



FSAC Emergency Livelihood Assistance Guidelines Effective 1st September 2022

Background

The previous FSAC Emergency Livelihood Assistance (ELA) Guidelines came into effect in December 2020. After being in use for more than one year, the Livelihoods Technical Working Group (LTWG) made the decision to review some elements, according to the evolving food security situation in the country. The following areas have been discussed and revised:

- The ELA kits developed / livelihood zone;
- The composition and prices of the ELA kits;
- The wording of few sections of the document, to provide more clarity.

Key considerations

1. **The ELA Guidelines comes into effect on 1st September 2022 and they will remain valid until the next update.**
2. **The ELA Guidelines focus on emergency short-term assistance**, therefore they are not covering longer term, development-oriented projects. The ELA main goal is supporting vulnerable households, aiming at meeting their short-term and basic livelihood needs.
3. **The composition of ELA kits is the following:**
 - Agriculture kit (details of kit / livelihood zone available in the annex);
 - Cereal and vegetable kits
 - Livestock kit (details of kit / livelihood zone available in the annex);
 - Fishery kit (details of kit / livelihood zone available in the annex).

There are specific ELA kits / each livelihood zone across the country as indicated in the annex.

4. **ELA activities target vulnerable households with access to productive assets** such as A. returnee households; B. households hosting IDPs, with an access to land and / or any other productive assets. ELA cannot be provided to D. displaced families living in camp-like settlements, spontaneous settlement and collective centers; E. newly displaced conflict induced IDPs; F. vulnerable returnees and families hosting IDPs with specific needs or without access to land and / or any other productive assets.
5. **FSAC partners should carry out an assessment before implementing any ELA activities**, to ascertain community preferences and kits suitable to the livelihood zones, soils, climate, other.
6. **FSAC partners should consult the relevant line Ministries¹ before implementing any ELA activities.**
7. **Based on assessment findings and by taking into account suggested items, the composition of ELA kits can be adjusted and the most effective implementation modality (in-kind, cash, hybrid) is identified.**
8. The land size in Yemen varies from one location to another, with significant differences between highlands, lowlands and Tehama. The average land size is smaller in highlands, due to high population density. **According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MAI) statistics, the average size of land is 0.9 - 1 ha.** Before implementing any projects FSAC partners should undertake a needs assessment to establish actual land sizes.
9. **Local seeds should be provided.** Selection of seeds should take into consideration the project location, water availability, seasonality, type of soil, drought resistance, pest and disease tolerance and it must be endorsed by the local MAI. **Seeds should undergo a test²** (percentage of moisture, germination rate, purity, impurities, foreign materials) to determine their viability. The provision of cereal seeds focuses on rain fed agriculture, the main form of agriculture for the majority of vulnerable households. Concerning vegetables seeds, and as most farmers prefer hybrid ones, they should be recommended by the local MAI, according to community preferences.

¹ North: Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation; Ministry of Fishery Wealth. South: Ministry of Agriculture and Fishery Wealth

² Through Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation

10. **Regardless of the land size, cereal seeds should be provided for a maximum of 1 Ha, legume seeds for a maximum of 0.5 Ha and vegetable seeds for a maximum of 0.25 Ha.** That notwithstanding, seed rates can be decreased depending on available resources and the need to support a higher number of beneficiaries. Other considerations for reduction include: context, soil type, climatic conditions, advices from relevant line Ministries, community preferences, further assessments.
11. The formula to calculate the seed rate is the following: **$SR = X * SSR / 1Ha$** . SR: Seed Rate. X: amount of seeds required for the actual area under cultivation. 1Ha: 1 hectare. SSR: Standard Seed Rate per hectare.
12. **Chemical fertilizers and pesticides are not part of the ELA kits**, due to the inherent risks involved and in line with the FSAC “do no harm” principle. Compost / organic fertilizer and bio-pesticides should be utilized due to their beneficial nature to the environment.
13. **Agriculture kit.** FSAC partners are requested to provide a maximum of 3 types of cereal and / or vegetable seeds. The choice of seeds will be based on community preferences and distributions must be in sync with the seasonality. Local cereal and vegetable short cycle (maximum 4 months) crops should be prioritized. Each household should receive only one set of tools. Tillage support should be ensured via cash.
14. **Livestock kit.** Local livestock should be prioritized. Feed concentrate: 200 gm \ day (sheep and goat, 30 days). Anti-parasites: 1 liter / 100 animals. 2-5% Internal Parasites: FSAC partners should provide two treatments / animal. Vaccines: 1 vial / 100 animals. Blocks: 1 / 10 animals / month. FSAC partners should select either feed concentrate or wheat bran, as they serve the same purpose. Feed & mineral blocks or molasses are used for fattening purpose, hence it is optional to provide all of them or feed & mineral blocks only.
15. **Fishery kit.** One set of fishing nets / 3 fishermen; one set of ice boxes / 3 fishermen. One life-jacket / fisherman.
16. FSAC partners should carry market assessments, aiming at determining correct prices in a given season and specific geographical area. **15 percent buffer could be added as top-up to average prices** (for more information, please consider the annex).



17. Considering the YER / USD exchange fluctuations, **FSAC partners should use the latest exchange rate.**
18. Some livelihood zones are made by districts being part of both the Internationally Recognized Government (IRG) and the Sana'a Based Authority (SBA) Areas of Control (AoC). **Unit costs suggested by the annex take into consideration the predominant AoC.**
19. **FSAC partners should factor associated costs into the ELA kits e.g. costs of seed certification, costs of seed treatment, cost of technical support from relevant technical line Ministries, cost of veterinary support, cost of assessment and monitoring, other costs.**