



## FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER MEETING

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>Wednesday, 30 November 2022</b>
<b>TIME</b>	<b>03:00 pm – 04:30 pm</b>
<b>VENUE</b>	<b>Hybrid: In- person and online through ZOOM</b>

### AGENDA

1. Update from the CERF Joint monitoring mission and the inter-cluster meeting.
2. Presentation from the WFP VAM unit on mVAM and market monitoring.
3. Presentation from FAO on Data in emergencies, 6th round findings.
4. Cyclone preparedness for the probable cyclone.
5. Final 4W reports of the Flash flood response
6. AOB

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### SUMMARY OF ACTION POINTS

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- FSC to raise prevailing issues on common beneficiaries, drinking water challenges, mobile water purification system etc. in the next inter- cluster workplan meeting (UNRCO)
- FSC to share WFP Presentation document on mVAM and market monitoring
- FSC to conduct DFP orientation and district level cluster meetings
- FSC to share the START Network contingency plan
- FSC to re- share online 4W spreadsheet link with partners for collecting the remaining inputs
- FSC to communicate with GFSC coordinator and Rome based colleagues related to global IPC to support on the next IPC acute analysis, FAO to communicate with DG FPMU on the same

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### DISCUSSION

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#### 0. WELCOME TO THE MEETING AND APPROVAL OF THE LAST MEETING MINUTES

The Food Security Cluster Coordinator welcomed everyone to the meeting. The meeting started with a round of introduction. The action points from the last meeting were mentioned and upon agreement from the participants, the minutes was approved.

## **1. UPDATE FROM THE CERF JOINT MONITORING MISSION AND THE INTER CLUSTER MEETING**

FSC has participated the Joint CERF monitoring mission with UNOCHA during 20- 23 November 2022 at Sunamganj along with WASH, Nutrition, GBV cluster. The summary and the key findings on Food Security perspective is below:

- DC Sunamganj requested for long term assistance for Sunamganj since it is a level 4 disaster prone haor area. Beside this, considering the remote location and limited access to Sunamganj, a need for a contingency stock of food and cash for immediate response was also discussed.
- To understand more on the vulnerability, an assessment preferably an IPC Acute analysis has been proposed.
- There has been an observation to strengthen the common beneficiary list and complement multi cluster approach such as Food Security, WASH and Nutrition etc. The HHs receiving food assistance did not access to safe drinking water resulting other assistance ineffective. SAM recovered child needed supplementary food assistance and were discharged from health facilities after recovering only 50% etc.
- Complaint and feedback mechanism needs to be improved to a hotline toll free call system
- There were some deviations observed on the agencies maintaining CERF objectives and agency mandates.
- Community engagement and communication with the communities needs to enhance since community people are not capable to identify their priority need and prevailing risks.

The Nutrition Cluster Coordinator also shared his experience during the field mission and agreed to the fact that Food Security, Nutrition, WASH etc. Cluster should complement multi cluster approach to ensure response accomplishment. FSC Coordinator responded to the queries asked by partners and ensured that clusters will be internally discussing on strengthening the multi cluster approach. He also mentioned that Nutrition Cluster can share the list of SAM recovered children so that they will be assisted with 3-6 month's supplementary food to ensure sustainable recovery.

There was an Inter-cluster meeting held on 27 November 2022 and below is the key action points:

- NAWG is working on a Flood Response gap analysis
- UNRCO to publish Flood Response Dashboard

- CwC is transforming into Accountability to Affected Population mechanism
- RCO is working on Draft Position Paper on Anticipatory Actions

## **2. WFP PRESENTATION: mVAM AND MARKET MONITORING**

- WFP colleague presented the mVAM and Market Monitoring draft findings to the participants for October 2022.
- The new interface of the Food Security Monitoring was presented. He mentioned, two in every ten household are currently food insecure.
- 63% of the population has been relying on some coping strategies to buy food. 39% of the population has been purchasing food on credit.
- Divisional distribution of Food insecurity was mapped to show the food insecurity scenario in Bangladesh. Due to recent natural disasters, Sylhet being the highest food insecure division other divisions are high to moderate in food insecurity.
- There was also a four- month trend comparison which showed a negative trend in moderate to severely food insecure households.
- There is a large gap between households of different income groups and the households with disability are more food insecure than households without disability.
- Nutrition- wise, the consumption of Iron- rich food is alarmingly low specially for low-income households and three in ten households are not consuming adequate diet.
- The current biggest shock in food access is the food price hike. Seven in ten households have been hit by the high food price in last six months
- National overall price for LPG for cooking went down by BDT 35 per 12 liter in October 2022
- Prices of the most essential commodities exhibits an upward trend in the recent time for domestic retail markets along with non-food essentials.
- According to Ministry of Food, the local production and stock situation has been satisfactory and total import of food grain during the ongoing fiscal year up to October 2022 was around 6% lower.
- The food basket cost in October 2022 was 13.5 % higher year-on-year.

## **3. FAO PRESENTATION: DATA IN EMERGENCIES INFORMATION SYSTEM, ROUND 6**

### **RESULTS**

- FAO colleague presented the round 6 results of Data in Emergencies Information System. This system was established by FAO to collect, analyze, and disseminate data on shocks and livelihoods. DIEM monitoring informs by a country level dashboard which supports decision making by providing regularly updated information on how different shocks are affecting the livelihoods and food security of agricultural populations.

- The design and methodology, thematic areas of the system were presented briefly including shocks and income, production and marketing of crops, livestock and fisheries, Food Security indicators, Needs and recommendations.
- The round 6 findings showed that Urban and Non-Agricultural HHs are more affected by shocks. Death, sickness, Fuel, and food prices are the dominant shocks at this moment. Agricultural shocks are low frequency except for floods.
- A drop in harvest was found associated with the reduction of the area planted, also due to lack of irrigation and being affected by the floods.
- In general, there is an improvement of marketing condition. However, frequent challenges are faced by the rice sellers. Difficulties are more frequent for sales to wholesalers or retailers.
- Difficulties in purchasing cattle feed is the most cited issue among cattle and goat producers. Access to veterinary services improved for cattle but degraded for poultry
- Difficulties on fisheries mostly linked to the access to inputs like fuel in aquaculture and physical access in freshwater fishing.
- On Food Consumption, compared to October 2021 round there is an improvement and most HHs have a more diversified diet.
- On livelihood the share of HHs engaging in crisis and emergency strategies is improving very slowly.
- Over the current round, a combination of FIES result, LCSI and HDDS also indicates worse food security outcomes in Mymensingh and Rangpur. These two divisions were found to have exceptionally high prevalence of moderate and severe food insecurity.
- On Needs, farmers mentioned agricultural inputs beyond cash assistance.

FAO colleague also mentioned that they will share a brief of key findings of the round 6 with FSC partners and members.

#### **4. CYCLONE PREPAREDNESS FOR THE PROBABLE CYCLONE**

- Food Security Cluster Coordinator mentioned there has been an anticipation of a cyclone in the first week of December and showed the current live status of the depression to the participants.
- He also mentioned that the finalization of START Network Contingency Plan for Khulna, Satkhira and Patuakhali is on process. The process started by START Network comprising all local NGOs and International NGOS. After that, district level disaster management Committees were invited, and a workshop was conducted on this issue.
- FSC is also planning to conduct a district level Focal Point orientation workshop and local level FSC meeting for Barishal and Khulna Division starting from first week of December 2022. In this regard, FSC will be reaching out to all actors operating in the Barishal and Khulna Division and will plan for district level FSC orientation workshop and meeting.
- The main objectives of the events were

- Potential use of REVA and RIMA jointly to vulnerability mapping
- Stronger linkage between the government and humanitarian development actors in the food security area.
- The mission's report is prepared and cleared by the members, FSC will share the mission report to partners and upload in the FSC web site.

## 5. FINAL 4W REPORT ON FLASH FLOOD RESPONSE

- Final compilation of 4W reports on June Flash flood was presented by the FSC CC. The key figures in terms of total funding on Dry/ cooked food, distribution, livelihood and FSL Cash transfer were presented along with the total reached beneficiaries. FSC CC mentioned the numbers are yet to be finalized after finishing the compilation since there are partners still finalizing their 4W report and will share with FSC by the end of the week. He mentioned the online 4W link to the spreadsheet will be re-shared with the partners allowing them to submit or finalize their submitted figures.

## 6. AOB

- **IPC Acute Analysis:** FSC to communicate with GFSC coordinator and Rome based colleagues related to global IPC to support on the next IPC acute analysis, FAO to communicate with DG FPMU on the same. Preferably 13 to 15 districts including Cox's Bazar and coastal region as well as haor region. FSC CC mentioned due to time constraint, the IPC Acute analysis can be conducted using local capacity. On behalf of FSC, the FSC IMO will reach out to the agencies for collecting data. He requested the participants to extend their cooperation on data sharing related to IPC analysis.
- **Logistics cluster:** Logistics CC mentioned that any partner who might need any assistance regarding logistics cluster issues they can express interest to the Logistics Cluster. He also mentioned LC has been working with all the other clusters and are responsible for all types of warehouse and equipment facilities. In case of any emergency, he expressed to support all actors working in the emergencies with office accommodation, generators, and other equipment supplies. Logistics Cluster is also able to support agencies with the supply imports and local customs troubles.
- **WASH Cluster:** WASH Cluster coordinator thanked to the presenters and mentioned that this will be useful for all the clusters for coming interventions.
- FSC is planning to host a coordination meeting among the RBA to see how they can effectively reach out to the media for efficient reporting.
- **Rome Based Agencies:** discussing to do a common intervention in Rangpur division particularly in Rangpur, Gaibandha and Haors. This is still in a very initial phase and will be updated as it follows.

By thanking everyone FSC CC concluded the meeting.