

Food Security and Livelihood Cluster Zimbabwe

Meeting Minutes

Date: 24th June 2022

Location: Online via Microsoft Teams at 10:00–12:00

Agenda

1. Review minutes of previous meeting 26th May 2022
2. Sector May 5Ws report
3. Joint FAO/FEWSNET/WFP presentation
4. Emergency preparedness – FSLC rapid assessment tool
5. FAO Data in Emergencies presentation
6. Partner Updates/Issues
7. AOB.

Participants 94 registered, 37 organisations represented

List of organisations present:

ACF, ADRA Zimbabwe, CAFOD, CARE, Catholic Relief Services, Christian Aid, Christian Aid, CRS, DanChurchAid, DCA, FAO, FAO (REOSA), FEWS NET, Help from Germany, ICRISAT, IOM, Kickstart, LEAD, MeDRA, Mercy Corps, Organization, Plan International Zimbabwe, Save the Children International, Start Network, Trócaire, UNDP, UNHCR, USAID, WFP, WHH, WHO, World Vision, World Vision International, World Vision Zimbabwe, ZCC, Zimbabwe Council of Churches, Zimbabwe Red Cross Society

Discussion

1. Review minutes of previous meeting 26th May 2022

There was no feedback on the previous minutes of the meeting held on 26th May 2022. Minutes approved with no further amendments.

2. Sector May 5Ws report

- In May 2022, FSL cluster partners reported having reached 207,000 beneficiaries with either in-kind food distribution or cash-based transfers in both rural and urban areas. Among them, 144,247

beneficiaries received cash-based support in urban and peri-urban areas. 54,163 beneficiaries received cash-based assistance in rural areas while the remaining 8,747 received in-kind food assistance in rural areas. The assistance continues to focus on resilience-building to strengthen livelihoods of the most vulnerable and gradually reduce the need for humanitarian assistance.

- Concurrently, agriculture and livelihood assistance reported a total of 87,000 beneficiaries in May 2022. These include 59,127 people benefiting from the provision of crop and small livestock inputs, 25,446 with extension, training and advisory services focusing on good agriculture practices with an emphasis on climate-smart agriculture, support crop pest management, post-harvest handling, storage and processing and improved pasture and grazing management. Lastly, 2,921 beneficiaries received assistance in the rehabilitation of agricultural infrastructure and assets critical for animal survival and agriculture (dip tanks and animal drinking troughs) through other modalities (e.g., contracting a company).

3. Joint FAO/FEWSNET/WFP presentation

Key highlights:

- Macro-economic Situation – inflation & exchange rates
- Market Conditions – availability & prices of food, NFI & ag. inputs
- Livelihoods update
- Food Consumption & Coping
- Food Security Outcomes
- 2022/23 seasonal forecast

[Presentation](#)

Questions/Answers/Comments:

Christian Aid: Please confirm if the inflation is \$ZW rates and how are the \$USD or blended inflation looking?

A: Generally, these are \$ZW inflation taken from analysis done by ZIMSTAT. FEWNETS, looks at local currency in our analysis. No information about the \$US, however we are aware that blended inflation started trickling in in the recent months, but the currency has been stable over the month. A trend analysis would provide a much better picture.

FAO: Is the IPC Phase 3 (crisis) outcomes from end July/ August to January or IPC Phase 4 emergency in deficit areas?

A: This is IPC phase from July – August in the deficit producing areas. We did not classify any phase 4 classification through January. We do acknowledge that we may have some population that may be facing phase 4 outcomes. In our analysis and in terms of area classification, it was until phase 3.

4. Emergency preparedness – FSLC rapid assessment tool

With the collaboration of the FSL cluster members, this initiative aims to create a rapid assessment tool that is more food security focused. Interested partners were asked to give their contact information and the most recent shareable version of the tool. The subsequent step is to hold a meeting with the small group of interested parties and revise the questionnaire.

5. FAO Data in Emergencies presentation

FAO presentation on Data in Emergencies platform

[Link:](#)

Questions/Answers/Comments:

FEWSNET: If I got this right: that in terms of food security outcomes, Mashonaland West and Mashonaland Central are assessed as the worst, with Matabeleland South the least affected. if so, may you please explain?

A: We would have to examine the facts from a variety of angles. What we have observed here is merely one instance of food insecurity, but when you consider dietary diversification, things are not as bad as they seem. Therefore, it is crucial to examine the facts in greater detail and to consider each location in isolation without generalizing the situation.

6. Updates from Partners

UNHCR is taking up insect farming with World Bank and will be interested in getting any updates and presentations by those with more experience like UKAid.

7. AOB

- When can we expect the ZimVAC Report? The report is out at the time of writing these minutes and will be shared with the cluster partners.

- Update on an ongoing project on biodiversity and reducing dependence on highly hazardous pesticides, being led by MLAFWRD, in collaboration with FAO to be shared by Maria Goss. This will include the planned/scheduled stakeholders' engagement
- Concerning the PVO Bill on NGO operations, RC's office is currently engaged in a similar exercise and has set meetings with the NGO Forum and Heads of Agencies in the first week of July. From these two forums, evidence for advocacy with the government shall be gathered and discussed.

Next meeting: 29th July 2022

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