

## Monthly Sector Meeting

16/August/2018 | Damascus

### Chair

Samantha Chattaraj, Sector Coordinator

### Participants

WFP, ICRC, FAO, UNHCR, UNRWA, UNDP, ERL Sector, EU Delegation, OXFAM, IFRC, ECHO, AVSI, MSJM.

### Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Overview of south and north west Syria (15 mins)
- Updates from sector team (15 mins)
- Introduction of joint initiative with Early Recovery Sector - Community of Practice on Livelihoods (15 mins)
- Consultation on Accountability to Affected Population (45 mins)
- AOB

#### 1. Overview of south and north west Syria (15 mins)

##### Southern Syria

- As of 12 August WFP in collaboration with SARC distributed food for over 430,000 people responding to South emergency. This includes 7,590 Ready to Eat Rations and 78,823 Monthly Food Rations.
- WFP was able to assist people in Harasta in Eastern Ghouta through a local NGO partner by distributing Monthly Food Rations for 550 families.
- Additionally, WFP was part of an Inter Agency Convoy to Arbin & Zamlka that provided 7,000 Monthly Food Rations (FRs) - 2,000 FRs in Zamlka and 5,000 FRs in Arbin.
- The initial findings from the mission indicate that people limit their meals to two meals per day without buying cheaper food. Bread is available in both Arbin & Zamlka but it's not enough. WFP is looking for a partner to rehabilitate bakeries there. UNHCR updated that they are looking at rehabilitating bakeries in Arbin and Zamakla. WFP and UNHCR were requested to coordinate bi laterally on this issue.
- Furthermore, UNHCR plans to rehabilitate a bakery in Al-Sanamayn / Daraa.
- ICRC to conduct an assessment in September to rehabilitate bakeries in Daraa city.

##### North West Syria

- The sector presented the scenarios around North West Idleb as received from the Access Working Group. These scenarios are for purposes of humanitarian planning and preparedness. The scenarios can be found in **annex 1**.
- Preparedness plan to respond to a planning figure of 100,000 IDPs is underway. The preparedness plan is for 6 months with both food assistance and livelihoods components and will be from Aleppo and Homs sub national sectors.
- Any organization that seeks to be part of this plan is requested to contact the sector urgently.

## 2. Updates from sector team

### **Partners' updates:**

- Partners' updates as received from ACF, AKF, FAO, ICRC and UNRWA are provided in [annex 2](#).
- As per partners update and plans the sector notes over 50,000 households will receive agriculture and livelihoods assistance. Thus, the sector encourages partners to implement Integration Strategy to ensure coordination with food assistance caseload and aim for graduating those who are receiving both. However, partners noted that full implementation of integration strategy can only be possible if effectively applied at field level and thus needs detailed operational coordination.

Action Point: Sector coordinators to discuss bilaterally with members and present a way forward in the next sector meeting.

### **Response analysis Presentation ([annex 3](#))**

Action Point: The methodology on calculating cooked meals will be revisited with partners

### **Gender and Age Marker ([annex 4](#))**

Action Point: GAM will be introduced this year and sector will conduct a training for partners.

### **Joint approach on bakery and wheat value chain**

Common strategy to agree which bakery to prioritize, what is the package for assistance and tracking such assistance in a coordinated way.

- Need for mapping bread poverty across Syria based on food security indicators.
- Need to request Ministry of Interior Trade for a list of bakeries that need assistance.
- Triangulating A and B to map areas that need highest support from sector.
- A workshop with Ministry in collaboration with FSS and ERL on the bakery support strategy for 2019.
- Agreeing on bakery assessment tools, packages, areas and resource based planning.
- Identifying gaps after resource base planning for further mobilization of resources.

#### Wheat Value Chain

- A few assessments have been conducted.
- A workshop is needed to determine who is looking at which part of the value chain and which areas?
- A vision strategy and operational plan (based on resources) needed to the link it with the bakery strategy as above.

#### Partners Suggestions

- Sector partners agree to have common strategy to prioritize which bakeries to rehabilitate, and specify which type of support should be done "i.e. production line, WF, salary for staff".
- WFP support an approach called bread poverty – is a way to supply and demand to specify reasons
- AVSI distinguish support to bakeries as hard component and soft component. AVSI has agreed with Ministry of internal trade to support a bakery in Sahnaya by soft component which is create vending and selling point for bread with other commodities form Ministry of internal trade.
- ERL Sector/ UNDP suggested focusing on bread production and distribution including vendors that bring bread from large bakeries to various areas, taking in consideration production of wheat.
- FAO stressed on the importance on the correct mixing of the flour by soft and hard flour.

Action Point: The sector partners present agreed to adopt this approach and be part of this initiative. The sector will present way forward in the next meeting.

### 3. Introduction of joint initiative with Early Recovery Sector - Community of Practice on Livelihoods

ERL and FAS in collaboration with European Union plans to organize a workshop on community of practice on livelihoods to bring evidence of livelihoods programming that contributed to social cohesion in Syria. Partners present in the meeting endorsed this initiative. More details on this will be shared soon in preparation of this workshop.

### 4. Consultation on Accountability to Affected Population

Partners present in the meeting were consulted on key guiding questions. A summary of this consultation will be presented in the next meeting.

AOB

NEXT MEETING: September, date to be confirmed