CCPM results on the FSL Cluster in SSD

Method & background: The Country Cluster Performance monitoring (CCPM) survey was established by the Global Food Security cluster to monitor performance across all active clusters: currently 34 worldwide. The satisfaction scores for the South Sudan FSL cluster were recorded at 79% (30 respondents) for 2016 and 82% (94 respondents) for 2017; 85% (116 respondents) for 2018; and 82% (132 respondents) for 2019. In 2018 the methodology and scheduling of the survey was adjusted to ensure all countries assessed were aligned. A slightly modified survey was conducted between January 2020 – March 2020. Our satisfaction scores have remained fairly stable, but the number of respondents greatly increased in line with growing membership and increased numbers of operational partners.

South Sudan outcome 2019: 132 respondents completed the survey scoring (only one survey was accepted per cluster member) against the seven core cluster functions: 40 INGOs; 81 NGOs; 1 donor; 1 national authority; and 9 UN organisations. In total the South Sudan FSLC achieved a score of Good (the highest possible achievement category) under three of the core functions; and a score of satisfactory (the second highest achievement category) for the other four core functions.

Guidance for emergency livestock actions in the context of COVID-19 in South Sudan

This guidance note targets livestock sector stakeholders in South Sudan who are working in locations already experiencing or at risk of high levels of acute food insecurity; which is further compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic. The original paper was first developed by the gFSC technical working group for contextualization by clusters at country level. The food security cluster, FAO and the livestock technical working group members have contextualized the note in line with the main components of the Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS) namely:-
- Provision of animal health services
- Emergency feeding and water supplies
- Destocking (marketing, slaughtering) and restocking

LEGs also highlights the importance of Cash Based Transfers (CBT) in enhancing safe and swift delivery of livestock inputs, products and services. CBT as a modality is expected to play a pivotal role during the ongoing and planned response in light of COVID-19 response. The diagram 1 shows the six objectives as detailed in the guidance note for South Sudan - click here to download the full document.
Desert Locust invasion in South Sudan

On 17th February 2020, a mature swarm of desert locusts invaded Magwi county of Central Equatorial from northern Uganda and moved towards Torit and its environs. An additional swarm invaded South Sudan in the first half of May in the greenbelt region (Magwi), hill and mountain (Ikotos, Lafon, Budi and Torit), and semi-arid region (Kapoeta South, Kapoeta East). In the recent weeks, South Sudan has not reported a new wave of desert locust invasions from neighboring countries. This could partly be attributed to the ongoing control operations in Uganda, Kenya, and Ethiopia. Although control operations continue in the eastern Africa region, some of the swarms in northwest Kenya are expected to transit through South Sudan in July to reach the summer breeding areas of Sudan.

Current Desert Locust response

The FAO, the government of South Sudan and the food security cluster partners (Caritas-L, Caritas-S, Concern Worldwide, Samaritan’s Purse, Save the Children, World Vision, Sudan Evangelical Mission) are working together to respond the locust invasion in the country. The current response is summarized below:-

1. **Surveillance and monitoring**: FAO in coordination with the Food Security Cluster has trained 15 NGO staff on the use of e-locust application to report invasion. Additionally, FAO has availed 45 smart phones installed with the eLocust3m app for information collection and 10 motorbikes to the government to be used for monitoring in Eastern Equatoria.

2. **Impact assessment**: An assessment was done in Eastern Equatoria which revealed a varying degree of field incidence and damage as follows: -

   1. Ikotos: No noticeable damage, possibly the swarm did not settle in the crop fields.
   2. Magwi: Highest incidence of Desert Locust with over 60 percent of crop fields invaded. The greatest impact on food security could be in Magwi County compared to other assessed counties.
   3. Torit: About 12 percent of the fields visited were recorded to be invaded by locust. Out of the eleven payams visited, only four recorded damage to crops.

A livelihood response through the FAO ELRP is currently ongoing in the affected areas. Also a DL Response Guideline was developed by the FSL_ATWG and FAO to guide partners interested in supporting the farmers and pastoralist.

3. **Awareness creation**: FAO is sensitizing the population by airing radio messages between 2-3 minutes long daily in English, Arabic, Dinka, Otuho and Acholi. FAO has also created a set of posters for community-based messaging during Desert Locust control operations that will be disseminated to the affected areas. A toll-free number 515 for communities is in place to report detection and damages of desert locusts.

4. **Control**: Ground Control: On 21 May 2020, FAO handed over to the government 2 cars, 100 handheld ultra-low volume sprayers

   - 50 motorized sprayers, 6 vehicle-mounted ULV sprayers, protective gears and 16 000 liters. A team of 15 experts is currently training personnel and sensitizing local leaders and communities on the use of chemicals for control operations in Torit, Magwi, Kapoeta, Ikotos and Lafon. Aerial control; FAO has secured 5000 liters of AVGAS for aircraft use. The Government has guaranteed clearance for DLCO-EA aircraft until to operate August 2020. The aircraft is now operating in Moroto, Uganda.

**Funding**

The DLR and anticipatory action stands at US$10.3 million. So far, US$8 million has been raised through USAID, the European Union, France, Germany, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Russian Federation.

**Effects of COVID-19 on FSLC partner response**

The FSL cluster partners have committed to reprioritize training and capacity building under CO3 (building resilience) and to focus on ensuring that COVID-19 protocols are followed as part of their activity implementation to mitigate its transmission during distributions. Since April 2020, the cluster’s SWs matrix was customized for partners to report the effects of COVID-19 to their current activities and locations of operation. In the months of April and May, we noted that:-

- 63 partners reported implementation of COVID-19 prevention measures
- 71 counties are covered with COVID-19 response
- 7 counties have NO reported COVID-19 response
- Implementation of planned FSL activities Fashoda, Gogrial West, Manyo, Mayendit, Melut, Renk and Wau are reported to be severely affected by COVID-19 (partners are likely to reach less than 33% of the beneficiaries)

The activities severely affected are:-

- Training:
- Distribution of agricultural inputs
- Food for Assets (FFA)
- Livestock treatment

The national and sub-national clusters will follow up with partners in counties where activities are reported to be severely affected by COVID-19 related challenges to ensure continued service delivery to our beneficiaries.

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