Food Security and Agriculture Cluster in Afghanistan

Monthly meeting
May 2021
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Presenting Agency</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Review of the previous action points</td>
<td>FSAC</td>
<td>5 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Presentation on climate outlook</td>
<td>FEWSNET</td>
<td>20 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Monitoring the Impact of COVID-19 &amp; other Shocks on Agricultural Livelihoods and Food Security</td>
<td>FAO</td>
<td>25 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>An AAP and FSAC introduction: Being accountable to your project participants</td>
<td>AAP</td>
<td>25 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Overview of Conflict Mitigation Assistance for Civilians program (COMAC) Programme</td>
<td>Blumont</td>
<td>20 min</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Mahram guidelines update</td>
<td>FSAC</td>
<td>10 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>AoB; - Update on next AHF 1st standard allocation</td>
<td>FSAC</td>
<td>5 min</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- AWG members/nominated partners/ issues to be discussed in the AWG</td>
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<td>- Reports of displacement due to fighting in Eastern Afghanistan</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- FSAC advocacy paper</td>
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<td>- Update of SFSA 2021</td>
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<td>- Date of next meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>AP/N</td>
<td>ACTION POINTS</td>
<td>RESPONSIBLE PARTY</td>
<td>TIMELINE</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>FSAC will share the final version ToR of AWG with all partners.</td>
<td>FSAC</td>
<td>April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>FSAC will send an email to all partners asking their interest to be part of AWG.</td>
<td>FSAC</td>
<td>April</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
National FSAC Meeting

FEWS NET UPDATES

May 26, 2021
Outline

- Wet season progress
- Assumptions
- Short term forecast
Wet season progress
Wet season precipitation

Source: UCSB Climate Hazards Center
Above average precipitation last three months in eastern Afghanistan

Source: UCSB Climate Hazards Center
Poor performance in the southwest and recovery due to recent precipitation in the central and northeast

Rootzone Soil Moisture Percentile : 20210525

Source: NASA LIS Framework

Afghanistan
eMODIS 250m Percent of Median NDVI
Period 14 / May 11 - 20, 2021

Map Produced by USGS/EROS
Widespread below average SWE, though a recovery in the last two months in east and northeast.

Source: USGS/USAID/FEWS NET

Source: NASA LIS Framework
Recent precipitation has led to above average streamflow in east and northeast.
Below average precipitation to end the wet season
Assumptions
Assumption 1: temperatures

According to NMME, C3S, and WMO ensemble forecasts, **above-average mean temperatures are most likely throughout most of the country through September 2021** while average mean temperatures are most likely from October 2021 to January 2022. However, below-average minimum temperatures remain possible in localized areas.
Temperatures: July – September

Probabilistic Multi-Model Ensemble Forecast
Beijing, CPTEC, ECMWF, Exeter, Melbourne, Montreal, Seoul, Toulouse, Washington

2m Temperature: JAS2021
(issued on May 2021)
Temperatures: October – December
Assumption 2: snow water volume

Snow water volume is at or near record minimum levels in many basins in the south and southwest. Snowpack and snow water volumes are expected to continue to decline, as is typical in the spring, and remain below average in these areas. As a result of these factors, flooding risk is expected to be below-average. Continued snowmelt and early depletion of snow is likely to reduce water availability in downstream areas for the main season and will limit water availability for second season crops.
Assumption 3: dry season precipitation

According to C3S, NMME, and WMO ensemble forecasts, precipitation during the dry season period from June to September 2021 is most likely to be average across most of the country.
Seasonal forecast: July – September
Assumption 4: late 2021 precipitation

According to NMME and WMO ensemble forecasts, precipitation during the beginning of the 2021/22 precipitation season from October 2021 to January 2022 is most likely to be below average. However, given the long lead time, a variety of outcomes are possible.
Seasonal forecast: October – December
Assumption 5: rangeland vegetative conditions

Given current significantly below average NDVI values in most lower elevation rangeland areas as of May 10-20, 2021, rangeland vegetative conditions are likely below average in lower elevation areas of the country.

Given expectations for above-average temperatures through September and below-average precipitation during the beginning of the 2021/22 precipitation season, rangeland vegetative conditions in lower elevation areas are likely to remain below average through January 2022. In higher elevation areas where NDVI values are currently predominantly above average, above-average temperatures and early snowmelt are likely to contribute to average pasture conditions emerging during the summer dry season.
Afghanistan Rangeland Areas
eMODIS 250m Percent of Median NDVI
Period 14 / May 11 - 20, 2021
Assumption 6: drought conditions

Based on most recent 18-pentad SPI+forecast, seasonal SPI+forecast, current soil moisture conditions, and current NDVI values, meteorological and agricultural drought conditions are likely ongoing across parts of the west, south, and north and are likely to continue through September 2021.
SPI and soil moisture conditions in Afghanistan
Assumption 7: wheat production

Wheat production is most likely to be below average across most of the country but near average in central and eastern parts of the country, though some exceptions are anticipated.
Short term forecast
Drier weather to prevail in most parts of Afghanistan

Week 1 forecast (week ending June 1)

Week 2 forecast (week ending June 08)

Source: NOAA CPC
Questions
Monitoring the Impact of COVID-19 & other Shocks on Agricultural Livelihoods and Food Security

AFGHANISTAN

ROUND 2

May 2021
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</table>
Agricultural Livelihoods & Food Security in the Context of COVID-19 and other Shocks in Afghanistan

**ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES**
- Provide Data to Guide Strategic Decisions.
- Provide monitoring data and information to support evidence-based programme design.
- Inform Analytical Processes such as the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) and the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO).

**DESIGN & METHODOLOGY**
Following R1 (Oct 2020), R2 data collection conducted in February 2021 undertaking mixed methodology including household survey and Key Informant Interview with Agriculture Extension officers and Agriculture Input Vendors using face to face interview modality.

**Household Survey Sample**
The household sampling adhered to NSIA and SFSA 2020 Sampling Frame – Two Stage Cluster Approach
- Admin 1 - Provincial Level: Within each province, equally allocated 30 clusters (20*30=600 clusters)
- Admin 2 - Household Level: Selected 12 households per cluster (600*12= 7,200)

**Key Informant Interview Sample**
- One agriculture extension officer and two Agriculture Input Vendor in each targeted district

**ANALYSIS AND SURVEY WEIGHTS**
Population weights have been computed at the analysis stage to ensure that agricultural households from each province are proportionately represented based on their selection probabilities in the overall estimates. SPSS & STATA were used for data analysis.
Agricultural Livelihoods & Food Security in the Context of COVID-19 and other Shocks in Afghanistan

### Income Sources of Surveyed Households [over past three months]

- **Sale of Field Crops**: 62%
- **Sale of Livestock & Livestock Products**: 18%
- **Agricultural Wage Labor**: 3%
- **Non-agricultural Wage Labor**: 2%
- **Sale of Orchard Products**: 4%
- **Self-Employed**: 3%
- **No income Source**: 3%

### Proportion of Surveyed Households Experienced Different Shocks

- **Income losses**
  - Reduction in Production: 65%
  - Increased Prices: 55%
  - Death/ Sickness in HH: 54%
  - Insecurity/ Conflict: 45%
  - Crop/ Livestock Loss: 37%
  - Higher Production costs: 28%
  - Natural Hazard: 25%
  - Restriction Measures: 20%
  - Reduction Access to Credit: 18%
  - Lost Employment: 10%

### Proportion of Surveyed Households Faced Shocks [past three months]

- **46%**

### Proportion of Households Reported Income changes Compared to Same Period Last Year

- **Marginally Decreased [5-20%]**
- **Significantly Decreased [20-50%]**
- **Drastically Decreased [>50%]**
- **Marginally Increased [5-20%]**
- **Significantly Increased [>20%]**
- **Not changed**

The highest (91 percent) households in Ghazni reported sale of field crops as their main source of income over past three months. Sale of livestock and livestock products was cited by 40 percent households from Helmand. Agriculture wage labor was reported by 19 percent households in Kandahar. Non-agriculture wage labor reported by 32 percent households from Kunar. Sale of orchard products reported by 15 percent households from Kabul. Self-employed reported by 15 percent households from Nimroz and No income source during over past three months was cited by 16 percent households in Parwan.

Income loss the highest (82 percent) was reported from Takhar and Farah Provinces. Reduction in own production cited by 80 percent households in Farah. 81 percent households in Paktika reported increased prices. Death/sickness in household (either as the result of COVID-19 or other reasons) the highest (99 percent) was reported from Kandahar. Insecurity/ conflict the highest (78 percent) was reported from Zabul. 72 percent households in Faryab reported Crop/ livestock loss. Higher production costs the highest (64 percent) was reported from Zabul and Natural hazard the highest (48 percent) was reported from Parwan.

The highest (68 percent) households in Nangarhar reported their income marginally decreased [5-20%]. 73 percent households in Parwan reported their income Significantly decreased [20-50%] and 40 percent households in Kabul reported their income Drastically decreased [>50%].
Crop Production & Difficulties

Main Winter Crops Reported by Surveyed Households

- Wheat: 84%
- Fruit: 6%
- Potato: 3%
- Vegetables: 3%
- Maize: 6%
- Rice: 0%
- Barley: 10%
- Other: 20%

Main Winter Crops Reported by Surveyed Households

- Wheat: 84%
- Fruit: 6%
- Potato: 3%
- Vegetables: 3%
- Maize: 6%
- Rice: 0%
- Barley: 10%
- Other: 20%

Winter Crops Stages

- Growing: Wheat 66%, Fruit 53%, Potato 73%, Vegetables 42%
- Not in season: Wheat 3%, Fruit 47%, Potato 27%, Vegetables 58%
- Land preparation: Wheat 0%, Fruit 10%, Potato 30%, Vegetables 60%
- Planting: Wheat 10%, Fruit 20%, Potato 40%, Vegetables 50%
- Harvesting: Wheat 80%, Fruit 30%, Potato 10%, Vegetables 20%
- Maturing: Wheat 20%, Fruit 10%, Potato 10%, Vegetables 10%

Proportion of Households Faced Difficulties in Crop Production [past three months]

- Wheat: 77%
- Barley: 70%
- Vegetables: 64%
- Fruit: 63%
- Maize: 59%
- Potato: 24%
- Rice: 15%

Proportion of Households Planted Area Compared to Last Year

- Same area: 21%
- Lesser area: 40%
- Substantially less area: 30%
- Larger area: 8%
- Has not been able to plant this season: 2%

The highest (67 percent) households in Nanagar reported planted same area. Lesser area reported by 48 percent households in Ghor. Substantially less area was cited by 22 percent in Zabul, and larger area reported by 41 percent households from Kandahar. Furthermore, in range of lesser areas wheat, vegetable and fruit producers planted less area compared to last year.

Surveyed Households in Zabul, Faryab, Helmand, Farah and Herat reported the highest proportion of faced difficulties with crop production in the past three months.
Agricultural Livelihoods & Food Security in the Context of COVID-19 and other Shocks in Afghanistan

Proportion of Main Difficulties in Crop Production by Crop Types

- Drought/Dryspell
- Access to Fertilizers/Pesticides
- Access to Seeds
- Outbreak of Pests/Diseases
- Lower irrigation than usual
- Lack of Perspective on Possibility to sell Products
- Sickness/Death in the HH
- Labour too Expensive/income insuff. to hire
- Storms
- Labour not available
- Heavy Rains/Floods
- Access to land contrained by containment measures

Proportion of Main Difficulties in Crop Production by Province

- Balkh
- Bamiyan
- Farah
- Faryab
- Ghazni
- Ghor
- Helmand
- Herat
- Jawzjan
- Kabul
- Kandahar
- Kunar
- Kunduz
- Nangarhar
- Nimroz
- Paktika
- Parwan
- Takhar
- Wardak
- Zabul

- Drought/Dryspell
- Access to Fertilizers/Pesticides
- Access to Seeds
- Outbreak of Pests/Diseases
- Lower Irrigation than usual
- Lack of Perspective on Possibility to sell Products
- Sickness/Death in the HH
- Labour too Expensive/income insuff. to hire
- Storms
- Labour not available
- Heavy Rains/Floods
- Access to land contrained by containment measures
The highest and the lowest proportion of households faced difficulties accessing seeds over past three months was most cited in Helmand and Kunar provinces, respectively.

Higher prices of seed was cited by 83 percent households in Nangarhar. 78 percent households from Ghor reported insufficient income to buy seeds. 58 percent households in Ghazni reported poor quality of seeds. Not availability of seeds was cited by 52 households in Jawzjan. Unavailability of seeds from local markets was reported by 40 percent of households in Paktika. 21 percent household in Bamyan reported seed are not available from vendors.

Production expectation by crop types reveals that 33 percent of wheat producers expect lower [up to 25% lower], followed by 26 percent much lower [25-50 %] and 14 percent very much lower [50-75%]. Vegetable producers expect 34 percent much lower [25 to 50%), followed by 31 percent lower [up to 25%] and 21 percent lower [up to 25%].

Surveyed Households who were in the land preparation stage and not in season have reported not having seeds for next season. The proportion across the provinces depict that crop producers in Balkh, Faryab, Heart, Nimroz, Takhar, Nangarhar and Ghor were not having enough seeds to plant.
Shocks Affecting Crop Production

- Expect a Decrease Compared to Last Year

- Farmers having Difficulties Accessing Seeds

- Expect Decrease by Crop Types

- Expect Decrease by Range

- Farmers having Difficulties Accessing Seeds

- Coping Mechanism for Not Having Seed

- Purchase of low quality seeds
- Late sowing
- Reduced planted area
Livestock Production

Main Animals Raised
- Cattle/Yak: 40%
- Small ruminants: 53%
- Currently Not Keeping Animal: 2%
- Poultry: 8%
- Horse/Donkey: 9%

Faced Difficulties in Livestock Production
- 82% faced difficulties

Types of Difficulties Faced
- Access to Water: 22%
- Access to Feed: 31%
- Access to Veterinary Services and Inputs: 39%
- Access to Pasture: 8%

Cited Reasons Facing Difficulties to Access Feed
- Prices higher than usual: 39%
- Income insufficient to purchase: 39%
- Not able to access market to purchase: 39%
- Not available from usual vendor: 39%

Cited Reasons Facing Difficulties to Access Veterinary Services
- Prices higher than usual: 28%
- Income insufficient to access service: 25%
- No veterinary service available: 23%
- Not able to access service provider: 15%
- Not available from usual service provider: 9%

Cited Reasons having fewer animals now compared to the same month last year
- Distress sales for urgent cash needed: 21%
- Sold animals to buy food for households: 16%
- Sold animals because unable to feed them: 10%
- Higher mortality due to lack of veterinary services: 10%
- Culled animals for household consumption: 10%
- Better sales than usual: 22%
Agricultural Livelihoods & Food Security in the Context of COVID-19 and other Shocks in Afghanistan

Livestock Production Agri. Extension Officer KII

Most Important Production in this season
- Milk: 76%
- Meat: 73%
- Eggs: 45%
- Leather/Wool: 32%

Shocks Affecting Livestock Production
- 84%

Expect Decrease this season Compared to a Normal Year
- 78%

Expect Decrease by Range
- 10 to 25%
- 25 to 50%
- Less than 10%
- More than 50%

Decrease Range by Production Types
- Eggs: 26%
- Milk: 47%
- Leather/Wool: 42%
- Meat: 46%

Types of Shocks
- Livestock disease: 69%
- Lack of regular veterinary services: 65%
- Lack of feed: 64%
- Lack of pasture and water: 52%
- Conflict or insecurity: 42%
- Economic disruptions: 42%
- Covid-19 pandemic: 19%
- Livestock movement (transhumance) restricted: 19%

FMD, FMG, Pox, PTR, PPR, SMD, Anthrax, brucellosis, Jaundice, Newcastle, Contagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP) were the cited animal disease reported by agriculture extension officers.

Livestock movement [transhumance] restricted

Households Destocking Animals
- 90%
Faced Difficulties to sell [crop/livestock] Production

- Prices are too low: 28%
- Demand is lower than usual: 13%
- Traders are not coming to buy production: 14%
- Constrained access to market: 15%
- Security: 24%

Gave Away Part of Production Due to lack of marketing and storage capacity

- Cost of transportation is higher: 28%
- Security: 13%
- Constrained Access to Market: 14%
- Traders are not coming to buy Production: 15%
- Low Demand: 24%

How Sold Products Compared to Last year at the Same Period

- Lower [up to 20% lower]: 50%
- Much lower [over 20% lower]: 27%
- Higher [up to 20% higher]: 3%
- Much higher [over 20% higher]: 12%
- Same or around same: 46%

How Sold Products Compared to Last Year by Province

- Lower [up to 20% lower]: 50%
- Much lower [over 20% lower]: 27%
- Higher [up to 20% higher]: 3%
- Much higher [over 20% higher]: 12%
- Same or around same: 46%
Agricultural Livelihoods & Food Security in the Context of COVID-19 and other Shocks in Afghanistan

Farmers Having issues to Market their Production [over past three months] - 86%

Farmers Found Alternative Marketing Channels - 57%

Movement Restrictions related to COVID-19 Created Tensions or Disputes:
- Restrictions in the selling of agriculture products at farmgate level caused tension/disputes - 67%
- Restrictions in access to agriculture inputs caused tension/disputes - 64%
- Restrictions in access to agricultural markets caused tension/disputes - 57%
- Restrictions in access to livestock markets caused tension/disputes - 44%

Farm Gate Prices for Main Crops:
- Much higher - 39%
- Slightly higher - 30%
- A bit lower than usual - 18%
- Much lower than usual - 5%
- Same as usual - 8%

Producers’ Prices for Most Important Livestock:
- Much higher - 36%
- Slightly higher - 28%
- A bit lower than usual - 15%
- Much lower than usual - 18%
- Same as usual - 2%

Level of Food Availability in the Area Compared Last Year:
- A bit lower than usual - 40%
- Much lower than usual - 18%
- Same as usual - 14%
- Slightly higher - 15%
- Much higher - 8%
## Agricultural Livelihoods & Food Security in the Context of COVID-19 and other Shocks in Afghanistan

### Products Input Vendors Sell

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Veterinary drugs</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fertilizers and Chemicals</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seeds</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock feed</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Livestock equipment</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farming tools and equipment</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seedlings/saplings</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Changes in the Demand from Clients compared last year

- Lower quantities purchased: 35%
- Less clients than usual: 34%
- Cheaper products purchased: 16%
- Different types of products purchased: 10%
- No change in demand: 5%

### Changes in the overall Quantities of Seeds Sold Compared to Last Year

- A bit lower quantities: 12%
- Much lower quantities: 6%
- Same quantities: 19%
- Higher quantities: 63%

### Business Affected by COVID-19 Restriction

- Business restrictions due to Covid-19: 53%
- Higher operating costs: 34%
- Insufficient supply: 33%
- Clients are not able to access the...: 32%
- Respondent or household member...: 21%
- No particular difficulty: 15%

### Clients asking for “buy on credit” More than usual

- 93%

### Level of Sales Decreased Compared Last Year

- 74%
Proportion of Households Food Items Consumption in Lesser Quantity [over the past three months]

- Meat/Poultry: 74%
- Fruits: 69%
- Vegetables: 46%
- Sugar/Porridge: 37%
- Egg: 31%
- Pulses/Nuts: 31%
- Cereals: 30%
- Milk & Milk products: 28%
- Oil/fats: 24%
- Roots & Tubers: 19%
- Condiments: 16%

Proportion of surveyed agricultural households adopting coping strategies by income changes

- Consume seeds: 85%
- Spend savings: 76%
- Sell more animals: 88%
- Send HH member away: 93.6%
- Borrow food: 91.6%

Coping Mechanisms

- Consume seeds: 84.2%
- Spend savings: 84.8%
- Sell more animals: 84.4%
- Send HH member away: 93.6%
- Borrow food: 91.6%

Most Affected Farmers or Livestock Keepers by COVID-19, Compared to Overall Farming Population [KII]

- Irrigated farmers: 32%
- Casual/seasonal workers: 10%
- Women-headed households: 11%
- Small ruminants keepers: 13%
- Cattle herders: 16%
- Rainfed farmers: 17%
- Other: 2%
### Key Impacts of La Niña induced Drought/Dry spell

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Impact Description</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reported warmer than usual temperature</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative effects observed on pasture growing conditions and livestock health</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative effects observed on the planting and growing conditions cereal crops</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rain-fed farmer were able to cultivate during last three months</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deviations from typical rainfall and snowfall observed</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverse conditions observed in terms of higher frost/hail/drier conditions</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverse coping actions being taken by farmers or livestock keepers</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter grains and seasonal rains sufficiently replenished soil moisture</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precipitation partially eased soil moisture deficits</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
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- Negative effects observed on pasture growing conditions and livestock health.
- Deviations from typical rainfall and snowfall observed.
- Adverse conditions observed in terms of higher frost/hail/drier conditions.
- Adverse coping actions being taken by farmers or livestock keepers.
- Winter grains and seasonal rains sufficiently replenished soil moisture.
- Precipitation partially eased soil moisture deficits.
### Agricultural Livelihoods & Food Security in the Context of COVID-19 and other Shocks in Afghanistan

**BIGGEST Needs for Crop Production**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Seeds</th>
<th>Fertilizer</th>
<th>Pesticides</th>
<th>Tools</th>
<th>Marketing support</th>
<th>Cash assistance</th>
<th>Loans</th>
<th>Information on safety measures to carry agricultural work in context of Covid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balkh</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bamyan</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>67%</td>
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<td>Farah</td>
<td>97%</td>
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<td>89%</td>
<td>62%</td>
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<td>90%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>8%</td>
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<td>Ghazni</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>41%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ghor</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>58%</td>
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**BIGGEST Needs for Animal Herding**

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Next Steps

Monitoring Report
June 2021

Global Data Hub Dashboards
June/July 2021

Next Round
July/August 2021
FAO COVID-19 Data in Emergencies Hub
Thematic Dashboard

Summary Dashboard
Crop Production Dashboard
Livestock Production Dashboard
Food Security & Livelihoods Dashboard
Value Chains & Markets Dashboard
Needs Dashboard
“Thank You”
AAP 101

Learning how to integrate Accountability to Affected People into your organization and its programming | 1. Overview

A pilot curriculum for the Food Security and Agriculture Cluster in Afghanistan | 26 May 2021

Carolyn Davis, OCHA Afghanistan
AAP Advisor
Your first quiz: What is Accountability to Affected People?

1. Teacher, you’ve got it wrong – it’s Accountability to Affected Populations

2. ??

3. ??

4. ??
Definition

AAP is an active commitment by humanitarian actors and organizations to use power responsibly by taking account of, giving account to and being held to account by the people they seek to assist

– Inter-Agency Standing Committee
What do all these ‘accounts’ mean?

• *Taking account of*: Listening to the people who need humanitarian assistance and using their input to inform decision-making; meaningful community engagement

• *Giving account to*: Transparency and honesty; information provision; closing the loop by reporting results

• *Being held to account*: Crisis-affected Afghans have a right to expect that humanitarian workers will do no harm – PSEA and corruption
Pillars of AAP

- Participation
- Information provision and communication
- Feedback and complaint mechanisms
- PSEA
- Strengthening local capacity
- Evidence base
- Coordination and partnership
Global commitments

IASC Commitments: AAP/Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

1. **Leadership** demonstrate commitment to AAP and PSEA through enforcing, institutionalizing and integrating AAP approaches and establishing appropriate systems and mechanisms to solicit, hear and act upon the voices and priorities of people vulnerable to or affected by crisis.

2. **Participation and partnership:** Adopt agency mechanisms that feed into and support collective/coordinated people-centered approaches that enable women, girls, boys, men, including the “furthest behind’ to play an active role in decisions – strengthen local actors to build upon their long-term relationships and trust with communities.

3. **Information, feedback and Action:** Adopt agency mechanisms that feed into and support collective approaches that inform and listen to communities, address feedback and lead to corrective action including PSEA.

4. **Results:** establish mechanisms and systematically measure AAP- and PSEA-related results at agency and collective levels using set benchmarks and standards such as the CHS and Minimum Operating Standards on PSEA.
More global commitments

• Grand Bargain Workstream 6: the Participation Revolution Commitments

• Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) on Quality and Accountability
Global commitments

Core Humanitarian Standard

Communities and people affected by crisis

1. Humanitarian response is appropriate and relevant.
2. Humanitarian response is effective and timely.
3. Humanitarian response strengthens local capacities and avoids negative effects.
4. Humanitarian response is based on communication, participation and feedback.
5. Complaints are welcomed and addressed.
6. Humanitarian response is coordinated and complementary.
7. Humanitarian actors continuously learn and improve.
8. Staff are supported to do their job effectively, and are treated fairly and equitably.
9. Resources are managed and used responsibly for their intended purpose.
Country-level commitments

The Afghanistan Humanitarian Response Plan 2018-2021 (January 2021 revision)
• The response will also continue to emphasize the importance of expanding AAP work …”

Humanitarian Country Team Compact (July 2019):
• “HCT members commit to ensuring that affected people are at the centre of any humanitarian response.”

A Collective Approach to Community Engagement (March 2019)
• Support the coordination of the provision of information to affected communities about humanitarian agencies through existing and localized coordination fora
• Support the coordination and implementation of agencies in integrating the views of affected communities into decision making including handling issues that span the ‘Triple Nexus’
• Support partners in enabling affected communities to assess and comment on HCT agencies’ performance including on sensitive issues such as sexual exploitation and abuse by those associated with the provision of their aid and assistance
Which people do we put at the centre of the response?

- Women, men, boys and girls, with different needs, priorities, vulnerabilities and capacities who are facing situations of poverty, deprivation, and risks or are adversely affected by conflict, disasters or other emergencies.

- This includes people and groups that are at risk of discrimination, marginalisation, deprivation or other vulnerabilities such as people with disabilities, minorities, etc. *Who are such groups in Afghanistan?*
Power and power dynamics
Give a common word that humanitarian workers use that reflects the power imbalance
Beneficiary

Beneficiary

Beneficiary
AAP Objectives

• The humanitarian response is informed by the views of affected people

• Information exchange through two-way communication channels for crisis-affected people/communities

• Involves regular collection and analysis of feedback on community needs, perceptions and complaints, assessments of community priorities/information needs/communication preferences

• Communities have the information and communication channels they need to make informed decisions

• People affected by crisis in Afghanistan are able to hold humanitarian responders to account – they know they have a right to make complaints, give other feedback and ask questions, and to expect aid responders to act on their feedback
Second Quiz

Question: How do organizations and programming strive to achieve these objective?

Answer: Communication and community engagement
What is communication and community engagement?

Is the part of a humanitarian response that believes that communication is an essential form of aid.

Goes by many names, including C4D, CwC, CCE and CEA

Prioritises sharing actionable and life-saving information with people affected by crises using two-way communication channels so aid providers can listen to and act on people’s needs, suggested solutions, feedback and complaints

Empowers people receiving assistance to assess, comment on organizations’ performance, and have a say in decisions that affect them

Uses formats and languages that crisis-affected people prefer for giving information to humanitarian responders and getting information from them
AAP and Communication and Community Engagement (CCE)

The relationship between the two

CCE is the vehicle that gets us to our destination

AAP is the destination/goal

- Feedback mechanism
- Input in decisions
- IEC material
- Face2Face
- Perception surveys
- Audio-Video
- FGDs
- Hotlines/SMS
We’ll stop there

Questions? Comments? Suggestions for other topics to cover?
This inter-agency presentation includes adapted content from:

UNICEF’s Accountability to Affected Populations training for its staff in Afghanistan and worldwide

The COVID-19 RCCE Working Group in Afghanistan’s risk communication and community engagement

The OCHA AAP advisor in Afghanistan’s presentations to clusters, working groups, the HCT and the ICCT

For more information on this training module contact OCHA AAP advisor Carolyn Davis at: carolyn.davis@un.org
Food Security and Agriculture Cluster in Afghanistan

Mahram guidelines update
Guideline for developing Mahram Policy

Background
• Local context and cultural sensitivity
• Requiring to travel with a family member as Mahram

Purpose
• Enable women’s mobility and travel to field sites
• Promote secure access to and acceptance by the communities

Definition of Mahram
• A male relative who is often required to accompany women when travelling or moving outside the home
• Mahram can be husband, father, grandfather, son, grandson, brother, son-in-law, father-in-law, uncle or nephew
• Mahram is to honour, protect and provide special care to women.

Mahram Criteria
• Should be at least 18 years old
• Should be physically and mentally prepared and understand the obligations of being a mahram
Essential Mahram’s documents to be submitted
• NID
• Marriage certificate (if applicable)

Mahram costs
• Accommodation
• Transportation
• Domestic flight
• Meal

Rules to be followed by Mahram/commitment form
• Not allowed to participate in official meetings, seminars and workshops
• Observe organization’s code of conduct and security measures
• Not disclose that information
• Not act as organization’s representative
• Fill in a waiver form releasing organization from any liability claims related to accidents or security prior to travel
• No medical allowance or health coverage
AOB

- Update on next AHF 1st standard allocation
- AWG members/nominated partners/ issues to be discussed in the AWG
- Reports of displacement due to fighting in Eastern Afghanistan
- FSAC advocacy paper
- Update of SFSA 2021
- Date of next meeting
Thanks 😊

FSAC contact: [Javedkhan.Bazargkheil@fao.org](mailto:Javedkhan.Bazargkheil@fao.org)