FSL Cluster Feedback

South Sudan Humanitarian Response

August 2019
This report presents a brief on Food Security and Livelihoods (FSL) based on community feedbacks and views collected from three humanitarian information service (HIS) project locations of Bentiu, Jamjang and Malakal during the month of August 2019. The report depicts the most trending issues about FSL across these locations based on the data collected from interactions with 689 people of which 58% were female, with most of the feedback coming from youth and adults between the age of 18 and 60 years old. The key trending issues include food distribution and complaints over inadequate food rations, verification mechanisms, distribution of food-items and requests for seeds & agricultural tools. Positive feedbacks and appreciations to the various humanitarian agencies by beneficiaries were also registered during this reporting period.

Internews' feedback collection mechanism has several key elements – collecting, capturing, analyzing, reporting and sharing - all crucial parts of this process. When Internews collects feedback, either from listening groups or by other means, information officers enter the feedback into Internews' feedback database. The database is built off Open Data Kit, mobile-data-entry technology, which allows the Internews MERL department to aggregate and analyze data in Juba. Following data entry, feedback is reported back to relevant partners at the field level. During the month of August 2019, 95% of all FSL feedback collected was reported back to the relevant humanitarian agencies\(^1\), and 20% was used in community radio programming.
The feedbacks highlight the trends from the three Internews locations of Bentiu, Jamjang and Malakal.

1. Food Distribution

Elderly persons residing in Block 23 of Ajuong Thok refugee settlement expressed challenges with moving their food items from food distribution centers to their houses. They reported that due to their physical vulnerabilities, they find it difficult to carry their food home and are requesting concerned humanitarian agencies to provide them with wheelbarrows during the general food distributions (GFD) to help them carry their food rations.

Meanwhile in Malakal, elderly people in Block E2, Sector 1 of Malakal PoC requested concerned humanitarian agencies to consider their situation and that of people with special needs by prioritizing them during food distribution.

Residents in Block 18 of Ajuong Thok requested concerned agencies to include salt in the upcoming general food distribution because they cannot afford buying it from the market. Similarly, residents of Block 23 requested concerned agencies to consider returning salt during the food distributions or increase the cash for salt because they receive 30 SSP which they said is not enough.

Also, residents in Block 17, Zone D of Ajoung Thok reported that the 330 SSP paid for grinding sorghum and buying salt is not enough. They requested concerned agencies to increase the milling cash to 600 SSP and to return salt in the coming general food distribution (GFD).

Residents of Bentiu PoC in Sector 2 block 17 raised concerns about the amount of oil they receive noting that it is not enough for them, they requested concerned agencies to consider increasing the quantities of oil in the distribution because it is as important as milk for them.

a) Verification systems

In Ajuong Thok, an individual complaint was presented by a person with disability who reported to have taken three months without a ration card. He appealed to the concerned humanitarian partners for immediate consideration of his case.

Residents of Bentiu PoC have raised concerns about the biometric card authentication system because of challenges they experience during the monthly general food distribution and the duration it takes for a new
card holder to get food. They requested concerned agencies to find solutions to the problem and examine the new biometric card verification system.

Community members residing in Block 78 of Ajuong Thok raised concerns that some of them have spent more than 6 months without receiving humanitarian services due to deactivation of their refugee ID cards. They called on concerned agencies to reactivate their IDs to enable them access humanitarian assistance.

Also, in Jamjang, residents of Block 37, Zone F reported that they cannot receive food rations during the general food distribution because their photos do not appear on the system. They asked concerned agencies to address the issue.

2. FSL - Livelihoods

Residents of Block 61, Zone I of Ajuong Thok raised concerns over the increment of sorghum prices in the market by 50 SSP per one Mallwa\(^2\). They urged livelihood agencies and partners to intervene and find a solution to it.

In Bentiu, vulnerable and disabled persons residing in the PoC’s Sector 4, Block 12, requested concerned agencies to provide them with firewood because they have no ability to go out for firewood collection while also lacking money to buy.

3. FSL - Food Security

a) Requests to increase food rations

Also, in Ajuong Thok, residents of Block 5 appealed to concerned humanitarian agencies to increase the amount of food rations given to unaccompanied children because the current food ration they receive cannot last for the whole month.

Several complaints over inadequate food rations have also been recorded in other blocks of Ajuong Thok camp. In Block 17, residents complained that the fluctuating dates of general food distribution have left families struggling to survive, risking a return to the war torn Nuba Mountains in Sudan. They reported that some families departed the refugee camp due to lack of enough food. The residents requested concerned humanitarian agencies to provide a fixed date for monthly food distribution to enable them plan and cope with the situation. Similarly, in Block 78, same complaint was registered, and the residents requested for increment of the monthly food rations to prevent families from risking to return to the war zone in Nuba Mountains.

In Malakal, residents of PoC’s Sector 1, Block B2 have complained to the FSL partners in charge of food distribution to clarify to them why 50 SSP was deducted from their monthly monetary allowance given to them for other miscellaneous family needs. In addition, residents of Block L, Sector 1 of the PoC appealed to the humanitarian partners in charge of food distribution to allow relatives receive food for their sick family members.

4. FSL - Agriculture

a) Provision of seeds & agricultural tools

Farmers residing in Block 16, Sector 5 of Bentiu PoC requested concerned humanitarian agencies to provide them with seeds and tools during this ongoing rainy season to increase their food production and supplement their humanitarian food assistance.

In Malakal town, several residents are calling upon concerned humanitarian agencies to organize an awareness program for farmers with topics on how to handle seeds and protect them from pests.

\(^2\) A container for locally measuring sorghum (grains) for sale in most local markets in South Sudan.
Appreciations/Positive Feedbacks

The deputy governor of Northern Liech State together with accompanying government officials thanked UNMISS for conducting road repairs from Bentiu town to Southern Liech State. They appreciated and recognized the good work that UNMISS has done to their community in Greater Unity State.

Residents of Sector 2, Block T of Bentiu PoC are hailing Upper Nile Youth Development Association (UNYDA) National organization for their good support to fishermen & farmers in order to increase the level of their production.

Residents of Block 66 in Ajuong Thok expressed thanks to World Food Programme (WFP) for increasing the amount of cooking oil in the General Food Distribution.

Residents from Korfulus and Canal in Malakal area are thanking World Vision for distributing food in a good way.

Women from Koyhethey residing around Bentiu town have appreciated IOM-Transition recovery unit for constructing vegetable stores for their vegetable products. They applauded IOM-TRU to continue providing the community with good services.

The Sector 2 Community Leadership in Bentiu PoC thanked Kondial FM for always updating the community about good information and messages from service providers on issues affecting children and how to find lost children.

Adults and youth in Rubkona town have appreciated Integrated Development Organization (IDO) for organizing carpentry trainings in Rubkona for them to support their families with incomes. They commended IDO to continue providing the carpentry trainings and other business trainings. In addition, residents of Bentiu town have also appreciated IDO for organizing Agri-business and tailoring trainings and giving free of charge tailoring machines.

Residents from Piggi County in Malakal are grateful for the registration conducted by World Vision saying that the exercise included every person including those who were not receiving food rations before.

Residents of Malakal PoC are thanking World Food Program (WFP) for providing salt during the food distribution. Similarly, residents of Malakal Sector 1, Block A thanked World Vision for availing salt to people during the recent food distribution.