



Revised FSAC Minimum Emergency Livelihoods Assistance Package - December 2020

Background:

The current FSAC minimum emergency livelihoods assistance package came into effect in August 2018. After being in use for almost two years, the Livelihoods Technical Working Group decided to revise certain elements of the package in order to be relevant with the dynamic and evolving food security situation and context in the country. It was necessary to revise the Package so that partners could be able to effectively implement their programming taking cognizance of the ground reality. The following areas have been discussed and revised:

- The average size of land under cultivation per household.
- Seed rate for cereals and vegetables per Hectare
- Prices of cereal and vegetable kits
- The composition and prices of farm tool kits
- The composition and prices of the livestock kit
- The composition and prices of the fisheries kit
- The wording of certain sections of the document to provide more clarity

Key considerations:

1. The FSAC Minimum Emergency Livelihoods assistance package focuses on emergency short-term assistance and is not for longer term, recovery or development-oriented projects. Its primary role is to assist vulnerable households to meet their short-term basic livelihood needs;
2. Emergency Livelihoods assistance activities targets vulnerable households with access to productive assets. The activities can only target **returnee households, households hosting IDPs, and vulnerable host communities, access to land, and access to productive assets**. It cannot be provided to displaced families living in camp like settlements, spontaneous settlement and collective centers; newly displaced conflict induced IDPs; vulnerable returnees and families hosting IDPs with specific needs or without able bodied members, access to land, and access to productive assets;



3. The provision of cereal and vegetable kits focuses on pre-dominantly rain fed agriculture, which is the main form of agriculture for the majority of vulnerable households);
4. The land size in Yemen varies from one location to another and there are significant differences between highlands, lowlands, and the Tehama. The average holding of land is smaller in highlands due to high population density. **The official average size of land in Yemen as per the MAI statistics is 0.9 - 1 ha.** Subsequently, it is recommended that before the start of any project, FSAC partners need to undertake a needs assessment to determine the actual average land size for the target location. Additionally, the exact land holding of each target beneficiary household should be determined as part of the project's baseline.
5. Based on the assessment findings, the emergency livelihood assistance package may vary in each of the project locations. The basis of the seed rate for each land size should be calculated based on the recommended seed rates of the particular crop per kgs per hectare.
6. **All types of cereal seeds provided SHOULD be local seed**¹ as part of the cluster's "do no harm approach". Nonetheless, for vegetables this is not possible most farmers prefer hybrid seeds (in this case, they should be recommended by the local MAI and based on community preference). Seed selection should take into consideration the project location, water availability, weather, season, type of soil, drought resistance, pest and disease tolerance. All seeds should undergo a germination test to determine viability (percentage of moisture, germination rate, purity, impurities, foreign materials etc.)
7. **All seeds should be endorsed by the local Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.** The local Ministry of Agriculture offices should advice whether seed treatment is needed (and what are the required procedures in seed certification);
8. **Chemical fertilizers and chemical pesticides are not part of the emergency livelihoods assistance package** due to the inherent risks involved during their use, in line with FSAC's "do no harm approach". Compost/organic fertilizer and biopesticides should be utilized due to their beneficial nature to the environment;

¹ Local seeds are drought and disease/pest tolerant and do not require additional inputs like chemical fertilizer and chemical pesticides



9. The distribution of cereal kits, vegetable kits and fishery kits must respect local area seasonality e.g. the provision of cereal seed should be during the rainy season. Distribution of fishery kits on the other hand should be during the fishing season;
10. All agencies/organizations SHOULD consult the relevant local technical line ministry² BEFORE implementation of any emergency livelihoods assistance activities;
11. All agencies/organizations SHOULD undertake an assessment before any emergency livelihoods project implementation in order to determine community preferences (e.g. preferred seed variety and/or type) and kits that are suitable to the agro-ecological/livelihoods zones, soils or climate;
12. Each seed kit should be provided as a different unique package depending on assessment and beneficiary preferences (*e.g. a community might decide that they only need sorghum and millet seed and no need for wheat and maize seed; while another might prefer only wheat and no other cereal seed!*);
13. Regardless of the land size, for emergency livelihood assistance, cereal seed rate to be provided for a maximum of up to 1 ha; while vegetable seed rate to be provided for a maximum of 0.25ha; while legume seed rate to be provided for a maximum of 0.5ha. That notwithstanding, these seed rates can be reduced depending on the resources available and need to reach more households. Other considerations for reduction will include; based on context, soil type, climatic conditions, technical advice from technical line ministries, community preferences, or further assessments²

² All organizations/agencies should work out the equivalent preferred seed rate based on further consultations, community preferences, assessments, and technical inputs from the concerned technical line ministries. Relevant technical line ministries to be consulted:

- Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MAI) for all cereal and vegetable technical guidance
- The veterinary department for all for all livestock related technical guidance
- The Ministry of Fish Wealth (MoFW) for all fishery related technical advice



14. Simple formula to calculate Seed Rate. **$SR = X * 1Ha / SSR$** . Key SR-Seed Rate, X amount of seeds required for the actual area under cultivation, 1Ha-1 Hectare, SSR- Standard Seed Rate per hectare.
15. All seed kit support (cereal and vegetable) is to be provided as a package i.e. together with the accompanying farm tools;
16. Organizations/agencies **SHOULD provide tillage support** in the form of cash to facilitate either tractor or ox-drawn preparation of land. This will ease the physical burden of land preparation, especially for vulnerable households like female headed households (who might not have readily available human labor);
17. Based on high needs on the ground, community peculiarities, and need for impact, **partners are requested to provide either cereal kits, vegetable seed kits, or fishery kits (ONLY ONE OF THE THREE to the same household!)**³. **Emergency livestock support can however be provided together with either cereal or vegetable kits support;**
18. Households **receiving fishery kits SHOULD not receive either livestock or cereal/vegetable kits support;**
19. Each household **should receive only one set of farm tools;**
20. Regardless of the cereal and vegetable seed rates, all organizations/agencies should work out the equivalent rate based on further consultations, community preferences, assessments, and technical inputs from the concerned technical line ministries;
21. Livestock kits SHOULD be provided to households owning small ruminants (sheep and goats) due to the immense importance of these assets in the livelihood coping strategies of poor vulnerable households⁴. Vaccination campaigns should however be undertaken to all livestock in a location en masse;

³ In the event that the community prefers both, then the total seed kit assistance should be for a maximum of 1 ha

⁴ Small ruminants are “banks on the hooves” for vulnerable households and an important coping strategy. Vulnerable households sell small ruminants’ offspring during times of heightened household needs and to cater for emergencies e.g. health expenditures

22. Organizations/agencies SHOULD factor in other associated costs into the minimum emergency livelihoods assistance package e.g. costs of seed certification, costs of seed treatment, cost of technical support from relevant technical line ministries, costs of veterinary support, costs of training, costs of monitoring and/or assessments etc.;

Cost of different elements of the Minimum Emergency Livelihoods Assistance Package

Cereal Seed Kit (Seed Rates for 1 Ha)

Details	Unit	Unit Cost (USD)	Unit Cost (YER)	Seed Rate Per Ha (Kg/Ha)	Total Price (YER)	Remarks
Sorghum	kg	1.5	750	20	15,000	□ Local cereal seeds for short cycle staple cereal crops not exceeding 4 months duration (from planting to harvest)
Maize	kg	1.5	750	30	22,500	
Millet	kg	1.5	750	20	15,000	□ All Partners <u>MUST consult</u> the local Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MAI) before start of implementation □ All partners <u>MUST consider community preferences</u> Cereals seed quantities based on 1 ha
Barley	kg	1.7	850	100	85,000	
Wheat	kg	1.7	850	100 (120)	85,000	
Cow peas	kg	2	2,000	20 (for intercropping 5-7)	40,000	
Beans	Kgs	5	2,500	50	125,000	Legumeseed quantities based on 0.5 ha

						<p>Each organization/agency to select cereals seed based on agro-ecological/livelihood zones and community preferences</p> <p>Partners can provide one or a maximum of THREE (3) types of cereal seed. The choice of seed will be based on community preferences and agro-ecological zones</p> <p>The seed distribution must be in sync with the seasonality (rainy season) considering that vulnerable household practice rain-fed agriculture</p>
Total					387,500	
Hoe	Piece	7	3,500	1	3,500	<p>□ One set of farm hand tools per household</p> <p>□ All Partners MUST consult the local Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MAI) before start of implementation</p> <p>All partners MUST consider community preferences</p>
Pick Axe	Piece	7	4,500	1	4,500	
Sickle	Piece	7	3,500	2	7,000	
Total					15,000	

Vegetables						
Details	Unit	Unit Cost (USD)	Unit Cost (YER)	Seed Rate Per Ha (Kg/Ha)	Total Price (YER)	Remarks
Onion	kg	25	12,500	8	31,250	□ Short cycle local vegetable seeds
Mallow	kg	24	12,000	5	30,000	



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Tomato	can with 2000 seeds	35	10,000	1.5	2,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ All Partners <u>MUST consult</u> the local Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MAI) before start of implementation □ All partners <u>MUST consider community preferences</u> □ Vegetable seed quantities based on 0.25 ha □ Each organization/agency to select vegetable seed based on agro-ecological/livelihood zones and community preferences □ Partners <u>can provide a maximum of FIVE (5) types of vegetable seed</u>. The choice of seed will be based on community preferences and agro-ecological zones □ The seed distribution must be in sync with the seasonality (rainy season) considering that vulnerable household practice rain-fed agriculture
Lettuce	kg	15	7,500	1	18,750	
Okra	kg	20	10,000	8	25,000	
Pepper	kg	35	17,500	1.5	8,750	
Spinach	kg	15	7,500	25	18,750	
Land Preparation/tillage support (cost of Tractor for 1 hour)	Lump sum	11	5,500	1	5,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Either Ox-plough or tractor supported land preparation/tillage support based on context, existing practice, and community preferences
Total					140,500	
Vegetable Tool Kit						

Watering can	Piece	10	5,000	2	10,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ One set of farm hand tools per household □ All Partners <u>MUST consult</u> the local Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MAI) before start of implementation □ All partners <u>MUST consider community preferences</u>
Hoe/Pick axe	Piece	7	3,500	1	3,500	
Rake	Piece	7	3,500	1	3,500	
Trowel	Piece	3	1,500	1	1,500	

Plastic water tank (1,000 liters)	Tank	95	47,500	1	47,500	
Total					66,000	
Livestock Kit						
Concentrate	kg	0.65	325	60	19,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ The rate of feeding of concentrate is 200gm\day for sheep & goat) - need for 60 days □ All Partners <u>MUST consult</u> the local Veterinary Department before start of implementation □ All partners <u>MUST consider community preferences</u>
Anti- Parasites	Litre	1	500	1	500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ The rate of anti-parasites is 1 liter for 100 animals □ 2-5% (internal parasites)- partners SHOULD provide two treatments □ All Partners <u>MUST consult</u> the local Veterinary Department before start of implementation □ All partners <u>MUST consider community preferences</u>

PPR Vaccines	Vial	7	3,500	1	3,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Each vial is enough for 100 animals □ All Partners <u>MUST consult</u> the local Veterinary Department before start of implementation □ All partners <u>MUST consider community preferences</u>
Sheep/Goat Pox Vaccines	Vial	7	3,500	1	3,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Each vial is enough for 100 animals □ All Partners <u>MUST consult</u> the local Veterinary Department before start of implementation □ All partners <u>MUST consider community preferences</u>
Feed Block (5kg)	Block	4	2,000	1	2,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ 1 block enough for 10 animals per month □ All Partners <u>MUST consult</u> the local Veterinary Department before start of implementation □ All partners <u>MUST consider community preferences</u>
Mineral Block	Block	3	1,500	1	1,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ 1 mineral block enough for one household for two months □ All Partners <u>MUST consult</u> the local Veterinary Department before start of implementation □ All partners <u>MUST consider community preferences</u>

Fishery Kit						
Fishing nets (Rope+ Floater+ Sinker+ Net)	Set	414	207,000	1	207,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ One set of fishing nets to be distributed to 3 fisherman □ All Partners <u>MUST consult</u> the local Ministry of Fish Wealth (MoFW) offices before start of implementation □ All partners <u>MUST consider fishing community preferences</u>
Cooler (Ice) boxes	Set	240	120,000	1	120,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ One set of ice boxes to be distributed to 3 fisherman □ All Partners <u>MUST consult</u> the local Ministry of Fish Wealth (MoFW) offices before start of implementation □ All partners <u>MUST consider fishing community preferences</u>
Life jackets	Piece	30	15,000	1	15,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ One life - jacket to be distributed for each individual fisherman □ All Partners <u>MUST consult</u> the local Ministry of Fish Wealth (MoFW) offices before start of implementation □ All partners <u>MUST consider fishing community preferences</u>
Total					342,000	

Notes:

1. Although all prices above are actual prices at the time of developing these guidelines; it is worth noting that the prices (YER equivalent) may change by the time you are developing your projects. Therefore, consider these prices as guide for your



project costing. It is highly recommended that you conduct a market assessment to determine the correct prices per the season and project locations.

2. Partners **SHOULD** not offer prices over and above the prevailing market prices when purchasing seeds directly from farmers. This can distort markets and cause flash inflation leading to further price increments
3. Direct purchase should be considered only after a thorough assessment and it is ascertained there are enough seeds within the community. You should seek approval from local MAI officials before purchasing directly from farmers.
4. Ensure all seeds are certified or inspected by MAI.