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**MOÇAMBIQUE**

**MAPUTO FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE Thursday, 20th August 2020**

**TIME 9.00 – 10.00**

**VENUE Microsoft Teams**

**AGENDA**

1. Introduction (5mins)
2. Humanitarian update: Cabo Delgado-FSC (5mins)
3. Mozambique Price and Market Monitoring Update-WFP VAM
4. Food Assistance Programme in Gaza Lessons Learnt-WVI
5. FSC Response update-WFP and FSC
6. AoB
7. **Introduction (FSC):**
* FSC partners were reminded on the need to support (in-kind or cash) planned Food and nutrition baseline study by SETSAN due to the importance of study to FSC programming in the coming months and years.
1. **Humanitarian update: Cabo Delgado-FSC**
* Cabo Delgado remains a priority for FSC humanitarian response however Cabo Delgado Rapid Response Plan especially FSC component remains critically underfunded at about 27%(Source: FTS).
* Because of limited funding, CERF again has come in to highlight the needs through allocation of seed funds (US$7 million for multi-sectoral responses).
* National InterCluster Committee Group(ICCG) prioritized Cabo Delgado for this round again.
* Priority Districts for the multisectoral responses are Ancuabe, Chiure, Metuge, Montepuez, Pemba and ibo districts.
* FSC component of the CERF response is US$2.2million.
* Even with CERF allocation, there is still a huge funding gaps to cover the entire needs as we approach lean season and there is eminent food assistance pipeline break in October 2020.
* Metuge relocation exercise will also resume after receipt of the request from local administration on the 12th August 2020 for humanitarian partners to support the exercise.
1. **MOZAMBIQUE PRICE AND MARKET MONITORING UPDATE-WFP VAM**
* WFP VAM made a presentation of July 2020 Price and Market Monitoring in Urban (Maputo, Beira and Nampula) and rural markets (Gondola, Govuro, Nhamatanda, Chibuto, Montepuez, chibuto and Changara) for some few selected commodities (maize, maize meal, imported rice, butter beans, vegetable oil and brown sugar).
* The sources of data were INFOCOM, SIMA, FEWSNET and primary data.
* In general, prices were higher in Maputo followed by Beira and then Nampula for the urban markets for all the commodities except for maize meal (Beira prices were higher than Maputo) and vegetable oil (Beira prices were similar to that of Maputo) for the month of July 2020.
* For the rural markets, prices of the commodities did not follow any particular trends and varied during the month depending on the market and commodities.
* The details prices for the different market prices variation for specific commodities are as per attached presentation.
* In addition, WFP VAM has continued to also monitors Food Security and Market access due to impact of COVID-19 since April 2020 from 1300 households.
* The major barrier to market access were distance and the fact that shops remained closed most of the times because of COVID-19 related impacts. There is also increase in the number of respondents indicating security concerns. The main coping strategies highlighted by the respondents are spending savings and borrowings. (For more details, refer to the presentation on FSC Mozambique).

**Discussions**

* Clarifications were provided that the coping strategy of spending savings are more related to better off households who may be earning salaries.
1. **Food Assistance Programme in Gaza Lessons Learnt-WVI**
* WVI made a presentation of Emergency Food Security Program for Vulnerable People affected by Drought in Gaza Province of Mozambique implemented during the lean season of November 2019 to May 2020 and targeting 6,356households (66,628people) in 71 villages in Guija and Chibuto districts of Gaza.
* The overall objective of the project was to save lives and reduce food consumption gaps for vulnerable people affected by drought in Gaza Province of Mozambique and specifically to improve food and nutrition security for vulnerable households and enhance recovery and capacity to withstand shocks initiated in targeted communities
* Key activities included provision of 4months food assistance through voucher complimented with provision of agricultural inputs and training.
* The project achivements include: All the planned16,356 households with food assistance as well as skills development; Overall percentage of HHs with acceptable Food Consumption Score (FCS) increased from 25.1% to 39.8%; prevalence of HHs with little or no hunger increased from 16.8% to 79.1%; household Dietary Diversity Score (HDDS) increased from 3.61 to 4.07; percentage of targeted HHs who adopted Agricultural best practices increased from 2% to 35.8% and percentage of targeted HHs who adopted nutrition best practices increased from 27% to 32.8% and percentage of targeted HHs who adopted Saving for Transformation (S4T) best practices increased from 10% to 37.2%
* Key success factors include involvement of all stakeholders at the beginning of the project, use of last mile mobile system in registration of beneficiaries, combining different sectors (food assistance, agricultural livelihoods, WASH, nutrition and training), complaints and feedback mechanisms.
* The project also faced some challenges including: VAT imposition on some component of food assistance (vegetable oil) and COVID-19 outbreaks among others.
* Lessons learnt include: A participatory and transparent participant selection process can be time and energy consuming but it helps to increase ownership of the project and to reduce complaints about the selection criteria; contracting of more vendors compared to the previous EFSP led to improved service delivery which was devoid of monopolistic tendencies; Good coordination with community leaders and participants helped to improve the food redemption process and timelines despite the COVID-19 restrictions (For more details, refer to the presentation on FSC Mozambique).

**Discussions**

* Clarifications were sought in regards to challenges related to agricultural components of the response and the selection of districts.
* In response, WVI highlighted that procurement of seeds and agreeing on the coordination of the response were challenges faced however this was addressed.
* With regards to selection of the districts it was clarified that districts selected were based on INGC assessment of food insecurity.
1. **FSC Response update-WFP and FSC**

**WFP updates**

* WFP made a presentation of the residual caseloads of food assistance countrywide indicating level of achievement in july and August.
* In July, WFP reached a total of 364,988 people out of the planned 400,355 people representing 87% achievements with food assistance
* Similiarly, WFP provided food asistance to 42,571people out of the planned 567,235 representing 10%. The figures of people reached is being updated and will be shared with FSC(For more details, refer to the presentation on FSC Mozambique).

**FSC updates**

* Overall 389,824 people were reached with food assistance in Cabo Delgado, Sofala and Gaza by FSC partners in July 2020.
* Food assistance partners include: Lead partners (WFP, Iris Global, Tzu Chi Foundation, Caritas and Oikos) while their implementing partners were SEPPA, CCM, WVI, FH, INAS, ANDA, ARA, INGC, Tzu Chi and INAR.
* While for Agricultural livelihoods, 341,997 people were reached with livelihood asistance in Cabo Delgado, Tete and Zambezia by Lead partners (FAO,FH, CARE and Tzu Chi) and their implementing partners (SDAE, DP-ASA, Caritas and GVC) since May 2020(winter season). For more details, refer to the presentation on FSC Mozambique.
1. **AoB**

There was no AoB.

**Attendance:** WFP, FAO, USAID, UNICEF, SCI, FHI, WVI, iDE, Plan International, ADRA, Spanish Red Cross, JAM, Istituto Oikos and FSC team.

**Next meeting: Thursday, 10th September 2020 at 9.00-10.00am online**