

FSAC Monthly Meeting
Virtual meeting, 23 August 2021
Minutes of Meeting

Type of meeting	FSAC monthly meeting
Date & Location	Monday, 23 August 2021, Kabul, 10:00AM – 12:30 PM
Chairperson	FSAC
Note taker	FSAC
Attendees	65 partners

Meeting Agenda

Min	Action Item	Responsible Party
1	Update on food insecurity situation in the country	FSAC/Partners
2	Update on partners planned response and available food stock	Partners
3	Discussion on CERF and AHF 3rd reserve allocation	FSAC
4	AoB; - Update on SFSA - Women involvement - Updates of the partners	FSAC/Partners

Meeting Minutes

Minutes No	Agenda	Facilitator
1	Action Points of previous meeting	FSAC
<p>Action points from previous FSAC meeting were reviewed. The update of action points is as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Keep FSAC partners informed on progress of SFSA 2021- <i>ongoing activity</i>. 2. Holding Agriculture and Livelihood's Working Group meeting <i>pending – meeting to be called for 1st week of October 2021</i>. 		

Minutes No	Agenda	Facilitator
2	Update on food insecurity situation in the country	FSAC/Partners
<p>FSAC partners provided updates on the food security situation</p> <p>West Region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizations such as UN agencies, Humanitarian organizations and some NGOs had a meeting with the Taliban authorities. The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan have welcomed them and showed commitment for supporting implementation of projects. The Taliban informed them to proceed the current projects. For the new projects, Taliban should be contacted for permission and formal procedure. • Women are not allowed to start working until further notice. 		

- Question on how to perform assessment and interview with affected women without female enumerators was raised. Taliban did not provide a clear answer but said this issue is going to be discussed with their high authorities.
- Markets in Herat are open, however, the prices are high because traders are not importing much as the Afghani is getting down.
- Borders with Iran and Turkmenistan are also operating normally.
- Access to all directions of Herat is fine, no security concern in the area and partners can access all locations easily.
- Banks are still closed and this is creating a big challenge for all people, implementation of projects and office operations. No one can transfer money inside or outside the country which affects implementation of projects.
- Most of the IDPs have started to return to their homes and some to Herat City.

Eastern Region:

- Implementing partners had technical meetings with Taliban who welcomed and appreciated the work partners are doing.
- Market prices are getting higher in last two weeks.
- Implementing agencies can work in East region normally and the Taliban provided their contact number. Moreover.
- Women are not allowed to work for now and requested organizations to wait for further notice.
- It was added that there were few assurances in the term of continuation with agriculture related activities give their season criticality with seasonal cultivation ahead of the winter planting season, second, it is also assured that in case anyone need any kind of access related letter it will be provided, and partners can request, and the letter will be provided by DAIL director.

South Region:

- The situation in south is same as other regions.
- Speen Boldak and Nimroz borders are open, and situation is normal.
- Meetings with NGO's representative and governor level have been conducted.
- Overall, their attitude toward NGOs and humanitarian assistance is positive.
- Issues regarding banks and female staff are same as other regions.

Central Region:

- Banks are closed and women are still not allowed to work.
- Most of offices and their operations are on hold.

Northeast Region:

- In Badakhshan partners reported that they cannot operate effectively due to bank closure and stopping women to work.
- Taliban do not have any specific uniform, so it is not easy to differentiate the Taliban and robbers which has created concerns among people. Some staff are going to offices and their senior are not going to office.
- In Takhar, Taliban allowed women to work conditionally with Mahram, and the project related to women such as kitchen gardening are allowed for implementation.

- Women led organizations are concerned about their operations. There were discussions about changing the name of organization, but it was advised that changing name might not help as Taliban have banned women from working.

Minutes No	Agenda	Facilitator
3	Update on partners planned response and available food stock	Partners

Partners did provide information on this agenda point in the meeting, but it was requested to share information via email.

Action Point: Partners will share the information on the planned response and food stock availability with FSAC.

Minutes No	Agenda	Facilitator
4	Discussion on CERF and AHF 3rd reserve allocation	FSAC

- CERF allocation is under the discussion and its application yet to be developed and submitted to CERF Secretariat.
- The needs have increased and partners access situation has also changed, so the targeted areas may change accordingly.
- According to the CERF manual, the funding will go only to UN agencies and NGOs will not be eligible to apply.
- AHF allocation will again be a reserve allocation, and only the pre-selected partners will be able to submit a proposal as such. FSAC will do a gap analysis and select the most vulnerable areas where the response has been provided the least so far in the year. After we finalize the gap analysis, FSAC will reach to new partners which are not selected and will ask them to submit a proposal. The additional funding is not yet promised and there is no guarantee that FSAC will receive more fund from AHF, however, we undergo this process to make sure everything is ready if more funding becomes available.

Action point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partners will be updated on CERF and AHF allocation
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AoB

Minutes No	Agenda	Action
5	Update on the SFSA	FSAC will ask from the partners about their contribution and reconfirmation in SFSA due to changing the situation and coming new regime.
	Women involvement	Women permission for work is not clear and will be discussed in HAG
	Updates	FSAC partners should share any update they have regarding the situation, challenges, access, barriers share with FSAC
	Date of next meeting	Next FSAC meeting will be conducted on 3rd week of September. Exact date to be confirmed.