

Food Security and Livelihood Cluster Zimbabwe

Meeting Minutes

Date: 29th July 2022

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

Agenda

1. Review minutes of previous meeting 26th June 2022
2. GOALs Experience with CVA & Livelihoods - GOAL
3. 2022 ZimVAC Rural Livelihoods Assessment Report - FNC
4. Joint FAO/FEWSNET/WFP presentation
5. Emergency Planning: Rapid Assessment Tool revision updates
6. Partner Updates/Issues
7. AOB.

Participants 47 registered, 25 organisations represented

List of organisations present:

ADRA Zimbabwe, CBM, CGIAR, Chemonics, Christian-Aid, CIMMYT, CNFA, CRS, FACT, FAO, FNC, GOAL, IOM, Mercy Corps, OCHA, Plan-International, Practical Action, Save the Children, Trócaire, UNDP, UNHCR, UN Women, Welthungerhilfe, WFP, WVI

Discussion

1. Review minutes of previous meeting 24th June 2022

There was no feedback on the previous minutes of the meeting held on 24th June 2022. Minutes approved with no further amendments.

2. GOALs Experience with CVA & Livelihoods

GOAL's UPLIFT program working in Mbare, Stonebridge and Hopely winding down with multi-purpose cash program but continuing with the livelihood interventions with two purposes:

- To reduce negative coping strategies by providing child protection and GBV prevention and response interventions integrated with livelihood opportunities to vulnerable households.

- To facilitate the recovery of shock affected businesses and/or growth of new businesses through financial services, livelihood and market strengthening activities.

[Presentation link](#)

Questions/comments

WHH: Can we try to influence the groups to move away from the tendency to buy kitchen utensils and household property and move towards productive asset that would continue to see the beneficiaries generate income.

A: There is the main fund where groups contribute to and give each other loans on a monthly basis. The loans they get in the ISALS are then re-invested into the small business. The household items come from a different fund. The initial design was to make sure that the intervention doesn't end with beneficiaries buying household items but leverage on the market available around Mbare and improve their livelihoods.

FACT Zimbabwe: What are the gains that the households are reaping from their vending in and around Mbare from the loans they have been given, what are the impacts? This will enable us to see the outcomes clearly.

A: The group started last year in December and approximately 75% of the groups have an average savings of \$1,800 with a contribution of \$10 per person per month, which is a significant improve from \$1,000 the year before. The cash is quickly growing and is becoming a challenge for an individual to hold.

Christian Aid: We are dealing with a good problem here and wanted to check of the money ISALS are generating is being fed back into the program as that would make them a good candidate for future programming.

A: Everyone in ISAL started off in the Multi-purpose Cash Assistance component and only 438 now remain in MPCA and others have graduated. The intervention targeted those affected by lockdown and are seeing more people graduate and are becoming more food secure. Main aim is to currently keep supporting business and ensure that their operations continue despite many challenges and make sure that any household moved out of the red zone remains permanently food sufficient.

Action point: GOAL to share report of comparison study with/without CVA outside a good economic environment once it becomes ready.

3. Joint FAO/FEWSNET/WFP presentation

Key highlights:

- Macro-economic Situation – inflation & exchange rates
- Market Conditions – availability & prices of food, NFI & e.g., inputs
- Livelihoods update
- Food Consumption & Coping
- Food Security Outcomes

[Presentation](#)

4. 2022 ZimVAC Rural Livelihoods Assessment Report Summary presentation - FNC

Food and Nutrition Council summary presentation of the results of Zimbabwe Rural Livelihoods Assessment report.

Report [link](#):

Questions/Answers/Comments:

WHH: Was there any assessment on the adoption of Pfumbudza/conservation agriculture concept/technology?

FNC: From the experts, Pfumbudza is climate smart and therefore adopts all those technologies we have talked about regarding conservation agriculture. Pfumbudza is several practices that are adopted within climate smart. During the assessment, this was broken down and households were asked if they are adopting the climate smart technologies in the rural areas.

FAO: Looking into the future and from the perspective of FNC, what are the five top priority areas from this assessment? Furthermore, if they are to be narrowed down geographically, in which districts would you say priorities are high?

FNC: Key concern is nutrition and diets being consumed by households and there is need for an urgent attention in those two areas. Secondly is resilience building – there is need for continued resilience building as we continue to respond to the shocks. All these are interconnected and if we deal with resilience, we build communities that is less reliant on support. Geographically, all indicators are available at the district level. Needs at the district differ in terms of support /objectives of the support depending on what really needs to be addressed.

5. Emergency Planning: Rapid Assessment Tool revision updates

First revision of the tool initially shared has now been completed following two meetings with a team drawn from different cluster partner organisations.

Next steps:

- i. Liaise with colleagues working in health and nutrition to cross-check and review those two areas.
- ii. Work with the Department of Civil protection for final review and endorsement

Final output will be the current world document and an xlsform compatible with mobile data collection platforms (KoBo ToolBox, OKD, Survey123 etc)

6. Future cluster coordination meetings

The cluster is currently exploring the option for a hybrid remote and in person meeting. Based on the meetings feedback, there is an appetite for returning to face-to-face meeting and the cluster will be exploring this option starting September.

7. Updates from Partners

No updates shared by partners.

8. AOB

No AOB Reported.

Next meeting: 26th August 2022 via Teams

-END-