

Meeting Minutes: Food and Agriculture Sector (FAS) Monthly Meeting (March 2022)

Location: Online MS. TEAMS Meeting, Damascus, Syria

Date: 03/03/2021

Time: 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

## Agenda

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Organizations of Participants:

- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| i. ACF – INGO        | x. Oxfam - INGO         |
| ii. ADRA - INGO      | xi. SARC - NGO          |
| iii. AVSI - INGO     | xii. TDH - INGO         |
| iv. COOPI - INGO     | xiii. UNHCR - UN Agency |
| v. EPDC - INGO       | xiv. UNRWA - UN Agency  |
| vi. FAO - UN Agency  | xv. BHA – Donor         |
| vii. ICRC - INGO     | xvi. WFP - UN Agency    |
| viii. IFRC – INGO    | xvii. ZOA - INGO        |
| ix. OCHA - UN Agency |                         |

**Name of coordinators chairing meeting:**

1. Mohie Alwahsh – FAS Coordinator (WFP) - Chairperson.
2. Jameson Zvizvai – FAS Co-Coordinator (FAO) - Co-Chairperson.
3. Ruba Khanji – FAS Gender Focal Point - Presenter.
4. Moteb Marei - FAS IMO – Facilitator & Presenter.

**1. Welcome remarks and introductions:**

- The FAS coordinator started the meeting with an introduction of all participants.

**2. Update on 2022 HPC (HNO and HRP) [\[Download\]](#):**

- As in previous years, the WoS FSS HNO food security PIN and prevalence is based on the Food Security Assessment and Food Security and Livelihoods Assessment (FSA-FSLA). These are two identical household-based assessments, which in 2021 covered just over 65,000 households (13,383 HHs for the FSLA and 51,862 HHs for the FSA). These assessments were conducted in October 2021 for the FLSA and November-December 2021 for the FSA.
- FSS HNO 2022 validation workshop took place between January 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>. In total 77 FSS experts joined the workshop from HCT, NWS and NESF hubs also at WoS. 34 attendees in person at the HNO coordination meeting , from WoS and Hub FSS (WFP, FAO , IMMAP, Mercy corps) and WFP Syria, FAO Syria, ACF, Mercy USA, White hands, NRC, ACTED. Online additional 43 participants from 30 other different organizations FSS partners cross all hubs.
- The HNO 2022 severity mapping and scoring was also informed by the WFP CARI and nine other indicators which include 3 from FAO namely agriculture production, agro-climatic indicators and access and availability of agriculture inputs.
- The overall estimated Sector PIN for 2022 – of food insecure and those at risk of food insecurity – is estimated at 13.9 million, with 12 million facing acute food insecurity and 1.9 million people at risk of sliding into food insecurity. The acute food insecure figure includes 1.9 million people living in camps and deemed to be 100 percent food insecure.
- The Sector target is set to 12.9 M, with 9.1 M targeted for food assistance which 6.5M of them is targeted for food assistance, 2.6 M with emergency response and 6.6 M livelihoods promotion. In addition, 1.9 M targeted with Livelihood’s protection, early warning and Disaster Risk Reduction (DDR). The budget requirement is 1.78 B for 2022 for 136 projects that have been submitted by 94 FSA partners.
- In terms of inter-sector specific objectives (FSA and other sectors);

- Specific Objective 1.2: The health, nutrition and food security status of approximately 1.7 Million pregnant and lactating women (PLW) and approximately 3.7 Million children under 5 years of age are improved.
  - Specific Objective 3.2: Enhance access to market-based livelihood opportunities and production for 236,000 HHs (approximately 1,416,000 people).
  - Specific Objective 2.2: GBV risks for 7.3M people are mitigated through the provision of quality and integrated services.
- The meeting also highlighted that the Syria Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) for 2022 was now available and can be accessed through the following [link](#).
  - In terms of Ukrainian crises impact on the sector response, the sector is still analysing and assessing the possible impacts, so that there is better understanding of the possible impacts and implications on FSA in Syria.
  - Follow up from the co-coordinator on 1<sup>st</sup> agenda point; the sector recommends to partners that they should target locations under severity score three (3) or four (4), which are deemed to have more severe and extreme needs respectively. The HNO 2022 master sheet that was shared by IMO, indicates those locations. The master sheet presents the severity of needs in terms of food security and agriculture, either severe or extreme. In addition, the partner's presence map, which is also shared by our IM Unit, shows partners which partner is doing what and in which location. The partner presence map seeks to minimize potential duplication and overlap, and the maps also highlight where there is less partner presence and limited reach. The maps might then be used by partners since they highlight areas of concern.
  - Finally, there will a donor session hosted by the sector (WoS) to go through the HNO 2022 findings, the sector partners are invited as well, the invitation will be shared ahead of the meeting.

### 3. The Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM 2021):

- The cluster coordination performance monitoring was done to assess the cluster/sector performance for the previous year (2021), and the really acknowledged the sector partners who managed to complete the survey. Syria was one of the countries which had a very positive response and HCT hub had an 81% response rate.
- To ensure that we have effective coordination and in terms of our humanitarian and the early recovery assistance, both within the sector and at intersectoral level, the sector carries out the cluster coordination performance monitoring every year.
- The CCPM is facilitated by the global food security cluster (gFSC), and it was launched in January 2022 covering the previous year (2021) from January up to December.
- The co-Coordinator highlighted that the CCPM basically tries to see how the secretariat and the sector is performing in terms of delivering on the six/seven core functions. The core functions are mainly supporting

service delivery, informing strategy for both the HC & HCT, planning and implementing strategies, monitoring and evaluation performance, building national capacities in preparedness and contingency planning, and advocacy and ensuring accountability to affected populations (AAP). So, the survey was looking at how we are delivering on these core and key functions of the sector.

- Currently the analysis is being done by the global food security cluster and once the findings are shared; the sector will then plan feedback workshops in Syria HCT hub with the entire sector membership so that we can identify weak areas that need a bit of amplification or improvement. The findings will then inform the development and updating of our work plan for 2022.

#### 4. Operational and IM Updates [\[Download\]](#):

- The IMO started presenting the operational and IM updates covering Jan-Dec-2021. The findings show:
- The partner's presence with highest intensity is Jebel Saman sub district in Aleppo governorate with 9 partners. In contrast, there are areas / locations which were not covered at all in 2021. The partner presence map also showed the distribution of 16 FAS partners across 13 Syrian governorates.
- In terms of SO1 achievements; The PiN for 2021 was 9.7 M in HCT areas, with a target 5.3 M for the food assistance pillar of the sector. The people reached for this pillar is 4.1 M, with 95.7% reached through in-kind assistance modality and 4.3% through cash & voucher assistance modality.
- In terms of SO2 achievements; The target for 2021 was 8.02 M and the people reached is 1.6 M, with 74.1% reached through the in-kind assistance modality and 2.9% reached through the cash & voucher assistance modality. At least 23% of the assistance under this pillar was reached through training and services.
- In terms of Sector integrated strategy achievements, the people reached is 87 K, with 49.5% reached and supported through agriculture inputs, 34.3% through small scale food production and 16.2% through income generating activities.
- The new system for the sector mailing list: The sector team is refining the mailing list contacts to improve the communication and to maintain some data protection policies in the information management work. Therefore, the IMO will share a survey link with all mailing list contacts to prove their presence and engagement as a FAS member. Once partners respond to this survey, they will then be included in the updated mailing list.

#### 5. Update on the new gender-related indicators in FSA Log-frame:

- The FAS gender focal point (GFP) started the presentation about the gender integration within FAS:
- In collaboration with the GBV subsector and FAS, it has been agreed to include the below indicators in our HRP, which will be tracked regularly:
  - Number/percentage of food distributions conducted in line with the AAP/GBV risk mitigation procedures and guidelines (for SO1).

- Number/percentage of female (Women HH) who are engaged in Agriculture and livelihood activities (for SO2).

**6. AOB:**

- ❖ Partners to share any agenda points that should be included in the next meetings, moving forward. The FAS secretariat will consult with sector partners prior to upcoming meetings.
- ❖ IMO's to share the analysis on subnational level with subnational coordinators.

The meeting ended at 11:15 AM and the date for the next meeting will be communicated in due course.