



## Meeting Minutes

Location: Four Season Hotel, Palmyra Venue, Damascus, Syria

Date: 28/11/2018

## Agenda

- Humanitarian updates and SHF reserve allocation-drought response.
- Review of partners drought responses under SO2&3.
- Presentation of WFP targeting tool for 2019.
- Presentation of support to Food Security Information System in Syria by FAO.
- Food Security Sector (FSS) HNO updates-Draft Key messages.
- Response and Gaps analysis for Nov. actuals and Dec. Plans for HRP SO 1, 2& 3.
- AOB.

## Participants

ICRC, UNHCR, Dorcas, GOPA – DERD, MSJM, COOPI, ADRA, Action Against Hunger, UNRWA, SARC, WFP, AVSI, FAO, TDH, Aga Khan Foundation, EU Delegation.

Chair: Joseph Oneka, Sector Co Coordinator

## Humanitarian updates and Reserve Allocation in Response to drought

### **Humanitarian updates**

- Humanitarian situation in Hajin (Deir ez zoir) is deteriorating due to resumption of military operations and some 60,000 people estimated to be affected.
- Restricted access to certain public services were reported in Hasakeh affecting the communities(schools)
- Security concerns especially contamination of areas with UXOs undermining the return processes.

Improvement of service delivery in East Ghouta were reported however, rehabilitation still required in some infrastructures. In Al Dweir camp only 4,575IDPs remain in the IDP camp and over 30,000IDPs have returned so far.

- Return to Yarmouk had been authorized however, infrastructures reported to be severely damaged.

### SHF Reserve allocation

- A reserve allocation of SHF were opened and funding (US\$ 2million) provided to undertake urgent seed distribution campaign in response to severe drought, which affected major cereal production areas in major agricultural areas of the country in particular North Eastern of Syria according to Crop and Food Supply Assessment Monitoring (CFSAM) undertaken by FAO/WFP.
- The joint response (FAO/WFP) will reach out 14,450 vulnerable farming households in 5 most affected governorates during the winter season 2018/2019 with wheat seeds and protection rations.

### Review of partners drought responses under SO2&3 (Sector)

- The sector presented seed distribution campaign for the current winter season planned by all partner as detailed in the table 1 below.
- Sector noted that there is still a gap of about 88% for adequate coverage based on MAAR estimates of farming households at governorate level. Further understanding is needed for most for most prioritized vulnerable (especially rainfed) farmers to be targeted.
- The joint FAO/WFP response will focus on the worst affected 5 governorates of Al hasakeh, Ar Raqqa, Aleppo, Deir ez zoir and Hama which accounts for more than 70% of national cereal production. The project will target the most vulnerable 14,450 households rainfed farmers with land size of about 1 ha. These households will receive agriculture inputs as well as protection Food Rations.
- The above response will complement regular response planned at the beginning of the year by partners such as ICRC and ACF.
- There were inquiries about whether government responses were factored in overall responses.
- FAO as a technical lead provided explanation that government provides just subsidies for agricultural inputs which benefits in most cases only well off farmers. The joint response between FAO/WFP is planned to benefit the most vulnerable especially the smallholder with land size of 1ha, which are the most vulnerable and severely affected by drought.

Governorates	Estimated Farming HHs in Need	ICRC Regular PG (hhs)	ACF RP (hhs)	FAO/WFP (hhs)	NES NGOs (hhs)	Gaps (hhs)	% Gaps
Aleppo	57,269	6,000	100	2,500		48,669	85
Al-Hasakeh	49,900	4,000(2,000 wheat and 2000 barley)	500	4,988	2,367	38,045	76
Ar-Raqqa	33,150			1,262	855	31,033	94
Deir-ez-Zor	38,827	6,000		3,000	225	29,602	76

Hama	53,816	4,200(2,200wheat and 2,000barley)		2,700		46,916	87
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>232,962</b>	<b>16,200wheat and 4,000barley</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>14,450</b>	<b>3,447</b>	<b>194,265</b>	<b>83</b>

<< Wheat seed distribution campaign winter season 2018/2019>>

## Presentation of targeting tool for 2019 (WFP).

- WFP made a presentation of their new targeting tool for 2019- a derivative of food security assessment with expenditure patterns, FCS, coping strategies index, nutrition and livelihood as the major indicators. The tool is designed for about 30 minutes and will be available in digitalized version.
- The targeting tool to be used by WFP cooperating partners is shift towards a more food security focused targeting in 2019 and linked with IPC scale, which will determine the level of severity.
- The tool to be rolled out in 2019 and the new targeted caseload will mostly likely available in June 2019.
- The screening is expected to be done for 700 households based on WFP's partners lists of beneficiaries.
- For further info, kindly check the following [Link](#).

### ⚡ Action point

Sector requested partners to harmonize targeting in line with proposed approach and is available to conduct a training on the tool in early 2019.

## Presentation of support to Food Security Information System in Syria (FAO).

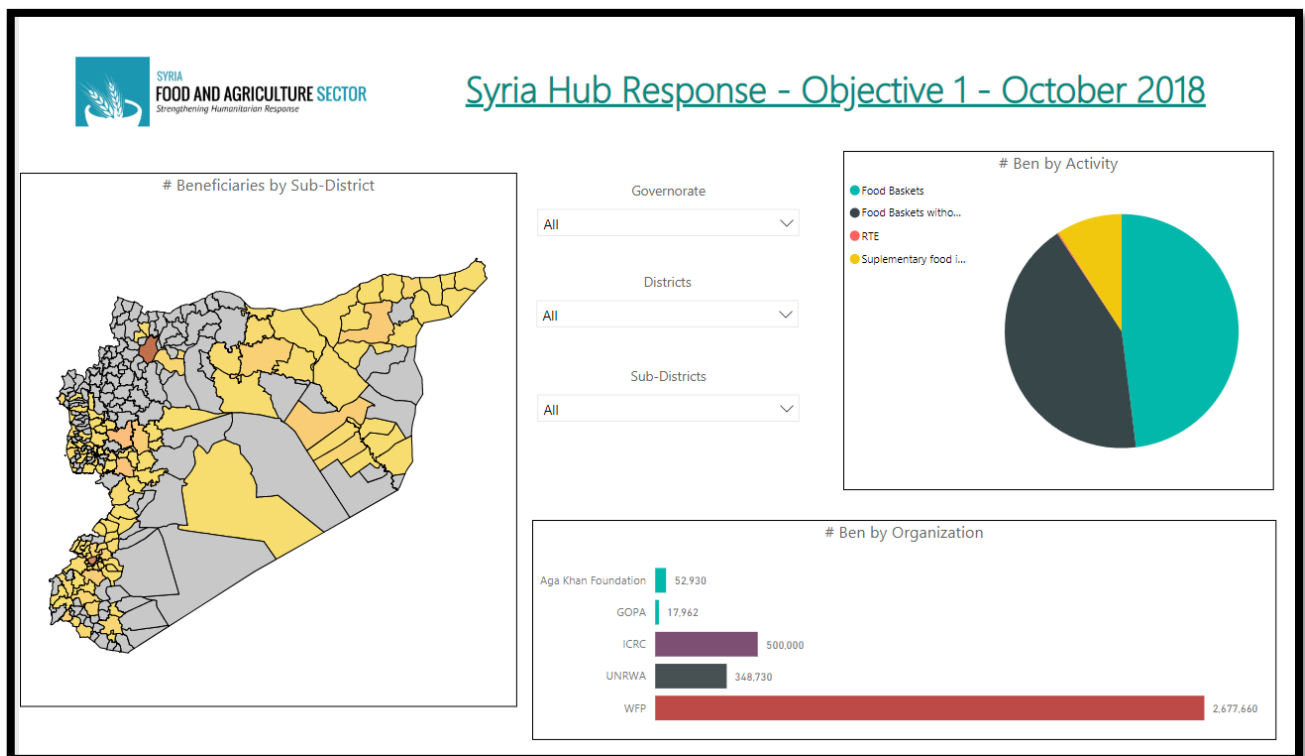
- FAO Syria made a presentation of a project “Strengthening Food Security information and Early Warning System” undertaken under a technical cooperation project. The presentation include background, project results (impact, outcome, outputs and activities).
- The project objective was to contribute to the development and establishment of functional FS&EWIS to support improved decision-making and with an outcome to enhance capacity within the relevant national institutions for the design and maintenance of FS&EWIS.
- The project results include mapping of all key food security information producers and users; carried out stakeholders’ analysis; conducted critical analysis of food security information chain to identify strengthens, threats, opportunities, weaknesses and conducted participatory capacity assessment of key institutions mandated to generate and disseminate food security information and proposed a capacity development plan for key institutions.
- For further info, kindly check the following [Link](#).

## Food Security Sector (FSS) HNO updates-Draft Key messages

- Release of inter-sector HNO has been delayed facilitating data collection by 4 sectors (WASH, Shelter/NFI, Protection and ERL) however FAS not affected by this.
- FSS data sources included CFSAM household assessment, which provided data for 57 districts, which was completed by Food Security Sector partners data that covered the rest of the areas.
- Technical working group was convened to integrate the data as well as undertake initial analysis

- The sector partners undertook additional analysis and endorsement of the HNO analysis.
- Additional re-assessment currently being done for Daraa and Quneitra since earlier assessment were done at the peak of operations.
- FSS HNO consultation with the line ministry to be conducted sometimes around end of December 2018 and beginning of January 2019.
- Preliminary FSS HNO figures available but requires finalization. Any partner that needs further information for their operational planning for 2019 is requested to approach the sector.
- Initial analysis indicates that some 30.8% of the population are food insecure however, this does not include last resort camp in NW and NES and hard to reach locations.
- Final intersectoral HNO expected to be released sometimes in February 2019.

## Response and Gaps analysis:



<https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiMmUwNzQ3OTMtNmM5NC00NjJhLTlhZjgtZjMxYjMwNDU4ZmE0IiwidCI6ImY2ZjcwZjFiLTJhMmQ0NGYzMC04NTJhLTlTY0YjhjZTBjMTlkNyIsImMiOiJF9>

