

AGRICULTURE WORKING GROUP

MEETING 02.03.2021

Topic	Action point
<p>1. Welcome and introduction Co-chair: Aaron Larsen</p>	
<p>A. CROPS/SEEDS WORKSTREAM:</p> <p>1. UPDATE ON THE FARMERS' ENGAGEMENT DOCUMENT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review exercise to better understand the level of engagement with Farmers' <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Crop/seeds work-stream was very engaged in the development of the Farmers Engagement Survey. Request for feedback particularly on the Survey questions for the livestock workstream – would be good to move quick on this, March 9th will be the deadline ○ Start to roll out the survey end of March • Solidarites experience on the rapid SSSA pilot in Myanmar (see PPT here) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Goal: Determine challenges and opportunities for seed security, understand better the rapid assessment methodology ○ Where: Kachin state (ongoing FSL intervention) ○ Crops: Rice (next season) groundnut, mustard (ongoing season) ○ C19 impact: Price of the rice decreased (due to the border closures with China) + Labour: impact on employment opportunity ○ Generally seed system resilience is proven to be quite good, and adaptive capacity from farmers; quality of seeds is not excellent because they rely on both formal & informal markets (informal traders do not guarantee quality) ○ Recommendations <u>For short term interventions</u>: Distribution of appropriate varieties to improve access to high quality seeds; Improve knowledge on seed quality of farmers and informal seed vendors ○ <u>For long term interventions</u>: Promote best practices in seed breeding and capacity building to farmers and vendors on storage and seeds management/ research on appropriate high yielding varieties & testing new varieties; support availability of good quality seeds, support the development of seeds banks in collaboration with government ○ Limitations with rSSSA: suggestion made to limit coverage to 1 crop and if multiple to task separate teams on each; data disaggregation (youth, women, PWD) was difficult; required significant remote support—would be good to have technical specialist involvement on the ground; inherent staff bias towards formal seed system may always be a factor ○ Questions from the participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Is there bias related to the seed quality notion: yes, there are a lot of bias, many farmers think that certified seeds are the good quality ones and locally produced seeds are not. Also for our teams, this notion of quality was difficult to understand. ▪ Was the remote technical support difficult because of lack of specialist in the assessment location? Yes it took a lot of long working sessions to train and guide the field team at the different steps of the assessment. ▪ Was it useful for SI future interventions: yes we will incorporate some of the recommendations into our future proposals. However 	<p>Farmer Engagement: Link shared for inputs/comments by March 9th to Cecilia.benda@concern.net</p>

<p>as the SSSA exercise was done by a team with no technical specialist in the field (just a remote support), I feel that we are lacking part of the analysis on seed systems and that we could have gone further in the response options with more results.</p>	
<p>LIVESTOCK WORKSTREAM</p> <p>Introduction of the new Workstream Chair: Ludovic.Plee@fao.org</p> <p>Next Livestock workstream meeting: March 23rd - 15:30 GMT +1</p>	
<p>Mapping of Technical WG under the FSC teams globally:</p> <p>Global Dashboard - WGs</p>	<p>Send any comments to improve it</p>
<p>Next meeting: 6th of April 2021 @ 15:00 GMT+1</p>	