

Date: Tuesday 11 January 2022

Time: From 15:00 - 16:00

Venue: Zoom, Virtual/ E meeting

Chairs: Jan Morrow (Agriculture Team Lead, **BHA**), Ludovic Plee (Animal Health Officer, **FAO**), Aaron Larsen (Global Technical advisor, Agriculture and Livelihoods, **Samaritan's Purse**)

gFSC Focal point: Davide Rossi (gFSC)

Participants: *Kate Longley (CRS-SEADS); Emmanuella Olesambu (FAO Ethiopia) Julie March (USAID); Edward Walters (CRS); David Traynor (Concern Worldwide); Peter Muhangi (Plan-international); Jameson Zvizvai (FAO Syria, FSL CC) Paul Egan (SLU – University) Majid Abdul (gFSC, GCC); Géraud Hellow (VSF-S) ; Julie Mayans (Solidarites International); Elizabeth Stites (Tufts University); Alemayeuh Kuma (GOAL); Felix Martin (FAO – Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, HQ); Davide Rossi (gFSC), Damien Joud (gFSC)*

Subject: AWG - Monthly meeting (every 1st Tuesday of the Month)

Agenda

1. Introduction and Welcome and **quick recap of GPM discussions**
2. **“Livelihoods components of durable solutions for IDPs in the Somali Region of Ethiopia”** - Elizabeth Stites, PhD, Research Director in Conflict and Livelihoods at the Feinstein International Center & Associate Research Professor at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University
3. **SLU Global and the University alliance** – Paul Egan, Associate professor - *Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)*
4. **gFSC Agriculture WG: main priorities and work-plan discussions for 2022**
5. AoB

1. Welcoming remarks, introduction

The Agriculture WG Co- chair welcomed the participants and opened the meeting. This is the first meeting of the year 2022. Thanks to the guests that have agreed to present today, and please remember that after the presentations the group will start to brainstorm about 2022 priorities and work-plan that need to be approved at the next meeting.

2. Presentation of the study: **“Livelihoods components of durable solutions for IDPs in the Somali Region of Ethiopia” done by the Tufts University in collaboration with FAO**

Elizabeth Stites, Tufts University gave a presentation about the assessment done in collaboration with FAO

- The assessment aimed to better understanding the livelihood context to inform programming and policy making around durable solutions for internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host communities.
- The assessment took place in three locations, Tuliguled woreda (Fafan Zone), Goljano woreda (Fafan Zone) and Adadle woreda (Shabelle zone), all within the Somali Region.
- At the time this assessment began in early 2021, the Somali Region hosted 844, 642 IDPs, almost entirely Somali in ethnicity. Conflict (both inter-ethnic and inter-clan) and climate shocks (mainly drought) are the main causes of displacements
- The main livelihood activities of the displaced communities in their place of origins fall into the broad categories of cropping, livestock production, and small-scale trade
- In all locations and interviews, respondents expressed their desire to be financially independent and to not rely on assistance for survival.
- People are extremely eager to start up sustainable and successful livelihoods but are mostly at a loss to do so without adequate capital (financial, natural, physical and human).
- For those in locations where farming or grazing is possible, people require adequate access to land and a plan for a self-sustaining supply of
- For those in locations where their previous livelihood activities are not possible—such as those in Adadle who have dropped out of pastoralism or those who had cultivated in Oromia but are now in more arid areas – they need first to learn new skills as well as having sustainable models.
- Research and knowledge gaps remain, particularly around the day-to-day livelihoods and survival strategies of the large numbers of displaced.

Main recommendations:

- **Translating policies into action:** policy and programmatic support will need to be evidenced-based, prioritize local participation, and be tailored to the local economic and ecological context in each instance. (e.g. displaced persons to be relocated without only adequate policies in place to ensure local support and buy-in from the host community), access to land to be implemented for IDPs, etc.) addition to ensuring adequate land access, IDPs should be supported with or linked to opportunities for financial capital to establish new livelihoods or rebuild previous livelihood systems.
 - **Addressing root causes:** Pastoralism is the main livelihood specialization for most of the population in the Somali Region; policies should be geared towards facilitating pastoral production; primary cause of displacement in the Somali Region is drought, pastoralism is very well-adapted to cope with drought, but multi-year droughts and rising temperatures can be much more difficult to manage. Unless drought management and mitigation activities are in place, drought-induced displacement is likely to both continue and worsen due to climate change. Long-term solutions to displacement will only be achieved if the root causes of conflict are addressed at the federal and regional levels and if local conflict mitigation and resolution mechanisms are effective.
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- **REPORT CAN BE FOUND HERE:** [Durable-Solutions-11.19.21.pdf \(tufts.edu\)](#)

3. SLU Global and the University alliance –

Paul Egan, Associate professor - Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)

- Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) is part of a network contributing to the SDGs through: generate new knowledge, Contribute to increased capacity of relevance for development, Support science-based policy development
- Prioritized areas: food security, climate change, circular and bio-based economy, biodiversity and ecosystem, global health, urban sustainability.
- SLU partnerships example: Capacity development, bilateral research, networks and other collaborations: FAO, CGIAR, etc.
- The GCUA is a network of university partners across the globe.
- SLU is happy to be part of the gFSC Agriculture WG and would like to establish more linkages through: a) connecting gFSC partners to researchers; b) co produce technical guidelines together; c) explore the possibilities for master's degree students to get in cooperation with gFSC;

Participants' note:

- AWG are willing to establish additional cooperation with Academia/Research centres, this is also part of the gFSC 2020-2022 strategy
- AWG can benefit from the work of the Academia, also in producing ad hoc papers, product, guidelines and technical docs that will serve the FSC Clusters in the field to deliver more efficiently and effectively
- SLU is welcomed to give presentation on particular studies in agriculture and also to involve the network they are part of.

Action point

- While developing the work-plan to consider the strengthening of the relation with academia and related actions

4. Agriculture WG: Work-Plan and key thematic priorities

It is important to start discussion about the year 2022, and the scope of work of Agriculture WG. The main priorities remains:

- a. To keep the AWG inclusive for all gFSC members, and maintain field focus while developing global policies when required and according to emergencies
- b. Support FSC teams in the field with technical guidelines as per requirement
- c. Keep working with other gFSC WGs (e.g. Cash WG) and inter-cluster approach

The below thematic areas, are drafted for discussion, additional areas can be added but also engagement should be realistic since the group works on a voluntary basis; the WG should be in line with gFSC strategy 2020-2022, but also flexible to include additional areas according to the field emergencies.

In addition the WG Chairs will meet the SAG to seek advice on main priorities and discuss the WG structures and way of working.

The below points summarise the discussions about the Work-plan (additional inputs to be gathered via email prior to next meeting).

A. Global thematic areas for 2022 (e.g. Policies, technical documents)

- Guidelines for agriculture intervention drought response
- Famine risk guidelines for agriculture interventions
- Agriculture outcomes: how to better track the agriculture interventions'/investments' impact in emergencies? (e.g. cost effectiveness, food security/nutrition outcomes)

B. Advocacy:

- Use the WG products/findings to develop joint advocacy initiatives with CLAs/Partners.
- Ad hoc webinars on key issues (e.g. country, thematic area, AA etc.)

C. Technical support for field partners from global units

- Development of technical support upon request of FSC/AWG from the field (e.g. Fisheries, etc.)
- Collaboration with other WGs (e.g. Cash interventions, Programme Quality WG) to strengthen agriculture interventions and approaches;

D. Partnership

- Collaborations with other Clusters (e.g. Nutrition, Health, Education, etc.)
- Global partners meeting, joint initiatives, collaboration with Academia

Action Point

- ✓ *gFSC focal points and WG Chairs to send a msg to all AWG members in order to gather inputs for the new work-plan 2022*
- ✓ *Next meeting the Work-plan will need to be discussed and finalized*
- ✓ *This will be then presented to the SAG*

5. FINAL REMARKS

- ✓ Next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 1st of February**