

# Meeting Minutes

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Location: Microsoft Teams at 11:00-13:00

Meeting Recording: [link](#)

Meeting Presentation: [link](#)

## Agenda

1. Notes and comments on previous MoM
2. FSLC Partners achievements for June 2021
3. Revision/update of humanitarian assistance for the next lean season
4. Building capacity for food security analysis for NGOs: a new opportunity (OXFAM)
5. FSL Coordination Structure: reflections on “what” and “how”: introduction
6. FSLC Partners meetings’ dates in July and August.
7. Updates from Partners
8. AoB

## Participants (62 attendees)

**List of organisations:** AAH, Action Aid Zimbabwe, ADRA Zimbabwe, Assemblies of God Projects, British Red Cross, CAFOD, Caritas Masvingo, CNFA Amalima Loko, COSV Zimbabwe, DCA, FSLC, GOAL, ICRISAT, IRC, Jairos Jiri Association, LEAD, LGDA, Mercy Corps , Oxfam, SALT, Save the Children, SCOPE Zimbabwe, Tearfund, Terre des hommes Italia, Trocaire, UN OCHA, UNHCR, USAID, WFP, WHH, WHO, World Vision, Zimbabwe Council of Churches, ZRBF-UNDP

## Discussion

### **1. Notes and comments on the previous Minutes of Meeting**

No feedback on the previous minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021. Minutes approved without any further changes.

### **2. FSLC Partners achievements for June 2021**

During the month of June 2021, FSL Cluster partners reported to have reached 354,252 people with either in-kind food distribution, cash or vouchers modality in both rural and urban areas. Among them, 276,933 received cash-based support in urban areas, 45,857 in rural areas, while the remaining 31,462 beneficiaries received in-kind food assistance.

The month of June still shows the continue effort to address vulnerable people who are in need of food assistance regardless how good the harvest season was. This is well represented by the fact that 78% of the people reached this month are in urban areas. The predominant assistance modality is also consistent with the current response, as 91% of the support has been delivered through cash-based support. The number of reporting partners remain low, confirming to be approximately half than during the lean season. Only 41% of beneficiaries in rural areas received food in kind.

Concurrently, a total of 16,500 beneficiaries were supported with agriculture and livelihood assistance. This includes 13,000 receiving training on and inputs for agro-ecology interventions such as soil conservation practices, soil reclamation techniques and restoration of degraded landscapes. 1,347 provided with horticulture seeds and other inputs / materials for household kitchen gardens (and related trainings, cooking demonstrations, etc.). The rest of the beneficiaries received either small livestock inputs, training, extension and advisory services to extension officers and farmers focusing on good agriculture practices with emphasis on climate-smart agriculture or training to support crop pest management, post-harvest handling, storage and processing.

June static dashboards are available at: [link](#)

The dynamic map for partner presence with all the datasets from January to June 2021 is available at: [link](#)

Contributors of the data also include government Social Welfare assistance.

### **3. Revision/update of humanitarian assistance for the next lean season**

The needs/targeting sources of information used to build the HRP 2021 referred to the period Q1-2021. At the moment, between two lean seasons, we do not have a consistent and agreed analytical process carried out to determine the needs and the related response framework for the next lean season, despite the HRP has a formal operational calendar January to December.

This applies to the assistance aiming at providing direct access to food via in-kind and cash. The livelihood support component may be different as some seasonality issues were taken into account when designing the HRP.

ZimVAC: the Rural Livelihoods Assessment report has been presented at this forum recently, and the same was done for the Urban Assessment. Reports are available from the FSLC website.

IPC: going on discussions in these days about carrying out an IPC analysis in the coming weeks. It seems quite unlikely that an IPC analysis will be called in these weeks or coming months.

It means that we are not to have a profiling of the food security by district and severity. From the ZimVAC we have the cereal insecurity data, as well as a few classic food security indicators.

Colleagues from the World Bank came to this forum 2 weeks ago to present their Zimbabwe Economic Assessment, from which a not completely positive outlook is projected for 2022 due to the socio-economic environment being harshly hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.

A lean season review exercise at inter-cluster level is ongoing, and it may provide additional information to better inform next lean season programming.

The current HRP will be undergoing a review process, although the terms of this update are not yet clear. The FSLC team invite all organisations with projects in the HRP to re-assess their projects in the light of the available data, and start projecting possible changes to run the response until April 2022. Key issues to at could be the following: 1) are the current project's numbers still actual?; 2) is there a difference in this regard between direct food assistance and agricultural livelihood support?; 3) revision of number of people targeted and where; 4) what are the budgeting changes implications?

The cereal insecurity is not providing a 1:1 relationship with the overall food insecurity notion.

Comment: With regard to the ZimVAC Rural Livelihoods Assessment Report, it is worth noticing that major indicators have not been reported, like traditional nutritional indicators. At the moment, it is not sure whether a technical team to review those indicators was formed to address this issue.

Comment: the absence of certain key nutritional indicators could be due to delays in clearing and endorsing those indicators by all key stakeholders. An addendum to the report may be formulated in order to include those missing indicators.

Q: Where do we stand about the IPC?

A: the RC requested the GoZ verbally about having an IPC, and the feedback was to put the request in writing. This is what it is happening at the moment.

#### **4. Building capacity for food security analysis for NGOs: a new opportunity (OXFAM)**

OXFAM received a grant to achieve improved food security analytical capacity of NGOs in Zimbabwe. In particular, a few NGOs staff may benefit from dedicated trainings on the IPC process.

FSLC partners will be invited to express their interest, which will be followed up by OXFAM directly.

The presentation is available at: [link](#), at the bottom of the page

#### **5. FSL Coordination Structure: reflections on “what” and “how”: introduction**

This topic is another heads up. The FSLC coordination team is a facility to all partners provided by WFP and FAO thanks to the support of interested donors.

The core business of the FSLC platform is currently humanitarian oriented. The question is what is the best and more appropriate coordination structure that could be put in place, also considering the strategic links between humanitarian and development environment.

Various factors should be considered like the kind of coordination and cooperation with the GoZ bodies; what other fora or structures are there and already addressing food security and livelihood coordination; what long-term vision could we apply.

The proposal is to constitute a task group to better investigate this issue and come up with feasible proposals.

The following organisations stepped forward for being part of this group: OCHA, GOAL, Action Aid, Trocaire, AAH, UNHCR, LGDA, JJA, OXFAM, SCI, CAFOD.

A follow up meeting with this group and senior/management staff from cluster lead agencies WFP and FAO will call shortly to have a dedicated discussion and start collecting Partners' feedback and ideas.

**6. FSLC Partners meetings' dates in July and August**

There will not be a meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> of July. The next Partners meeting will be on the 6<sup>th</sup> of August, after which, the FSLC coordinator will be on contract break until September.

**7. Updates from Partners**

Nothing reported

**8. AOB**

Nothing reported

END