



Food Security and Livelihoods Sector Meeting Khartoum, Sudan.

Date: 17 Aug 2023
Place: Online
Timing: 12:00 – 13:30

No. of Participants: 31
Participant Organizations: 19
Male and female: 20:11

Meeting Minutes

Agenda Points	Deliberations	Action Points/Decisions
<i>Situational update</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More than 4M people have been displaced inside and outside the country due to the Sudan Conflict Crises between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) since 15 April. ▪ About 71% (3.3M) people displaced internally are originally from Khartoum. ▪ The World Food Programme (WFP) convoy carrying food assistance reached West Darfur State for the first time since the conflict erupted in mid-April from 3-5 August. ▪ FAO remained successful to reach East Darfur on 5 August from Kosti in White Nile State, and on 7 August, 6 MT of millet seeds were distributed to 5 village committees in Abu Karinka locality, while the remaining 75 village committees across 9 localities will be supported with remaining seeds, 70K farming families will benefit from these seeds. ▪ Almost 13,500 people have reportedly been affected by heavy rains and flooding in North Darfur, Northern and White Nile states. ▪ The Humanitarian Coordinator in Sudan, issued a statement on calling parties to the conflict to allow civilians safe passage out of conflict zones in Khartoum, Darfur and other areas of active hostilities (9 August). <p><u>FSL Situational Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An estimated 20.3M people – over 42% of the population – are expected to be food insecure between July and September 2023, according to the latest report from the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) for Sudan. This is nearly double the number of food-insecure people compared to the last IPC analysis conducted in May 2022. ▪ Funding shortfalls, the limited capacity of humanitarian personnel and government counterparts on the ground, lack of fuel needed for the transportation of humanitarian supplies and staff, lack of access to money in banks, and difficulties in delivering humanitarian supplies to areas outside state capitals due to insecurity have also affected the humanitarian response. These challenges are further compounded by power outages, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FSL will update with situational update on regular basis.

	<p>as well as poor internet and telephone connectivity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Between 15 April to 30 July, 15 FSL partners supported 2.32M people across Sudan with life-saving assistance, including food and livelihoods. ▪ RSF's expansion efforts from Khartoum towards Wad Madani, Gezira may strain the eastern corridor, critical for humanitarian access into the capital. Similarly, the RSF's movement from El Obeid, North Kordofan towards Kosti, White Nile and resulting clashes therein may jeopardize access from the staging area therein to Darfur and Kordofan. ▪ Heavy clashes between RSF and SAF were reported in Zalingei (Central Darfur) on 7 Aug 2023. Situations in Golo, Nertiti and Mukjar were reported calm but equally remain unpredictable. ▪ The July market monitoring reports unveiled notable increases in the cost of the local food basket, prices of wheat, inflation rates, and daily wages for casual labor compared to the previous month. ▪ This surge in food prices is anticipated to constrain households' ability to access food and push them towards negative coping mechanisms which is causing increase in food insecurity and risk of malnutrition. ▪ Concurrently, the foreign exchange rate has shown a significant upturn during the same timeframe, indicating a need for increased value for cash-based transfers to be provided to individual beneficiaries. ▪ RSF's expansion efforts from Khartoum towards Wad Madani, Gezira may strain the eastern corridor, critical for humanitarian access into the capital. Similarly, the RSF's movement from El Obeid, North Kordofan towards Kosti, White Nile and resulting clashes therein may jeopardize access from the staging area therein to Darfur and Kordofan. ▪ Heavy clashes between RSF and SAF were reported in Zalingei (Central Darfur) on 7 Aug 2023. Situations in Golo, Nertiti and Mukjar were reported calm but equally remain unpredictable. ▪ The July market monitoring reports unveiled notable increases in the cost of the local food basket, prices of wheat, inflation rates, and daily wages for casual labor compared to the previous month. ▪ This surge in food prices is anticipated to constrain households' ability to access food and push them towards negative coping mechanisms which is causing increase in food insecurity and risk of malnutrition. ▪ Concurrently, the foreign exchange rate has shown a significant upturn during the same timeframe, indicating a need for increased value for cash-based transfers to be provided to individual beneficiaries. <p><u>Funding and Revised HRP Status:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The FSL Sector funding requirement is \$581.2M, Funded: \$224.3M ▪ Unmet Requirements: \$356.9M ▪ Coverage: 38.6% 	
<p>Updates from CLAs (WFP & FAO)</p>	<p><u>FAO:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Since the beginning of the conflict, FAO has upscaled its support to the main agricultural season to mitigate the impact of this crises on food security and livelihoods. ▪ FAO has therefore developed a response plan, aligned with the revised HRP, to reach 1 million farming HHs (5 million people) with emergency agriculture assistance during this season through provision of seeds, mainly sorghum and millet, the main stable food crops in Sudan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FAO Seed Security Assessment will be re-shared again with FSL partners.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FAO procured more than 10,000 tons of seeds and engaged around 30 implementing partners through signed letters of agreements to distribute the seeds in 15 states (all states, excluding Khartoum, West and Central Darfur). ▪ FAO targets to distribute the seeds in 118 localities (out of 189 localities) in 15 states (out of 18 states). ▪ Up to 14 August, FAO reached 650,000 farming households (3.25 M people) in 93 localities. As presented in the map. ▪ Reached/target localities for seeds distribution are currently under IPC 3 and above. As presented in the other map. ▪ Seeds allocated to North and South Darfur are currently stuck in Elobied. Trucks are awaiting security clearance to move. In case access denied, and because the planting window is closing, these seeds will be shifted to Kordofan states, and other neighbouring states. <p><u>WFP:</u></p> <p>Key Programmatic Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Since the beginning of the crisis, to date WFP has reached over 1.8 million individuals across fifteen states, of which close to 300,000 New IDPs, 75,000 New Refugees, and 160,000 Residents. ▪ As of 15 August, WFP has already reached 700,000 individuals, while distributions are ongoing, including in Khartoum where to date 66,750 people have been reached in Jebel Awlia and Karari. ▪ Refugees (new and Protracted) are assisted with full basket. IDPs (New and protracted) and residents are assisted with half basket (with also date bars in some critical New IDPs locations). ▪ WFP Sudan resumed cash-based transfers in Kassala, aiming to reach over 35,000 beneficiaries before the end of the month – expansion of cash-based assistance planned for around 200,000 beneficiaries by end of 2023 in the East. ▪ WFP Sudan provided its first cross-border assistance to West Darfur, reaching 15,450 IDPs and residents across Adikong, Shukri, and Jarabi. Plans are underway to reach an additional 165,400 in Geneina and Ardamata in the coming weeks. ▪ WFP currently maintains community helpdesks in over 80 percent of its active programme distribution and verification sites, which are registering a steady increase in usage. <p>Access Challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chad Geneina corridor produced positive and optimistic results. We have sent first convoy of 4 trucks in August to West Darfur (Geneina) reaching 15,500 people in 3 villages. More convoys are being planned, keeping in mind the changing situation. The rest of the Darfurs remain inaccessible. Some organizations made successful access but had to incur costs for local escorts in addition to safety challenges for their convoy drivers. ▪ At this point of time WFP is following the JOP for access to Darfur agreed with OCHA and we are not breaking the principles agreed. ▪ We have done distributions in SK in June, after which it was cut off because of the rainy season as well as 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ WFP will share some assessments identifying the vulnerability status of each population group. ▪ WFP will present RNA and Emergency Food Security Assessment findings in the next FSL meeting.
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	<p>fighting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Access in Khartoum remains unpredictable. So far we have been able to provide repeated food assistance in Ombada and Karrari areas in the north of Omdurman, and Jabal Awlia area in the South of Khartoum. In the initial days of the assistance, we have done distributions inside KRT and Omdurman using convoys that were already there. ▪ Access in the two areas and in Abiyei remains constrained <p>Q&A:</p> <p>Q: <i>There are some contradicting information in the ongoing market functionality assessment and the food balance sheet.</i></p> <p>A: The food balance sheet has been developed based on the findings of CFSAM which usually takes place in November every year. It estimates the production of cereals in the country and the demand of the following year. The balance sheet will be updated in the next CFSAM assessment during October/November this year.</p> <p>Q: <i>What is the rationale behind the segmentation of the food ration? Is there any collaboration between WFP and IOM to provide immediate assistance to new IDPs? Is WFP carrying on any assessment to scale up the cash response?</i></p> <p>A: Refugees are assisted with full food basket as agreed with UNHCR due to their vulnerability status. WFP is assisting beneficiaries based on their vulnerability not on their status. The vulnerability status of each segment (population group) can be explained through a number of assessments conducted including the IPC. Moreover, WFP is currently conducting new assessments (RNA and Emergency Food Security Assessment) to re-identify vulnerabilities of IDPs and host communities given the complexity of the current situation. Regarding collaboration with IOM, WFP confirms the existence of a common system between WFP, IOM and UNHCR.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ WFP suggests to hold a bilateral meeting with ECHO and concerned stakeholders to showcase the system used by WFP, IOM and UNHCR for food distribution.
<p>FSL Response Updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FSL Sector has managed to reach 2.26M beneficiaries with different food security and livelihoods activities since 15 Apr 2023. ▪ These individuals are geographically distributed among 15 states in Sudan ▪ 16 UN agencies, national and international organization has reported their FSL activities during the last period. ▪ As per the beneficiaries per activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General Food Distribution (Half Ration) – 1.19M - General Food Distribution (Full Ration) – 932K - Agricultural Support– 100K ▪ The most covered state is White Nile with 782K beneficiaries ▪ West Darfur, West Kordofan, Abyei and Sennar remain uncovered with FSL activities. ▪ Gedaref State has the most FSL presence (6 partners) <p>Arrangements and instructions for sharing 5Ws Matrix:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 5W matrix to be shared in a bi-weekly basis instead of old arrangements (weekly basis). ▪ Extended and detailed 5Ws matrix will be shared with partners to submit their response updates instead of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FSL partners need to share their 5Ws data bi-weekly. ▪ FSL IMO will organize a briefing session on 5Ws matrix upon partners' request ▪ FSL partners to share their comments and feedback on the Sudan

	<p>the current simplified matrix.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A detailed guidelines will be shared along with the new 5Ws matrix. ▪ 5Ws to be shared for activities occurred after 15 April. 	<p>Emergency Response Dashboard 2023</p>
<p>Updates on Displacement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Overall displaced individuals across Sudan has reached 3.43M individuals (686K Households). ▪ The conflict caused the Mixed Cross-Border Movements of 1M individuals into neighboring countries namely Egypt, Libya, Chad, Central African Republic, South Sudan and Ethiopia. ▪ The highest proportions of IDPs have been observed in River Nile (15%), Northern State(11%), White Nile (8%), North Darfur, (8%) and Sennar (8%) states. ▪ The majority (74%) have been displaced from Khartoum state; followed by North Darfur (8.1%), South Darfur (7.4%), West Darfur (4.8%), and Central Darfur (4.28%). ▪ Almost 68% of arrivals in those countries were Sudanese nationals and 34% are foreign nationals and returnees. ▪ The majority of arrivals were reported in Chad (36.5%), Chad (30.3%), and South Sudan (22.5%). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For more information, please visit Sudan DTM Website.
<p>Sudan IPC 2023 Updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Information available in the FSL Sector meeting presentation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Referred to the FSL Sector meeting presentation
<p>Partners Updates, Funding, Access & Operational Challenges</p>	<p>ZOA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ South Darfur (with funding from the Dutch government via the Embassy of the Netherlands in Sudan): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment demonstration farms: in Abuhmra and Tillage villages land preparation was and planting of 6 feddans (2 feddans of Ground Nuts, 2 feddans of Sorghum and 2 feddans of Millet) completed. - Farmer filed schools: in five villages in Mershing locality, namely Abuhmara. Jurof. Manawashi. Duma and Metshing, Seven (7) FFS were organized benefiting a total of 160 farmers (95 female and 65 male). The 4 FFS sessions were organized in coordination with extension agent in Abuhmara and Jurf villages. The main topics discussed included land preparation, seeds selection, sparing, water harvest techniques, making spaces between the lines and holes for each crop, etc. ▪ East Darfur <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Distribution of Agricultural seeds: 49,500 kg of Ground Nuts, 6000 kg of Sorghum and vegetable seeds were distributed. 1,000 smallholder farmers i.e., 500 in Ed Daien Rural and 500 in Adilla. As a result, 4500 Fedans were planted with each farmer planting 4.5 fedans. - 30 FFS sessions were conducted in Ed Daien Rural, Adila and Abu karinka 10 FFS per each locality. - 10 Demo farms were established in Adila and Ed Daien Rural, 5 per locality. ▪ North Darfur (funds from Tear Australia and Dutch Relief Alliance) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Five different 5 types of improved seeds and agricultural tools to (donkey ploughs, hoes, etc.) were distributed to 120 vulnerable women. - Two FFS training sessions were conducted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FSL Sector asked partners to share their 5Ws regularly with FSL sector.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two villages Saving and Loan Association groups formed. - Four businesses groups supported to start and run their small businesses. - In-kind food parcels were distributed for 100 HHs who have access to communal kitchen. ▪ Challenges - Communication - Access - Banks not operational 	
<p>AOB</p>	<p><i>CWG Updates</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Multipurpose Cash 4W Matrix</i> - Multipurpose cash 4W and cluster sectoral cash data compiled for all cash programs implemented in June and July 2023. - Publication of cash snapshot for June/July delayed due to missing and/or incorrect data, OCHA IM following up with those partners for missing information, with aim to publish snapshot soonest. - Going forward MPC 4W and sectoral cash data will be compiled on a monthly basis and will be followed by the publication of an infographic. ▪ <i>Strengthening linkages with Financial Service Providers</i> - As FSP coverage and capacity has a direct impact on ability to scale up cash programming, the CWG launched informative sessions with FSPs to increase understanding on what FSPs can and can't do. - Bank of Khartoum, RedRose, Cashi and MTN have presented, with AIDONIC, Blue Nile Mashreg Bank, Ebdaa Bank and Last Mile Technology planned in the coming weeks. - FSP mapping matrix is consolidating information related to FSP capacity, including contact information, in order to make FSP services available to all partners interested in cash programming. ▪ <i>Development of the interim Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB)</i> - The MEB Technical Working Group is finalizing the interim MEB based off the MEB developed in 2021 by WFP and the CWG. - Objective is to quantify the items in the MEB so that REACH/JMMI can begin to capture prices of non-food items to complement WFP's food monthly price monitoring to update the suggested MEB transfer value. - The TWG will then begin to develop the comprehensive MEB, to better reflect the humanitarian needs post crisis. The TWG will be working with cluster coordinators to ensure sectoral needs are included in the MEB and in REACH/JMMI's price monitoring framework to develop a more up to date and realistic transfer value. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Referred to the presentation for more details. ▪ Contact CWG coordinator: Agustin Orengo, orengo@un.org, WhatsApp: +58 424 2396919

Annex 1 – Participants List – 17 August 2023

Sr. #	Name	Organization
1	Abubakr Albukhary	Save the Children
2	Agustin Orengo	OCHA
3	Amtalaleem	HOPE
4	Andrea Berloff	FAO
5	Ayşe Yıldız Kurban	IHH
6	Calogero DI GLORIA	ECHO
7	Clotilde Pinoche	TGH
8	Elwathig Mukhtarhamid	FAO
9	Enas OSMAN	IOM
10	Faisal Radi	IAS
11	Fatima Eltahir	FAO
12	Firoj Ahmed	FAO
13	Fredrik SVENSSON	WFP
14	Gedlu Gizaw	FAO
15	Isadora DAIMMO	WFP
16	Itai Madzivadze	Rescue
17	Yousif Alhaj Mireh Yousif	DRC
18	Lamia Shendi	USAID
19	Mahlet Tekalegne	ZOA
20	Mohamed Alamin	Plan International
21	Muzzamil Mohammed Nour Ahmed Elamin	ECHO
22	Nigel Makwembere	NRC
23	Pirro Tomaso Perri	FAO
24	Saif Dahab	ARCO
25	Woldeselassie Deboch	FAO
26	Salah Koko	OCHA
27	Shaza Elmahi	German Red Cross
28	Snigdha Chakraborty	CRS
29	Veronica Quattrola	FAO
30	Saifa Asif	FSL Sudan - WFP
31	Hamzah Khamis	FSL Sudan - FAO