|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Meeting Minutes   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Location: | Erbil/NCCI venue | | Date: | January 30, 2020 | |

# Participants

AlAghsan, ASB, BCF, CNSF, FAO, Human Appeal, Islamic Relief, Mercy Hands, NRC, WFP.

# Action points (and responsible person)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| # | Action Item | Focal Point/Organization | Timeframe |
| 1. | Provide feedback/comments on the [FSC Dashboard](http://www.arcgis.com/apps/InteractiveLegend/index.html?appid=2c7cc164517d48a4a475b4d47277064b) – no response will be considered agreement with the current version of the dashboard | All members | February 9th |
| 2. | If partners approve of the Dashboard (Action Item 1), update the Dashboard excel spreadsheet and submit to Las Rashid | All members | February 13th |
| 3. | Contemplate 2020 strategy for the FSC (i.e. what do you want out of the cluster) | All members | Next meeting |

# Discussion

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Introduction | All members introduced themselves (see participant list below) |
| FSC Updates | *FSC Dashboard*. In the previous meeting, partners asked for service mapping and, in response, the FSC developed a spatial, interactive dashboard prototype. FAO provided an overview of the dashboard capabilities, associated datasheet and Standard Operating Procedure for review (see email attachments). Partner are encouraged to include planned activities to improve coordination. Please note that the dashboard will not replace ActivityInfo – the dashboard is a supplement.  *HRP.* The HRP was published this week, but taken offline due to errors.The newest version should be available shortly. The Food Security activities will be listed in the HRP as there is no longer an OPS system. OCHA is also now using an Activity Based Costing Approach (ABC). Under this system, partners will approach donors directly with proposals aligned with the Food Security HRP strategy/activities (i.e. provision of assistance, Cash for Work and agriculture inputs/animal fodder) to receive funding. ABC is a new in Iraq, and only six other countries are using the approach. Additional information and guidance will be provided in the coming days/months. If you have any questions, reach out to the cluster coordinator.  *Access.* Access continues to be an issue for partners throughout Iraq. We have been informed that access letters will be provided only to HRP partners. Additionally, if organizations are being stopped or having their mobiles examined at checkpoints, please report either to the cluster or OCHA. |
| Partner Updates | *CNSFI*. Conducting greenhouse projects in two camps for IDPs and refugees (20 greenhouses), in addition to a second greenhouse project in Majdiya (30 greenhouses). Not all beneficiaries receive greenhouses, but some work will work within the greenhouses and sell the surplus on the market. Currently, they are reporting under both the Food Security Cluster and the Emergency Livelihoods Cluster. The coordinator clarified that the distinction is normally whether the projects are urban (i.e. EL) or rural (i.e. FSC).  *WFP.* In Mosul, the transfer modality changed in January 2020 from in-kind to cash assistance in IDP camps; however, some camps are using e-vouchers (i.e. Hammam Al Aleel) mobile money transfers (i.e. Salamiya and Khasa). The three Erbil Syrian refugee camps have experienced delays in their mobile money transfers; however, this should be resolved shortly. School feeding programs are being implemented in Kirkuk and Mosul (not in Erbil).  *BCF.* Hot meal project in Sahela is ongoing for new arrivals from Syria. In January, they distributed 5,225 baskets. Greenhouse projects are always underway in Basirma and Baqurma, which are using old infrastructure and connecting beneficiaries to internal markets.  *NRC.* A new BMZ-funded project is in the inception phase to support farmers as they reestablish farming activities in Ninewah and Kirkuk. The assessments are ongoing (i.e. market, detailed value chain and infrastructure assessments) and will present the results once they are finished. The project is targeting Sinjar, Ba’aj and Hawija in the initial phase, followed by Anbar and Salah al Din in phase two. Beyond the new project, 100 households in Basrah are receiving agricultural inputs and training.  *Islamic Relief.* Canned beef distribution was completed in Darashakran and Bardarash. Last week started the distribution for 5,331 households (3.2 kg per household). A rapid market assessment was conducted in Ninewah (specifically Sinjar, Hamdaniya and Tilkaif) – the results will be shared with the clusters. The project will focus on agriculture and livestock inputs and trainings for both men and women, with an additional component for SMEs. The project will target farmers with previous experience and coordination should be strengthened between IR and CESVI. In Wana, coordination has begun and there is an ongoing needs assessment under the IHF funded project (Food Security, Agriculture and livestock assistance). The results and challenges will be shared shortly.  *Alaghsan.* Project in Mosul is underway to distribute olive trees and provide a greenhouse awareness training.  *Organization*. Development of a digital agriculture association.  *Mercy Hands*. E-voucher and mobile money transfers are underway for 7,000 and 3,000 households respectively in Ninewa, Salah al Din, Anbar and Baghdad. An irrigation project is also ongoing and resilience projects targeting different governorates are in the proposal stage.  *Human Appeal.* WFP-funded project is ongoing to develop 46 greenhouses in Mosul university. A seed distribution project in Mosul is currently being assessed, and Al Rabia and Al Jazeera irrigation rehabilitation is underway. There is also an egg incubator activity ongoing.  *ASB*. Projects in Zummar and Sinjar are underway to train farmers in soft skills in partnership with Harikar. These are funded by BMZ and target 1,200 beneficiaries. Currently, 800 have completed the training. There are 40 greenhouses being built in Zummar. They will share the training manual and kit components with the cluster. The Al Jazeera irrigation channel is still being rehabilitated – a recent meeting clarified whether ASB should focus on secondary, tertiary or other channels. 32 Farmer Field Schools (FFSs) are underway; however, there have been access issues. Although they already trained extension officers to lead those FFSs, they live in the camps and are not reporting to work. Therefore, the project will replace DoA extension officers with youth in the area who can be trained. Additionally, there is a grant offered to those who complete vocational training. In Golan camp, distributions for 200 households will occur once OCHA activities are finished (waiting for beginning of March). The amount of cash assistance is based on household size and the SMEB. Finally, in Anbar, the Haditha water plant is being repaired in collaboration with MoA and MoWR.  *FAO.* The nationwide value chain assessment is ongoing and the results will be shared once complete. In Diala, the CfW component (800 beneficiaries) and wheat seed distributions (800 beneficiaries) were completed, while the fertilizer and vegetable seed distributions (800 beneficiaries) will be completed in the upcoming month. Additionally, 400 beneficiaries were trained in cereal and vegetable production, and another training will occur in the optimal use of fertilizer. In Ninewa, 700 beneficiaries completed CfW activities. |
| General Comments and Questions | *Are there any studies on the profitability of greenhouse production?*  The success of greenhouse projects is location-specific (income generation fluctuated) and season-specific. For example, cucumbers and tomatoes were being out competed on the market. Partners recommended speaking to the Directorate of Agriculture and the farmer as they know the market best. Also highlighted that in order to maintain production, 50% of all profits generated from the greenhouse must be funneled back into the greenhouse. |

# Participants List

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Organization | Mobile | Email |
| Akram Sdiq | IRW | 7512484278 | [akram.sdiq@irworldwide.org](mailto:akram.sdiq@irworldwide.org) |
| Mukasam Hazim | IRW | 7740872055 | [muqasam.hazim@ir-iraq.org](mailto:muqasam.hazim@ir-iraq.org) |
| Randala Noureddin | ASB |  | [countryrep@asb-me.org](mailto:countryrep@asb-me.org) |
| Rasha T.Jacob |  | 7504458650 | [s.fsl@bcf.krd](mailto:s.fsl@bcf.krd) |
| Aree Hewa | HA | 7509283333 | [aree.hewa@humanappeal.org.uk](mailto:aree.hewa@humanappeal.org.uk) |
| Themba Sibaud | NRC | 7517407627 | [themba.sibanda@nrc.no](mailto:themba.sibanda@nrc.no) |
| Maithree abeyrathna | NRC |  | [maithree.abeyrathna@nrc.no](mailto:maithree.abeyrathna@nrc.no) |
| Qouvanna Bizzarro | MH |  | [qovanna.bizzaro@mercyhands.org](mailto:qovanna.bizzaro@mercyhands.org) |
| John Panga | SP |  | [jpanga@samaritan.org](mailto:jpanga@samaritan.org) |
| Ali Assady | CNSF |  | [ali@thecnsf.org](mailto:ali@thecnsf.org) |
| Alaa Muhsin | Al-aghsan | 7700483663 | [alaamu71@yahoo.com](mailto:alaamu71@yahoo.com) |
| Khalid nasal | Al-aghsan | 7729222290 | [alaghsanfoundation@gmail.org](mailto:alaghsanfoundation@gmail.org) |
| Weal Ali | DAI | 7502010091 | [dijla\_daa@yahoo.com](mailto:dijla_daa@yahoo.com) |
| Mohammed Salih | SEDO |  | [msalih@sedoiraq.org](mailto:msalih@sedoiraq.org) |
| Sarah Barnhart | FAO |  | [sarah.barnhart@fao.org](mailto:sarah.barnhart@fao.org) |