Meeting Minutes

Location:  Microsoft Teams at 11:00AM - 12:30 PM
Date:  11/09/2020

Agenda

- Practical Action – Presentation on Gender Mainstreaming in Agriculture.
- FSL Cluster – Presentation on Information Management products
- FSL Cluster – Presentation on HNO and HRP 2021 timeline and process
- FSL Cluster partners – Updates from the field
- AOB

Participants

WFP, CARE, NAZ, ACF, FAO, Mercy Corps, USAID, Practical Action, World Vision, Trócaire, USAID, Danish Church Aid, OCHA, ZRCS,

Discussion

1. Practical Action – Presentation on Gender Mainstreaming in Agriculture

   Summary:
   Gender relations and inequalities are fundamental causes of poverty and much progress cannot be realized without addressing the key drivers of inequality, gender being one of them.
   If women farmers were given the same access to resources as men, their agricultural yields could increase by 20 to 30 percent; and number of malnourished people could be reduced by 12 to 17 percent.
   Empowering women and girls, is not about their well-being, but also a means to broader agricultural development and food security

   - Gender mainstreaming:
     Focuses on the fact that women and men experience life differently and have different needs and priorities.
   - Development policies and interventions affect them differently.
   - In the context of agriculture and food security, it is important that men and women of all ages, ethnicities, religions, and socioeconomic levels have enough food and especially that the food be readily available, accessible, and appropriately used.
• This means that prioritizing gender equality both internally through our policies, systems and structures and externally through our work and engagement with others.

Barriers:
• Although women’s contribution to food production, food use and processing are widely known, there is gender bias in this regard
• Women face numerous obstacles to access productive inputs, assets services, labour, technology, training and extension, income/capital,
• Women face difficulties related to food distribution to local markets, especially for food crops, as opposed to cash crops, entails arduous head-loading by women.
• Women are much less likely to use purchased inputs such as fertilizers and improved seeds or to make use of mechanical tools and equipment.

Questions:
Who is aware of this gender mainstreaming within agriculture methodology? As quasi no FSL partner knew about the above-mentioned methodologies, a workshop should be scheduled.

Action Points:
Presentation to be shared with the FSL Cluster partners.

2. FSL Cluster – Presentation on Information Management products

Based on partners monthly 5Ws, FSL Cluster currently produces the following IM products monthly:

• Partners Presence SO1 - Wards in which individuals are receiving food assistance
• Partners Presence SO2 - Wards in which individuals are receiving agriculture and livelihood assistance
• FSL interventions: Implementation of COVID-19 mitigation and protection measures
• FSL Cluster COVID-19 Potential projects suspension
• FSL monthly Dashboard.

These products are available for download from FSL Cluster website at the following link:

https://fsclustering/zimbabwe

Apart from the static pdf maps shared monthly, the cluster also produce online presence map where users can view cluster response from the beginning using filter and toggling features provided by the dynamic map. Organisations can also view their activities under each cluster indicators. The dynamic map is useful where organizations would like to check who is already working in areas, they would like to do an intervention thereby reducing chances of double dipping. The online facility is available at the following link:

https://fsclustering/zimbabwe/document/fsl-partner-presence-online-map
3. FSL Cluster – Presentation on HNO and HRP 2021 timeline and process

OCHA Regional Office provided an overview of 2021 Humanitarian Program Cycle. For Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) cycle, the initial process will be to agree on Sectoral indicators where clusters will identify and compile data on the key indicators. Next step will be to calculate the number of People in Need (PIN).

FSL Cluster will call for a meeting to start discussing on the indicators and data to be used.

HRP will be project based – opportunity to submit projects to be increased

Project timeline 9th – 30 of November

No guarantee that the projects submitted under HRP, but donors tend to fund projects included in the HRP.

Population data to be used - ZimVac

4. FSL Cluster partners – Updates from the field

Mercy Corps

Urban Social Assistance Program update

**Mutare**

- E voucher successfully set up with 98% of beneficiaries redeemed for the month of July
- 4 retailers trained (N Richards, Pick N Pay Sakubva, Ok Zimbabwe and Pick N Pay Chikanga)
- Making use of SCOPE cards (E- voucher) which are loaded by WFP with USD
- Providing help desks at each retail shop to provide assistance and monitor redemption of vouchers
- Following up with households which did not collect SCOPE cards as well as those who did not redeem on time
- Mobilisation of beneficiaries conducted through mass messaging to stagger those who go to redeem considering the Covid-19 pandemic

Plans:
Verification of HHs arising from issues observed/noted during distribution meetings
Scale Up using data from VAM as well as vulnerable lists from Department of Social Welfare

**Rusape**

- Switched from Mobile money to Remittance based approach with Western Union and successfully rolled out with 100% redemption
- Providing help desks at Western Union to provide assistance and monitor adherence to Covid-19 regulations

What has worked well?
Western Union has managed to serve at least 100 beneficiaries per day using one dedicated teller. With the scale up coming on board, Mercy Corps expect to more than double the number of beneficiaries and is engaging Western Union to provide adequate support.
Liaised with Western Union to ensure availability of adequate US$ for beneficiaries
Effectively used SMS messaging to stagger visits to Western Union to redeem considering the

Recommendations.
Good communication on expected dates of disbursement make the service provider ready for
the disbursements and this communication should be done on time.
Transfers should be done in such a way as to avoid peak periods like month end when retailers
are at peak business i.e. month end- 27-31st of the month

WFP-VAM Unit updates
Market price bulletin had been reduced to every two weeks

5. AOB
None.