



Guidance Note: Dry Season Operation Prioritization and Targeting

Overview

FSS partners will undertake the dry season Agricultural Livelihood support through a community-based targeting Approach in 2023. Generally, partners will make a targeting to meet community needs starting from identifying the geographical location areas at the Local Government Area down to selection at the community level. This will be layered with their own needs assessment, Satellite-based analyses, Nigerian Metrological Agency Prediction (NiMet), River Flow locations, and others. The prioritization of LGAs for dry season intervention will be determined by the severity of the Cadre Harmonise (CH) area classification of each location with mapping of the security and access situation, government priorities, and the presence of partners in the (past/current) and implementing partners.

The community-based participatory planning and need assessments of each organization's findings should identify the community/village locations and the needs of the internally displaced persons, refugees, returnees, and host community members in crisis-prone and conflict-affected areas of North-East Nigeria.

Along the process, each partner will also have deepened collaboration with State Ministry of Agriculture counterparts at the State and LGA levels to align with the government strategy and avoid duplication. FSS will work out the mapping and coordination of interventions.

Purpose

As the funding cuts have been observed for the last four consecutive years against the highest People in Need 3.4M for agricultural livelihood intervention in 2023, we prepared this guidance note for FSS partners to use in dry season intervention. So that partners can utilize the scarce resources in an effective and efficient manner to succeed in Livelihood resilience building to affected communities of the BAY states.

By following the key process in the coming Dry Season intervention below, the FSS partner will effectively target the neediest geographical locations, and the most vulnerable food-insecure households to provide the much-needed agricultural inputs to the crisis-affected households in a more coordinated and impactful response.

I. Geographical Targeting

- Use the Cadre Harmonise analysis (Phase 3 and 4 locations) to identify the **scale** (affected population) of needs and **prioritize** the LGA level. Partners are encouraged to focus on the most severely food insecure areas using the CH results,



prioritizing areas or population groups classified in Phase 4 (Emergency), followed by areas/groups and Phase 3 (Crisis).

- Map out the Safe Access to land locations from a security point of view. Partners must ensure the identified locations are in better security conditions concerning insecurity, hazards, intimidation/harassment, or any form of violence against farmers.
- Map out the water access, availability, safe access to irrigation schemes (rivers, wells, streams boreholes, tube wells. etc.), and the seasonal calendar to choose the most suitable locations.
- Collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) on the LGA level selection and caseloads. Discuss the LGA and caseload with MoA and agree on areas. It is good to document the agreement at the state level.
- Align with other programs, (if any), like the government Safety Net program or the irrigation program (announced by the Federal government)
- FSS will work on the mapping and harmonization of the partners' plans. If there is overlapping, FSS will call for a meeting to harmonize and avoid duplication of assistance at the LGA level of intervention.

II. Household Targeting

- Conduct Community-Based Participatory Planning and Need (CBPPNA) assessment to identify and prioritize the geographical locations, and most vulnerable, food-insecure internally displaced persons, refugees, returnees, and host community members. It will also help us to bring together members of the communities, and local government to engage in the plan and prioritize the neediest.
- Partners will set up a Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms, and arrange a Toll-free line, or box for complaints during the targeting process to ensure accountability to affected populations and sensitized beneficiaries to call the number.
- Conduct beneficiaries' sensitization at the community level and inform the selection criteria of the community members, govt participants, and all stakeholders.
- Partners will set up a beneficiary/household selection committee to assist with beneficiary targeting and selection in each community of intervention, and the committee has to be based on willingness and all-inclusive (including gender-oriented) to promote the participation of women and other vulnerable groups.



- Partners also will conduct a beneficiaries' sensitization at the community level. Inform the selection criteria of the community members, govt, and all stakeholders.
- Identify/select beneficiary households in accordance with the stipulated and agreed criteria. The agreed selection criteria will be consensual and accepted by the community. For example: Prioritizing flood/dry-spell-affected vulnerable households in the targeted LGAs/Communities, selecting the poor and very poor using wealth ranking.
- Consider prioritizing the following Households that have access to safe land for targeting: IDPs, Returnees, and Host communities that have access to land, Women headed, widowed, Youths, flood/drought affected, and disabled.
- Conduct community mobilization and sensitization of male and female farmers on the project intervention in targeted communities. The sensitization messages will include project purpose, duration and timing of implementation, beneficiary entitlements, and the donors supporting the program.
- Partners to target households who are willing to participate in training and capacity-building sessions to foster the adoption of new practices and schemes.
- Target vulnerable female households with a minimum of 30% using the selection criteria.
- Carry out sensitization and enlightenment campaigns on the protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, GBV, Gender discrimination, and forced and child labor.
- Inform and train beneficiaries on prevention from exposure to land mines and unexploded ordinances of war (UXOs)

III. Modalities/Kits selection (In-kind)

- FSS Partners will determine the modality based on the Community Based Participatory Planning Need Assessment, Market, and financial institution assessment, farmer's preferences/choices, objectives of the project....etc
- Engaging the State Ministry of Agriculture or National Seed Council (NASC) in the selection of kits to revitalize the seed system within the targeted community to build local markets.
- Consider household preference and agroecology on the kit selections including a mixture of cereals, legumes, and vegetable seeds with fertilizer, and irrigation pumps for 0.5hectare (Max)
- Focus on early maturing crops/seeds that suit the varieties adapted to local conditions and climate change.



- Undertake community engagement through sensitization and awareness creation on dry season kit compositions before the distribution.
- Avail training on good agriculture practices and extension support to the beneficiaries.