financial requirement and the financial ask for the COVID-19 response amounted to 27.2 million dollars of which, 9.7 million dollars (36%) was funded
- In 2020, the FSLC conducted 11 monthly partners meeting, 4 FSLC Strategic Advisory Group meetings and 1 Livelihoods Technical Working Group (LTWG) meeting. Find attached the FSLC monthly update for details.
- FSLC 4 quarter dashboard and operational presence.
 - FSL Cluster Objective 1. Food assistance – The FSLC presented the quarterly dashboard for the last quarter of 2020. Collectively, the partners assisted 31,256 (28%) persons from October - December 2020. 109,721 vulnerable people were targeted in 2020 and this is a combined target of the original 2020 HRP and the revised HRP which incorporated the COVID-19 response. The number of people assisted in this quarter was 63% higher (i.e. 19,209 people

reached) than the previous quarter. 9 organisations contributed to the cluster objective 1 in the Government Controlled Areas (GCA) and they include NRC (32%), ASB (19%), CF "Bridge"(12%), ACTED (11%), Emmanuel (7%), Caritas (4%), TGH (1%), DRC (1%), Proliska (less than 1%). Other partners operating in NGCA contributed 13% of the food assistance in the fourth quarter. The response modalities were cash for food assistance (63%), in-kind modality (36%) and vouchers for food (1%).

- FSL Cluster Objective 2 – Emergency agriculture support. FAO was the only institution that responded in the final quarter of 2020. They assisted to 1,820 households (4,190 people) 10% of the overall FSLC target for objective 2 response objective. FAO distributed animal feed to livestock and poultry owners. Cumulatively, 7,540 people - i.e., 18% of the target (42,962 people) – received agriculture support in 2020. The need for agricultural support remains high despite the above achievements especially along the contact line including areas with NGCA. There is a need to scale up agriculture inputs to support production, improve food security status, and support the livelihood of farming households.
- FSL Cluster Objective 3 – Non-agricultural livelihoods. During October – December, FSLC partners assisted 1,692 people (or 18%) out of the revised target of 9,213 people. It is 41% lower compared with achievement in July - September, and the response is still below the targeted for Eastern Ukraine. Cumulatively, 5,992 beneficiaries were assisted throughout January – December 2020, or 65% of the total people targeted. UNDP contributed 83% of the total number of people targeted in the fourth quarter of 2020, IOM 12%, DRC 5%, and FAO (less than 1%). Under the COVID-19 development and quarantine measures, the need to scale up activities under this response objective remains which include support to small and micro-enterprise, job creation, and life scale training to reduce the threat on food security of the vulnerable households.
- **Revised Food Basket & Cash based Transfer value.**
 - The FSLC revised the food basket content and the cash-based transfer value following the endorsement of the strategic advisory committee. The revision request came from the partners who recommended a revision due to the changing context (e.g., COVID pandemic, changes in price). Whereas the last revision was conducted in Sept. 2018.
 - The cluster team conducted a Socio-Economic Analysis and Market Monitoring review to determine the changes in price.
 - Two options of food basket content are recommended: 1) to cover 100% of ration (2100 kcal); and 2) to cover 75% of ration (1,575 kcal). 2 food items were replaced: barley replaced with buckwheat and CSB Super plus with oatmeal.
 - To cover partial ration of 1,575 kcal (75% of full ration), the recommended CBT value as a basis for cash for food and voucher for food assistance is 936 UAH.

- **Country Cluster Performance Monitoring for 2020** was launched by the global Food Security Cluster (gFSC). Partners were encouraged to participate in the online cluster evaluation and the deadline was February 16, 2021.

Action points:

- FSLC team – to publish dashboards and partner operational presence map on the cluster website.
- FSLC team – to disseminate the updated food basket and CBT value document and publish it on the website.
- FSLC partners – to respond to CCPM questionnaire by February 16th.

3. Presentation: Household Economic Resilience Assessment (HERA) Factsheet, GCA of Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts by REACH

REACH presented Further analysis of MSNA data of Household Economic Resilience Assessment (HERA). Key points:

- Based on MSNA data analysis, REACH revealed some household characteristics are associated with food consumption vulnerability and worse economic conditions in a post COVID prewinter period.
- Key socio-economic indicators analysed – Food Consumption Score (FCS) and Livelihood Coping Strategy Index (LCSI).
- 89% of households were found to have an acceptable FCS, 9% a borderline FCS, followed by 2% of households found to have a poor FCS.
- Household reported income seemed to have a clear relationship with the combined poor and borderline FCS. Higher monthly incomes (> UAH 4,200) were associated with better off food consumption patterns (lowest % of poor and borderline FCS).
- A higher absolute number of working individuals in a household was associated with incrementally better food consumption scores.
- The highest proportion of households with borderline FCS was for households whose head of household (HoH) was reported to be working in services sector. The proportion is comparable to the proportion of households whose HoH was reported to be unemployed (14%, compared to 9%).
- The proportion of households found to have acceptable poor and borderline FCS was the lowest for households reporting no vulnerability.
- Impact of aid and state subsidies on FCS is inconclusive. Statistical tests could not validate that there is a statistically significant relationship between humanitarian aid, state subsidies and FCS, therefore findings should be taken with utmost caution.
- Multiple household socio economic characteristics seemed to show similar trends regardless of FCS or L CSI (example: sector of employment, certain vulnerabilities like single parent households, etc).
- Notably, there were also a few divergences; while household income and number of working individuals had some of the stronger relationships for FCS, these were not found to be correlated with coping strategies.



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- The proportion of households found to resort to emergency level livelihood coping strategies (L CS) was the highest for single parent households (21%), compared to 7% of households reporting no vulnerability.
- Presence of debt influenced whether households reporting relying on any coping mechanism (none optional).

Action points:

- FSLC team – to share the presentation with partners.

4. Updates from partners / AOBs

Updates from partners

- **NRC.** Cash for food assistance was distributed in December 2020. Currently, NRC is preparing to register potential beneficiaries for the second component of the project “Cash assistance for agricultural inputs”. Preparing to register potential beneficiaries for the programme “Protection of basic needs in Eastern Ukraine”. Funded by OFDA. Within COVID-19 package, the registration was announced via hotline in Popasna, Bakhmut, Stanytsia Luhanska and Volnovakha.
- **ASB.** Cash for food distribution covering December for 3,450 beneficiaries in 5 km zone in Donetska and Luhanska oblasts. It was the start of the last caseload of ASB’s project that is planned for 8 months of assistance. The project is funded by German Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- **ACTED** have started preparation of the second payment of Food for Peace assistance to 3,443 individuals (UAH 825 per person per month for 2 months). The assistance will be paid in February 2021.

Action points:

- The next Cluster meeting is tentatively scheduled for **March 4th, 2021** beginning at **15:00**.

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PARTICIPANT LIST:

28 participants represented 20 institutions attended the FSLC monthly meeting. The institutions include government, NGOs, international organizations, including UN agencies.

No	Names of attendees	Institution	Position	Contact
1	Kateryna Budz	Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund (ASB)	Project Manager	projects@asb.org.ua
2	Andriy Postnikov	Caritas (Caritas)	Project Manager	apostnikov@caritas.ua
3	Vadym Khomenko	Caritas (Caritas)	Coordinator	vadhomen@gmail.com; vkhomenko@caritas.ua
4	Irina Stepanova	Committee on Humanitarian Affairs of Donetsk Region State Administration	Civil Councillor, Head of Humanitarian Committee	irstep71@gmail.com
5	Oleksandr Kurilenko	Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	Livelihoods Officer	oleksandr.kurilenko@drc.ngo
6	Maksym Maksymov	Dnipro Agriculture Consultation Service	Head of organization	maksymovm@gmail.com
7	Rymma Pakhomova	Donetsk Oblast State Administration	Head of Department of International Relations	uves_oda@ukr.net
8	Anna Kuznetsova	Embassy of Switzerland		ganna.kuznetsova@eda.admin.ch
9	Yana Voitovska	Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Programme Support Specialist	
10	Mana Nagashima	Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	International Programme Specialist	mana.nagashima@fao.org
11	Tetyana Zaugolnikova	Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Head of Field Office, Kramatorsk	Tetyana.Zaugolnikova@fao.org
12	Galyna Poshtarenko	International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Economic Security Assistant	gposhtarenko@icrc.org
13	Maryna Kozlovska	Non-Governmental Organization "AirLight" (AirLight)	Coordinator	ecoresearch8@gmail.com
14	Svitlana Hlazunova	Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	Livelihood and Food Security Assistant	svitlana.hlazunova@nrc.no
15	Astrit Brasha	OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (OSCE)		Astrit.Brasha@osce.org
16	Inna Erofeeva	People in Need (PIN)	Project Coordinator	inna.erofeeva@peopleinneed.cz

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18	Patrick Hayes	REACH	Assessment Officer	patrick.hayes@reach-initiative.org
19	Alin Luchian	REACH	Assessment Officer	alin.luchian@reach-initiative.org
20	Dina Urazbaeva	Triangle génération humanitaire (TGH)	Country Representative, Head of Mission	ukraine@trianglegh.org
21	Serhii Chutkyi	Ukrainian Deminer Association	Head of Mine Education Department	
22	Oleksandr Ovdienko	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	Humanitarian Adviser	ovdienko@un.org
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24	Oksana Matvieieva	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	Field Coordination Officer	oksana.matvieieva@un.org
25	Michelle Juarez	USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance Middle East, North Africa, Europe and Central Asia (USAID)	Regional Advisor	mjuarez@usaid.gov
26	Adrienne Toumayan	USAID/ Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance		Yana.Voitovska@fao.org
27	Charles Hopkins	FSL Cluster	Cluster Coordinator	charles.hopkins@fao.org
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