Meeting Minutes

Location: Online, Microsoft Teams at 10:00AM
Date: 12/06/2020

Agenda

- WFP VAM Unit: Market Functionality Overview
- CBM: Presentation on Food Security and Livelihoods programming focus on disability mainstreaming within CBM Projects in Zimbabwe
- FSL Cluster partners: Updates from the fields
- AOB

Participants

DFID, CBM, DCA, ACF, WFP, RCO, Trocaire, Care International, FAO, UNDP, World Bank, Plan International, Christian Aid, AOG

Discussion

1. WFP VAM Unit: Market Functionality Overview

Maize grains continue to be unavailable in the surveyed markets. This is typical at this time of the year as harvest is proceeding. However, the farmers face challenges to access the markets due to Covid-19 lockdown.

Maize Meal available in 45% of the markets. This may an indication that the country is running low on Maize Meal.

Price increased by an average of about 10% with rural districts reporting higher prices. Cooking oil prices increased by an average of 12%. Sugar beans are available in informal markets. Prices went up by an average of 17%.

Exchange rage
Fixed at 25
Parallel market 57.60
Old mutual rate as of 12/06/2020 was 118
[https://omir.today/](https://omir.today/)

Questions:

Q: Could someone explain us how the OMIR rate is formed and how it can inform us on the macro-economic environment and potential evolution of exchange rate?
A: Old mutual Rates are implied rates and it is an indication of how high the current rate is likely to be in a future. The website compares current exchange rates on the parallel market.

Q: Is there a reason why the exchange rate keeps increasing?
A: Lack of liquidity in the formal market. Opening of markets creates demand on the parallel market.

**Action points**

None

2. CBM: Presentation on Food Security and Livelihoods programming focusing on disability mainstreaming within CBM Projects in Zimbabwe

According to statistics, malnutrition is a main cause of developmental disabilities. Further, people with disabilities are twice as likely to live in poverty and struggle to put food on the table.

In Zimbabwe, the persons with disabilities represent 7% of the population.

See the presentation.

Questions:

Q: WFP held a meeting with UNESCO social and human sciences department preparing a preliminary assessment on people with disabilities. Are you aware of this project and if are you a part of this assessment?
A: CBM is aware of that assessment however not part of the process.

Q: How can NGOs shape their programs better for people with disabilities?
A: CBM has outlined some guidelines regarding barriers people with disabilities. Most of the time, they are not registered or unable to reach distribution points. For targeting, it is recommended to use the Washington Group Short Set which is a set of questions designed to target better people with disabilities.

**Action points:**

Share presentation.

3. FSL Cluster partners: Updates from the field

- **Assemblies of God**
  o AoGZ has received approval from SIDA for an Emergency Food relief project in Chipinge Rural. Selected wards will be communicated by the end of June.
The project targets 800 HH of approximately 4000 individuals with In-kind harmonized food basket. In addition, CSB+ will be distributed targeting 160 Pregnant & Lactating mothers and Children under five.

- The program includes also COVID19 activities:
  - Gender Based Violence awareness and information sharing.

- DCA
  - For the new ECHO funded project DCA starts registration of new beneficiaries - using secondary data and stakeholder engagement to facilitate the registration process.

- CBM
  - FSL programs providing mobile money ended in May. CBM is currently working on PDM.
  - British Red Cross takes over some Chipinge beneficiaries’ caseload.

- UNDP
  - Food supply chain project: UNDP met with FAO, UNWOMEN, ILO and Ministry of agriculture to discuss in a better detail the current project.
  - UNDP identified Oxfam as first partner to assistant in Harare in WASH and will be working with ministry local government to rehabilitate the infrastructure.

- WFP
  - WFP is concerned about value loss while providing mobile money. WFP is therefore in a process of exploring other options than EcoCash to be able to identify the most relevant supplier in the current context.

AOB:

Q: Cash availability: some partners have been sending out $US. Has there been any problems with regarding to physical cash?
A: Please share as per email and the FSL Cluster will share with Patrick

QC: Issues of food for returnees was raised and the PS indicated that they are providing three meals per day. The question of 34 schools currently being used as quarantine centres which might require relocation if the government stops using them when schools reopen.

Organisations planning QC assessments should reach out to the FSL Cluster.

Training on age and gender on the 18th of June. FSL Cluster partners are asked to register and prepare inputs from the field.