FSAC NATIONAL CLUSTER MEETING

Date: 29th October 2020
Venue: Virtual/Online Meeting
Time: 13:00 hrs

Attendance: WFP, FAO, OCHA, FCDO, CARE, NRC, OXFAM, WC, ACF, IRY, IRC, ACTED, RI, SCI, DRC, ADRA, VHI, SI, ZOA, PU-AMI, YFCA, NFDHR, YDN, RDP, TYF, LMMPO, YWU, KFD, FMF, YLDF, SFBD, SRA, NMO, ICYC, ITDC, Alekram foundation

Meeting Agenda:

1. Review of action points from the last meeting
2. YHF -1st Standard Allocation 2020
3. 2021 Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC) updates
4. AOB

1. **Summary of Meeting Action Points**

1. FSAC to circulate YHF 1st standard allocation 2020 strategy and priorities
2. FSAC to circulate the list of 34 Hard to Reach (HTR) districts
3. FSAC to circulate a technical guidance note to guide eligible partners interested in applying for the 2020 YHF 1st standard allocation
4. FSAC to circulate the draft revised Minimum Emergency Livelihoods Assistance package for comments/inputs from partners and subsequent endorsement by email
5. FSAC to circulate the draft harmonized livelihoods assessment and Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) tools for comments/inputs from partners and subsequent endorsement by email
2. YHF - 1st Standard Allocation 2020

- Overview
  - On 26 October, the YHF Advisory Board (AB) endorsed the parameters for the First Standard Allocation (SA1) for 2020
  - Main objective - to provide immediate funding to assist people in acute humanitarian needs to mitigate the risks of famine and negative consequences of COVID-19
  - Only proposals in-line with the strategy and previously coordinated and discussed with the clusters will be considered
  - Envelope is USD $75 million maximum
  - Proposals must be submitted by 27 November 2020

- YHF SA1 Allocation Priorities
  - This YHF SA1 allocation strategy is aligned with the 2020 HRP strategic objectives
  - The Standard Allocation will focus on the following 2 priorities:
    - Activities covering high priority gaps for people in acute needs in the hardest hard to reach areas;
    - Activities covering gaps for people in acute needs in the ongoing emergency response
  - **Priority 1: High priority gaps in interventions for people in most acute needs in the hardest of the hard to reach areas**
    - Partners’ interventions will focus in 34 districts and 94 sub-districts in eight governorates (Ad Dhale, Al Bayda, Hudaydah, Al Jawf, Hajjah, Marib, Sa’ada, Taizz) where 1.4m people live in acute need
    - The list of the 34 Hard to Reach (HTR) districts is as below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Governorate</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Governorate</th>
<th>District</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Al Bayda</td>
<td>Nati’</td>
<td>Al Hodeidah</td>
<td>Ad Durayhimi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al Bayda</td>
<td>Maswarah</td>
<td>Al Hodeidah</td>
<td>At Tuhayta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al Bayda</td>
<td>As Sawma’ah</td>
<td>Sa’dah</td>
<td>Baqim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al Bayda</td>
<td>Az Zahir</td>
<td>Sa’dah</td>
<td>Razih</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al Bayda</td>
<td>At Taffah</td>
<td>Sa’dah</td>
<td>Shada’a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al Bayda</td>
<td>Al Quraishyah</td>
<td>Sa’dah</td>
<td>Adh Dhahir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al Bayda</td>
<td>Wald Rabi’</td>
<td>Sa’dah</td>
<td>Haydan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta’iz</td>
<td>Maqbanah</td>
<td>Sana’a</td>
<td>Nihm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Response to needs in the 34 districts are constrained by a combination of armed conflict, bureaucracy and/or logistic impediments

- **Priority 2: Covering gaps in clusters’ ongoing emergency response for people in acute need**

  - The priority includes 3 sub-components:
    - Critically underfunded protection programmes
    - IDP response: This subcomponent will help to cover gaps in the Rapid Response Mechanism, Health, WASH, Education, FSAC, Nutrition and Shelter/NFI in IDP collective sites and areas hosting large number of IDPs
    - Pre-positioning critical life-saving emergency items in line with the national contingency plan

- **YHF SA1 Allocation Eligibility**

  - Partners who have successfully completed their due diligence and capacity assessment
  - Projects submitted by **27 November 2020 (17:00 Sana’a time)**

- **Clusters will take the following criteria into consideration during screening of partners proposals submitted:**

  - aligned with the strategic priorities of the HRP 2020;
  - meet the strategic priorities of the clusters for this allocation;
  - include a recent needs assessment;
  - can be implemented within the period of up to 12 months maximum;
  - include gender and protection mainstreaming component;
  - demonstrate accountability to the affected population;
o demonstrate inclusive programming;
o clearly identify risks and outline mitigation strategies;
o have clearly elaborated and adequate monitoring plan;
o demonstrate cost-effectiveness;
o take into account the ERC four global priority areas.

➢ Additional key criteria to be considered

o Partners must factor in possible delays in project implementation and adjust their work plans and budgets accordingly, including by amending project operational costs to a reasonable timeframe;

o YHF partners ranked as high-risk should only directly implement their programmes and not use sub-implementing partners, while medium and low risk partners can. They should minimise any procurement cost, and if obliged to, keep it at maximum 15% of the value of the project;

o High-risk partners can apply for a maximum of US$ 750,000 per project (and hold a maximum of US$ 1.5 million in active grant at the same time). Partners who have exceeded that ceiling will have to ensure previous grants have either been closed or under final reporting or auditing before they can request additional funds. A second grant will be dependent on a rate of ‘good performance’ in the most recent assurance/modality activity and/or the finalisation of at least one audit of a YHF project. Partners who have not had an audit finalised will need to have one before applying for a new grant. Ad-hoc approvals deviating from these requirements may be exceptionally granted on a case by case basis based on the partner’s confirmed access to hard to reach areas and assistance to people under the highest level of needs;

o Medium-risk partners can apply for a maximum of US$ 2 million per project;

o Low-risk partners do not have a ceiling;

o Partners will have to report on a regular basis to the Clusters and actively participate in the coordination mechanisms in Sana’a and at field level;

o Projects should receive prior endorsement by the national and Sub-National Clusters. Partners should submit evidence of this during submission (email to be uploaded in GMS);

o YHF partners may not submit more than three (3) proposals in total;

o The OCHA HFU will review projects according to their strategic and programmatic relevance, cost effectiveness, engagement in
coordination, mainstreaming of cross-cutting issues and monitoring mechanisms.

- The tentative YHF SA1 Allocation Timelines are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Date</th>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Step</th>
<th>What</th>
<th>Who</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26 Oct</td>
<td>Preparation</td>
<td>AB meeting to endorse SA parameters</td>
<td>Allocation Strategy</td>
<td>HC, AB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Oct - 5 Nov</td>
<td>Cluster develop their strategies</td>
<td></td>
<td>Allocation Strategy</td>
<td>Clusters, OCHA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-9 Nov</td>
<td>Cluster defend their strategies to the AB</td>
<td></td>
<td>Allocation Strategy</td>
<td>Clusters, AB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Nov</td>
<td>Allocation Strategy updated and discussed with AB</td>
<td></td>
<td>Allocation Strategy</td>
<td>HC, AB, OCHA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Nov</td>
<td>Allocation endorsed Strategy</td>
<td></td>
<td>Allocation Strategy</td>
<td>HC, AB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Nov</td>
<td>Launch of Allocation in the GMS</td>
<td></td>
<td>Allocation open</td>
<td>OCHA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Nov</td>
<td>Proposal Development and Review</td>
<td>Proposal submission deadline</td>
<td>Proposals</td>
<td>Partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Nov - 10 Dec</td>
<td>Strategic and Technical review preparations and meetings</td>
<td>Technical review of projects; feedback to partners</td>
<td>Technical Review Committee, OCHA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-26 Dec</td>
<td>Proposal revision and adjustments</td>
<td></td>
<td>Partners address feedback, OCHA final clearance</td>
<td>Partners, OCHA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From 1 January</td>
<td>Approval</td>
<td>Grant Agreement (GA) preparation, HC and Partners signatures</td>
<td>GA prepared/start date agreed with Partners, HC approved project, Partners signs / start of eligibility</td>
<td>OCHA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From 10 Jan</td>
<td>Disbursement</td>
<td>Grant Agreement final clearance and first disbursement</td>
<td>GA cleared and signed</td>
<td>OCHA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Discussions on possible FSAC YHF SA1 Allocation priorities
  - Priority 1: High priority gaps in interventions for people in most acute needs in the hardest of the hard to reach areas
Not all 34 hard to reach districts will be covered by the cluster partners due to the small amount of the envelope, and the need to prioritize locations and activities;

The main focus should be addressing huge response gaps, not all gaps can be covered by the YHF SA1;

The targeted districts should not have an ongoing active conflict making it inaccessible by partners;

Prioritized districts out of the 34 will be shared based on an analysis of existing response gaps, discussions with the cluster lead agencies, discussions with key cluster partners, discussions with other clusters (e.g. CCCM), and further consultations with various stakeholders;

The priority activity will be response to IDPs in collective sites/centres. IDPs in these locations face the highest vulnerabilities and food insecurity levels due to limited social networks and exhausted coping strategies;

- Priority 2: Covering gaps in clusters’ ongoing emergency response for people in acute need
  - Considering the high needs, limited envelope and the need to prioritize resources, activities under this sub-component will only be considered once the existing gaps in the 34 hard to reach districts have been addressed
  - The priority activity will be response to IDPs in collective sites/centres due to reasons highlighted above in priority 1

FSAC will circulate a cluster guidance note highlighting the geographic priorities, respective caseloads, prioritized activities, and key criteria that partners need to take into consideration when developing proposals.

3. 2021 Humanitarian Programme Cycle (HPC) updates

- The 2021 HPC is contingent on the finalization of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) for the Northern governorates in the absence of other recent nationwide data. It has not been possible to conduct the MCLA or SMART surveys which are the other key critical nationwide assessment that inform the Humanitarian programme Cycle (HPC).
- The Yemen 2021 HPC will utilize the Joint Inter-Sectoral Analysis Framework (JIAF)
- Key HPC timelines
  - IPC analysis
- IPC AFI Analysis: 31st October to 10th November
- IPC AMN Analysis: from 11th November (TBC)

- Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO) - 9th November
- Draft HNO by December
- Final HNO in January 2021
- HRP in February/March 2021

4. AOB

- Endorsement of the revised FSAC Minimum Emergency Livelihoods Assistance Package and harmonized livelihood assessment and monitoring tools
  - The revised FSAC Minimum Emergency Livelihoods Assistance Package was endorsed by the Livelihoods Technical Working Group at both the National and Aden levels
  - FSAC will circulate the draft revised Minimum Emergency Livelihoods Assistance package for comments/inputs from partners and subsequent endorsement by email. It will not be feasible to conduct a national cluster meeting until after completion of the IPC analysis for the Northern governorates
  - The harmonized FSAC livelihoods assessment tools have been developed based on existing tools from different partners involved in livelihoods related programming. The draft tools have been shared with the Livelihoods Technical Working Group at the national and Aden levels for final comments and endorsement
  - FSAC will circulate the draft harmonized livelihoods assessment and monitoring tools for comments/inputs from partners and subsequent endorsement by email