Meeting Minutes

Location: Online, Microsoft Teams at 11:00AM
Date: 26/06/2020

Agenda

- ACF, NAZ PLAN, and IRC: Cash and Voucher Feasibility Study Findings presentation
- Community Engagement Coordinator: Presentation on Community Engagement and Accountability to Affected Populations mechanism in the FSL response
- FSL Cluster: Update on GHRP
- FSL Cluster partners: Updates from the field
- AOB

Participants
ACF, NAZ, IRC, Plan International, GOAL, ZCC, WVI, FAO, UNOCHA, Trócaire, WFP, CAFOD, DFID, ZRCS, World Bank

Discussion

1. ACF, NAZ PLAN, and IRC: Cash and Voucher Assistance Feasibility Study Findings presentation

Determine appropriateness of CVA to deliver response in Zimbabwe.
The majority of surveyed community members accept the CVA to buy the services they require. USD remains the preferred currency.

Q: What information was lacking that you made want to do the study? What new did you find out that did not exist before?
A: Initially had information that cash was not feasible in rural areas. This study was to confirm whether CVA was relevant in targeted areas.
Lessons learnt is that the context and reality changed since the study was done. ACF is currently piloting a new remittance company providing hard USD notes, launched a quotation but many companies failed to answer with a valid offer. There is need to empower local capacities among the private sector Financial Service Providers to work with humanitarian organisations.
Q: Moving forward with remittance, what is the scale and what is the transfer value?
A: It is a pilot in Mutare targeting around 1,200 household and value could be around US $13.5 per person per month as there is no exchange loss. In Chiredzi, it is EcoCash until we know that Mukuru is working well.

Q: Is the US$ 13.5 multipurpose cash or targeted for food assistance?
A: Intended to be multipurpose. ACF is available to share the breakdown.

**Action points**
Presentation to be shared.

2. Community Engagement Coordinator: Presentation on Community Engagement and Accountability to Affected Populations mechanism in the FSL response

Aspect of programming that is usually implemented but always not reported within the humanitarian context. Aid organizations use their power to support express needs of beneficiaries while this is an opportunity for beneficiaries to provide feedback on services provided to them. Some of the key areas include:

a) Communication is key in building trust between the community and the aid workers.
   - Languages on which material is develop
   - Listen, collect analyse feedback
   - Acting on the information shared back by the beneficiaries
b) Moving away from top-down and building on people’s capacity and experiences and what works for them.
c) Community consultation of the project design and monitoring so that they have ownership of the project.
d) Integrating communication – affected people should be at the centre of the image.
e) Have standard messaging to help dispel rumours
f) In the context of COVID-19 a lot of these initiatives around engagement has been hampered and therefore there is a need to ask questions around how to:
   - Engage in social distance
   - Address needs of people holistically, public health, food etc
   - Help communities participate in defining and disseminating messages
   - Systematically collect feedback to inform decision making and as just programming and realign priorities
   - Strengthen local capacity`
g) Needs assessment and analysis make sure views of affected people is captured and taken care of. Each group ae their specific needs.
h) AAP strategies need to be reflected and integrated into humanitarian response plans. - what activities looking at conducting with community engagement, feedback collection, etc to help
i) Resource mobilisation to make sure there is adequate funding to support reporting. Some donors have strong requirements for AAP and have adequate funds to support these activities.

**Action points**
Presentation to be shared.
3. FSL Cluster: Update on GHRP

The FSL Cluster has been asked to review budget requirements for the GHRP. However, as the needs are significantly higher, only the livelihoods and agriculture projects should be reviewed by FSL Cluster partners and budget reduction suggested by Monday 29/06/20.

**Action points:**
FSL Cluster partners to review the livelihoods and agriculture projects submitted under the GHRP May update.

4. FSL Cluster partners: Updates from the field

As the question on food security was missed out in the IOM/WHO/GoZ QC, we would like to ask if anyone has started doing an assessment at the QC on the FSL needs?

- **ACF**
  - CARE, Plan DCA, Africa ahead, NAZ are working on assessment tool currently being discussed with IOM with the aim to start assessment in QC with trials in Mutare. The current coverage for ACF is in Mutare and ACF is currently finalizing the list of the quarantine centres.

- **WFP**
  - WFP is discussion to start to do in-kind food distribution for 20,000 covering 2100Kcal per day to those in need at the quarantine centres – if required by the GoZ.
  - In 37 most affected rural districts WFP’s lean season response will be gradually scaled up: from 1.8 million people in July to 3.5 million people by the end of 2020.
  - In urban areas, 550,000 of the most vulnerable and food insecure will be supported.
  - FFA: project ongoing in 13 districts targeting approximately 87,405 people

- **FAO**
  - Desert Locust Update: There are indications of locusts swarming at the Malilangwe Conservancy, Chiredzi in the south-eastern corner of the country. A team from the Plant Protection Research Institute, DRSS has been dispatched to the area to monitor the situation. There are fears that the African migratory locust swarms may migrate from the Malilangwe conservancy to neighbouring Manicaland and threaten the winter crop there.

- **WVI**
  - Reached 297,599 beneficiaries, 74,039 Males and 95,734 females out of a targeted 169,773 for the June 2020 cycle. (Distributions completed in Mudzi and Buhera are on-going in Hwange and Kariba) 33,786.317 Metric tonnes distributed to date.