Agriculture WG Meeting
5th July 2022
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>TIME ALLOCATED</th>
<th>PRESENTER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction &amp; Welcome</td>
<td>5mins</td>
<td>AWG Chairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh, North east Flash food: situation and Agriculture Needs update</td>
<td>15mins</td>
<td>Rony Hussein, FSC Coordinator, Dhaka, Bangladesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seeds Emergency Response Tool (SERT) guidance – presentation</td>
<td>15mins</td>
<td>Louise Sperling, Research Director, SeedSystem &amp; Wilfred Ouko, Programme Manager, Mercy Corps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AoB</td>
<td>5mins</td>
<td>AWG Chairs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bangladesh Flash Flood Brief
June 2022

Global Agriculture WG Meeting
5 July 2022

Mohammad Mainul Hossain Rony
Food Security Cluster Coordinator, Bangladesh
A third wave of flash flood has devastated the north-eastern part of Bangladesh this year, especially Sylhet, Sunamganj, Hobigabj, Moulvibazar and Netrokona districts.

Heavy rainfall over the last few days (starting from 10 June) in the Northeastern Indian states, especially Cherrapunji has largely contributed to the increased water level of the rivers in Sylhet and Mymensing division.

There has been record level of rain which lasted 7 days in Cherrapunji in 122 years.

The flash floods swept away homes and inundated farmlands, forcing families to seek shelter on higher ground and temporary flood shelters, while power cut is making life miserable and telecommunication cut-off.

Airport was shutdown, Railway and road transportation resumed was disrupted.
This is the third wave of flash floods in north-eastern districts. First early flood was in April second in May and third in June 2022.

Climate change impact is severe here causing unusual rain, flooding and early flash floods. Early flood caused a significant loss in Boro harvest as end April was the harvesting time and 1st flood came 10 days before the harvest.

More than 20% boro was lost due to early harvest. Continuous rain and recurrent floods didn’t allow farmers to dry and further process the paddy. Finally, most of these early harvested Boro paddy was stored at the household level for further processing, got inundated by the record-breaking June flash flood.

According to the latest IPC chronic ranking, Sunamgonj district is in IPC level 4, and Netrokona is in IPC level 3. Flash flood in these districts has primarily affected the availability of food stocks and agricultural produce.

This also have significant impact on livestock as fodder is also damaged completely. There consecutive flood doesn’t allow farmers to store straw which is one of the major cattle feeds in this region.
Agriculture contributes 12.09% of the National GDP.

Haor has special agrological characteristics like the Haor land is submerged half of the year and most of the land is single cropping land.

Boro is the main crop and source of annual cereal for Haor population. Boro sowing is from mid-November to mid-February and harvesting is mid-April to mid-June.

Multiple shocks have exhausted their resilience capacity coupled with average general inflation of 7.43, Food inflation 8.30 and highest rate of increase in the prices of essential commodities in eight years.

Household food storage, cooking facility and livelihood assets are damaged significantly with will negatively impact agriculture production and livelihood in coming months.

People are in dire need of lifesaving Food and livelihood assistance until next harvest.
Bangladesh Flash Flood June 2022 Brief

**Aggravating Factors:**

- Availability and access are challenged due to the disruption of market.
- Huge Food Safety and public health concern around flooded food commodities.
- Huge price hike in national and local market.
**Sectoral Needs:**

- Immediate ready-to-eat food assistance followed by emergency food assistance to address hunger.
- Livestock and poultry feed with veterinary services and community livestock shelter.
- Agricultural inputs (seeds, tools, fertilizer etc.)
- Livelihood and agriculture recovery.
- Livestock shelter and destocking of livestock.
- In-kind nutrition-sensitive food assistance (fortified rice, fortified oil, iodized salt) with orientation on an available alternative nutritious diet.
- Linkage to a regional market to sell agriculture (Crop, livestock, poultry and fisheries) products at a competitive price.
Bangladesh Flash Flood June 2022 Brief

**Rapid Food Security, Livelihood and Market Assessment:**

- Triggered by FSC on 26 July 2022
- Orientation on 2 & 3 July 2022
- Data collection ongoing
HCTT Response Plan Severe Flash Floods

Key Figures

- **7.2 million** people affected
- **9** Northeastern districts affected
- **442,294** women (≥18)
- **422,135** men (≥18)

Humanitarian Response

- **1,521,741** number of people targeted
- **5** districts targeted
- **337,510** boys (<18)
- **320,996** girls (<18)
- **22,689** people with disability
- **$58.4M** funding requested (US$ million)

June 2022
MoDMR, DAE, DLS and DPHE Report as of 22 June 2022

- 9 districts impacted
- 7.2 million persons affected
- 16,84,607 households waterlogged
- 481,827 people evacuated/temporarily displaced
- 44,254 water points damaged
- 49,885 sanitation facilities are damaged
- 663,534 cattle affected
- 254,251 Hector damaged croplands
- 55 people dead<sup>1</sup>
- mostly due to drowning<sup>2</sup>
HCTT Response Plan Severe Flash Floods

Humanitarian Response

Sources: NDRCC, DAE, DLS and DPHE report on 26 June 2022

- 4,020 metric tons of rice distributed
- US$ 576,344 cash distributed
- 64,000 packets of dry foods distributed
- US$150,247 animal foods distributed
- 250,000 water purification tablets distributed
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priorities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The internally displaced population including persons with disabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>needs immediate food assistance, water, and cash support to meet the needs</td>
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<tr>
<td>for basic food staples.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makeshift shelter, tarpaulins, shelter toolkits and NFI and urgent house</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>repair, and housing support to the targeted people with the damaged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>houses. Repair and maintenance of education institute and establish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>temporary learning centre.</td>
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<td>Protection systems for women, girls and children must be urgently</td>
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<tr>
<td>re-established/reinforced. Distribution of dignity kits and</td>
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<tr>
<td>menstrual health management kits to women and adolescent girls.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal fodder and emergency livelihood support are required for those</td>
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<tr>
<td>who lost their income-generating activities, especially daily wage</td>
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<tr>
<td>earners.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clean drinking water and immediate disinfection of water sources and</td>
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<tr>
<td>emergency repair/replacement of latrines and tube-wells. Immediate need</td>
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<tr>
<td>for hygiene kits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition must receive urgent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nutrition assistance.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Key analysis for 5 targeted districts

- Affected Population: 5.6 million
- Flash Flood People in Need: 3.4 million
- Severe and Extreme affected people: 2+ million
- People in Need: 2.23 million
- People Targeted: 587,304

Note: The image contains symbols and icons related to food security and humanitarian response.
### FSC Activities & Target

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity Type</th>
<th>Targeted People</th>
<th>Targeted Households</th>
<th>Financial Assistance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dry Food</strong></td>
<td>587,472</td>
<td>136,304</td>
<td>16.06 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cash Transfer</strong></td>
<td>3+</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2.53 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Food Distribution</strong></td>
<td>280,639</td>
<td>65,113</td>
<td>4.22 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stove &amp; Kitchen Set</strong></td>
<td>280,639</td>
<td>65,113</td>
<td>2.53 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Livelelihood</strong></td>
<td>280,639</td>
<td>65,113</td>
<td>6.76 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cash Transfer + Livestock</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Community Engagement</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Off Farm Livelihood</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>Population Affected UNOSAT</td>
<td>FSC PIN 2+</td>
<td>Target_Pop IPC3+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
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<td>-------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sylhet</td>
<td>1,547,560</td>
<td>510,695</td>
<td>76,604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunamganj</td>
<td>1,821,950</td>
<td>828,987</td>
<td>290,146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maulvibazar</td>
<td>417,700</td>
<td>126,354</td>
<td>25,271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Habiganj</td>
<td>822,900</td>
<td>345,618</td>
<td>69,124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netrakona</td>
<td>996,670</td>
<td>421,093</td>
<td>126,328</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,606,780</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,232,747</strong></td>
<td><strong>587,472</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank you
Unprecedented drought brings threat of starvation to millions in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia

Climate change and La Niña have caused an unprecedented multi-season drought, punctuated by one of the worst March-to-May rains in 70 years
The drought has been extremely intense, repetitive, extensive and hot

- The 2022 MAM the one of the most severe droughts in the last 70 years
- Drought is comparable to the very poor 1984 and 2011 MAM seasons – years of widespread famine
- A 4-season sequence of below-normal rains has not been seen in at least the last 40 years
- > 80% of the eastern Horn of Africa received low rainfall amounts; worse than signature drought years (1984 and 2011).
- The 2020-2022 droughts have been exacerbated by extremely warm air temperatures.
Concerns for October-November-December (OND) 2022 rains

Fueling these concerns:

1) The current OND 2022 sea surface temperature forecasts indicate well-understood patterns that have been associated with many recent poor OND rainy seasons.

2) The rainfall simulations from multiple forecast agencies consistently predict low OND rainfall.
Very poor cropping conditions; high likelihood of poor harvests

**Ethiopia:**
- Widespread delays/no planting for belg; harvest prospects are poor.
- Adequate rainfall will be crucial for Meher season, given the negative impacts of the 2021 and 2022 belg seasons, as well as conflict. Jul – Sep forecasts point to wetter-than-average conditions. There are concerns that current deficits may lead to a late start to the growing season.

**Somalia:**
- The 2022 gu is expected to be 40-60% of average, representing the 5th consecutive season with a reduced harvest.

**Kenya:**
- In southeastern and coastal areas, up to 70 percent of cropland, is affected by severe drought.
- Suppressed crop production in central and eastern Kenya appears likely.

**Uganda and Tanzania:**
- Below-average and erratic rainfall have impacted cereal outputs; lower exportable surpluses likely to have a knock-on impact on cereal availability in structurally deficit countries.
Poor pastoral conditions; > 7 million livestock have died

Status of livestock water points

Current livestock deaths estimates:
- Southern Ethiopia: 2.1 to 2.5 million
- Kenya: 1.5 million
- Somalia: >3 million

Source: FEWS NET/USGS
Escalating food prices

In Somalia, April red sorghum prices at some markets exceeded the record levels observed in 2011, when famine was declared.

In Ethiopia, February maize prices in Gode market in Somali region and in Yabello market in the southern Borena zone of Oromia region were 60 and 85 percent higher than one year-earlier, respectively.

In Marsabit County in Kenya, April maize prices were about 20 percent higher than one year earlier. Terms of trade are also falling with the sale of a goat only purchasing 40 kg of maize, compared to 70 kg one year earlier.
Extreme levels of food insecurity and malnutrition

Food security

- 18.4 million people face high acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+) due to the drought in southern Ethiopia (7.2 million), Kenya (4.1 million), and Somalia (7.1 million)
- >3.2 million people face Emergency (IPC Phase 4) in Kenya and Somalia
- 213,000 people in Somalia face Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5)
- Increased Risk of Famine through at least September in some areas of southern Somalia

Nutrition

- Significantly higher number of severely malnourished children admitted for treatment in the first quarter of 2022 compared to past years
- Extremely Critical levels of acute malnutrition (GAM WHZ ≥ 30 percent) in Mandera County in Kenya and Baidoa district of Bay Region in Somalia
Key messages

• Rainfall deficits during the recent Mar-May rainy season have been the most severe in at least the last 70 years in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia. The ongoing, 4-season drought has been the most extensive and persistent event since 1981. Grave concerns are raised by elevated risks of a fifth below-average Oct – Dec rainy season.

• This exceptional four-season drought, amplified by exceptionally warm temperatures and increased evaporative demand and desiccation, has been devastating to livelihoods and produced repetitive, debilitating and cumulative shocks to herds, crops, water availability, and incomes.

• >7 million livestock have died, and millions of people face the threat of starvation. The impacts of the severe drought on livelihoods will intensify rapidly in the coming months due to the extremely poor Mar-May rains.

• Humanitarian response plans are massively under-funded. Immediate action is required to scale-up and sustain humanitarian assistance through at least mid-2023 to prevent rising levels of acute food insecurity and malnutrition, mitigate the loss of life, and avert the Risk of Famine.
Unprecedented drought brings threat of starvation to millions in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia

Climate change and La Niña have caused an unprecedented multi-season drought, punctuated by one of the worst March-to-May rains in 70 years.

Contents

- Overview: Convergent analyses indicate exceptional dryness and drought impacts that now threaten millions of people with starvation
- Section 1. Climate
  - Section 1.1. Observed Climate Summary: A drought that has been extremely intense, repetitive, extensive, and hot
  - Section 1.2. Concerns for October-November-December (OND) 2022: A multi-agency assessment finds that below-normal OND 2022 rains are likely
- Section 2. Crop Production, Livestock and Prices
  - Section 2.1. Crop production
  - Section 2.2. Livestock production
  - Section 2.3. Markets, prices, and hydropower
- Section 3. Food Insecurity
  - Section 3.1. Ethiopia
  - Section 3.2. Somalia
  - Section 3.3. Kenya
- Summary

Key Messages

- Rainfall deficits during the recent March-April-May 2022 rainy season have been the most severe in at least the last 70 years in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia. The ongoing, four-season drought has been the most extensive and persistent event since 1981. Grave concerns are raised by elevated risks of a fifth below-average rainy season in October-November-December.

For more information:
https://fews.net/sites/default/files/Joint%20Statement%20Horn%20of%20Africa%20June%202022.pdf
THANK YOU!
Seed Emergency Response Tool
Guidance for Practitioners

Louise Sperling
Research Director, SeedSystem

Andrea Mottram
Director, Agriculture Systems, Mercy Corps

Wilfred Ouko
Program Manager, ISSD Africa, Mercy Corps Kenya

Abby Love
Senior Specialist, Program Quality & Capacity Building, Mercy Corps
SERT BACKGROUND

Humanitarian Context

- Rising seed aid
- Repetitive seed aid
  - Creating farmer dependency
  - Damaging seed enterprise development

Need for practical tool to guide response options
Seed Emergency Response Tool (SERT)

**Development:** Mercy Corps & ISSD Africa with SeedSystem, input from USAID and implementers. Builds on 30 years of lessons learned

**Audience:** policy makers, program managers and field staff engaged in emergency and early recovery agricultural response; non-technical staff and experienced professionals

**Aim:** provide guidance on seed security interventions: assessing possible need; setting goals; choosing among responses; designing specific field action; evaluating

**English and French**

Complimented by the Context Analysis Tool (CAT)
Importance of Agriculture and Seed in Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance

- FY 21:185 agriculture applications inc. 121 with seeds and seedling components totaling $234.7m

- Seed AID in terms of total value and # of countries is increasing.
Persistent Seed Issues in BHA Agriculture Applications

1. **Lack of needs assessment / seed insecurity is not characterized**, i.e. – How does the cropping area / actual seed need of target farmers relate to the seed being requested? How are the target farmers seed security impacted by the emergency?

2. **Needs assessment with no rigor or methodology** – recommendations not linked to findings.

3. **Low /no recognition of local seed sources** and/or sources outside of formal seed channels.

4. **Response modalities tend towards direct distribution**, limited use of markets, limited effort to promote market pluralism.

5. **Seed quality identified as an issue but with no discussion of the crop specific** seed quality issues.

6. **General reference to ‘improved seed’ or ‘climate smart agriculture’ but no clear indication of the desired farmer characteristics** / seed varieties and how these characteristics / varieties address the emergency seed challenges faced by farmers.

7. **Formal seed certification seen as a requirement** with no alternatives.
Why is SERT as a Resource Important?

1. Emergency Seed AID has persistent challenges and SERT can help emergency seed aid practitioners to better diagnose emergency seed need and identify opportunities to leverage existing seed system capacities.

1. SERT recognizes and builds on existing emergency seed security/seed assessment tools and resources.
SERT
Central Features
1. Seed System Fundamentals
2. Seed Security & Program Goals

Seed Systems and resilience programming

- Systems
- Diversity (crops and varieties)
- Diversity (supply channels)
- Availability and access
- Mobilization
## 3. Response Interventions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approach</th>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct distribution</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Direct Seed Distribution (DSD)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Local procurement and distribution of seed</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Provision of modern varieties</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food aid to serve as 'Seed protection ration'</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Market-based approaches focused on clients (demand)</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Seed fairs, combined with vouchers</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vouchers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Market-based approaches focused on suppliers</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Market-based support to supply side (agrodealers/traders)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
SERT CENTRAL FEATURES

Response Interventions

DIRECT DISTRIBUTION  SEED FAIRS/VOUCHERS  CASH TRANSFER
Market-based Responses

Informal markets
- cereals, legumes, other crops

Formal markets (agrodealers)
- maize, vegetable seed
## 4. Decision Trees

### A. Is a seed security-linked intervention feasible?

**A.1 Readiness.** Is the farming population ready to engage in agriculture?
- 1. 
- 2.  

Move to **A.2**  
Are there other crucial nonagricultural aid options to support the population?

**A.2 Means.** Does the population have the means to engage in agriculture (e.g., land, labor, other inputs, credit)?
- 1. 
- 2.  

Move to **A.3**  
Can supplementary aid help lessen non-seed constraints?  
If Yes, what kind of supplementary aid? If No, should non-seed aid be given priority?

**A.3 Broad context.** Are the major context changes affecting agriculture during this stress period clearly understood?
- 1. 
- 2.  

Move to **A.4**  
What additional information processes could be put in place to clarify the situation?

**A.4 Do no harm: general context.** Can a humanitarian response be implemented in the current scenario (consider short- and longer-term effects)?
- 1. 
- 2.  

Move to **section B:** SEED SECURITY  
Can harmful effects be alleviated with altered strategy? (Analyze each item in terms of potential harm.)  
If No, consider other non-seed aid.
## 4. Decision Trees

For the constraint of **SEED ACCESS**, there are several possible response options.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key questions</th>
<th>Evidence /indicators</th>
<th>CASH</th>
<th>VOUCHERS</th>
<th>SVF</th>
<th>DSD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C.2.1 Context</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the context allow for this type of intervention?</td>
<td>1.</td>
<td>YES</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Are there sufficient market outlets supplying formal or informal seed?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Are outlets within reasonable distance?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Is it safe/feasible for recipients to travel?</td>
<td>2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do donors /governments allow for this modality?</td>
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<tr>
<td>C.2.2 Logistics</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Can the necessary logistics be put in place?</td>
<td>1.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Are either direct or digital transfer of 'cash' options available?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Can all recipients including the most vulnerable be reached with this approach?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Have sufficient vendors willing to accept vouchers been identified? Cross-reference with C.2 (4,5,6,7).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Can enough fairs be organized at needed scale and in time, with staff trained?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Can vouchers be printed in time?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- **YES**: Review possibility of other interventions that enable seed access and solve constraint(s) directly above.
- **NO**: Review safer/more accessible response options (DSD?). Review whether DSD can offer supply needed. Review whether DSD can offer supply needed. If vendor travel is constraint, consider travel subsidy.

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**SERT CENTRAL FEATURES**

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**MERCY CORPS**
5. Guiding Principles

Themes
1. Seed System Security Assessment (SSSA)
2. Response type
3. Goal of the intervention
4. Context
5. Timeliness
6. Market-based assistance
7. Crop and variety choice
8. Seed quality
9. Farmers’ choice
10. Feedback at multiple key stages

SERT CENTRAL FEATURES

Gender
#7 Crop & Variety Choice

The crops and varieties selected for the intervention should suit the context and user needs.

Technical notes

a. Seed and intervention goal
b. Traditional versus modern varieties
c. Varietal preferences, including those related to gender
d. Crop preferences, including those related to gender
e. Realistic management conditions
f. Self- and open-pollinated varieties
g. Genetically modified organisms (GMOs)
h. No suitability, no intervention
SERT CENTRAL FEATURES

Technical Support

- Indicators of acute shock vs chronic stress
- Seed quality advice
- Evaluation checklists

*post-harvest*

↓

*after one season*

↓

*after multiple seasons*
Feedback welcome!

- Mercy Corps: Andrea Mottram, amottram@mercycorps.org
- SeedSystem: Louise Sperling, sperling@seedsystem.org
- ISSD Africa: Wilfred Ouko, wouko@mercycorps.org
Questions
THANK YOU!