



LEBANON FOOD SECURITY SECTOR

FSSWG Monthly Meeting

13 April 2021

Remote meeting

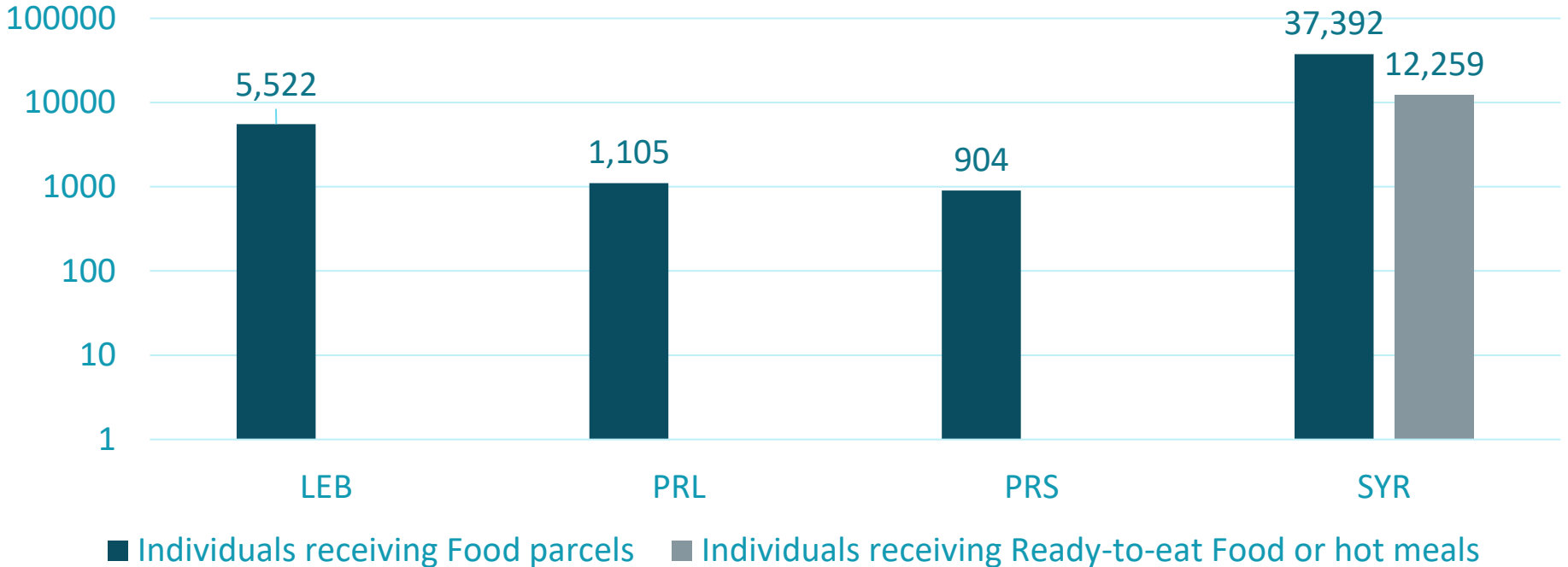
Agenda



1. WFP/RAM food security analysis updates
2. Sector Updates (LCRP-COVID-19-Referrals) and presentation by IMO on interactive dashboards on appeal and implementing partners 2021
3. Tension monitoring update and conflict sensitivity tips by UNDP/Social stability sector
4. Partners' updates, constraints, and gaps
5. Next steps on discussions on dollarization of assistance
6. Sector Coordination Performance Monitoring (with GfSC)-2020: sharing results of the survey done in February with sector partners and identify actions to improve sector performance
7. AOB
 - LCRP Review: identification of best practices and lessons learned
 - Contingency plan
 - Food system summit
 - National training on child labour in agriculture 20 April



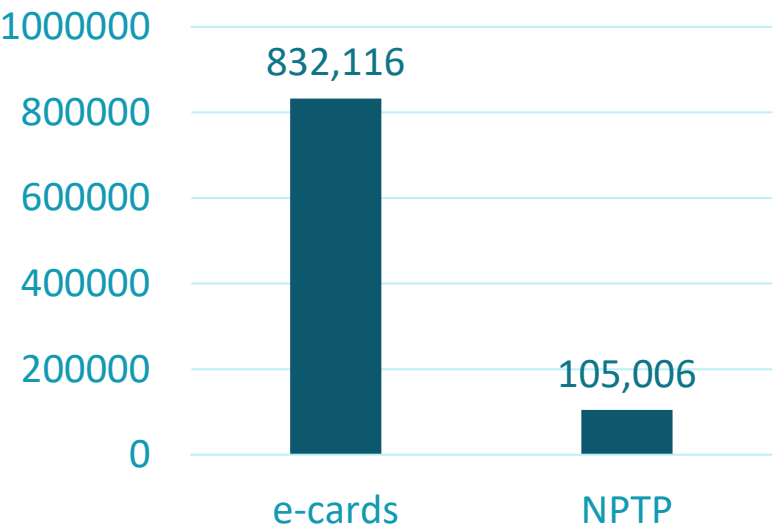
March 2021 updates: Food assistance in kind (FP and HM-RTE)



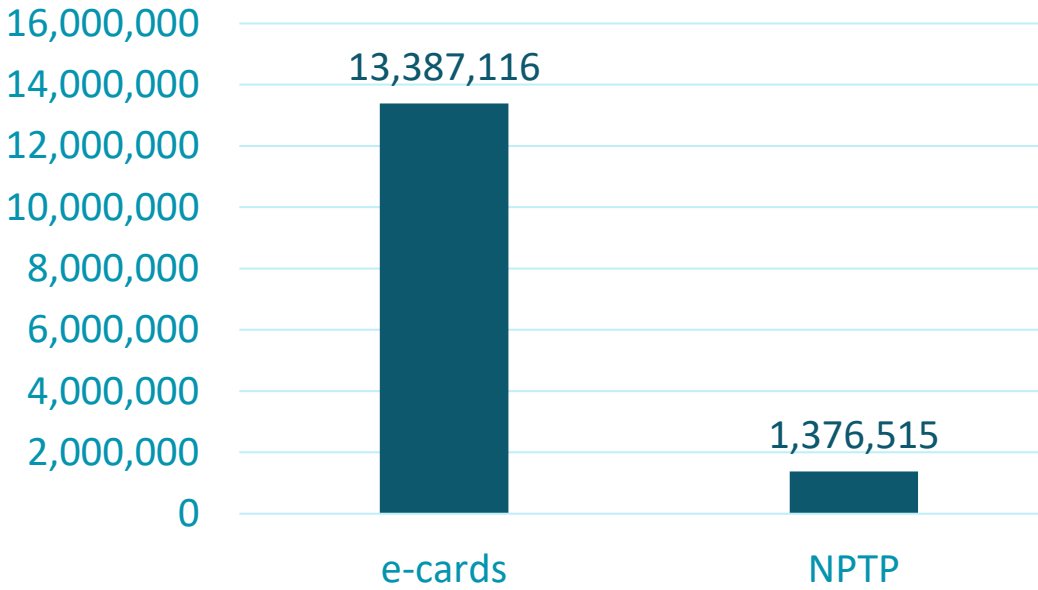
March 2021 updates: Food assistance (cash-based transfers)



of individuals have access to cash-based food assistance

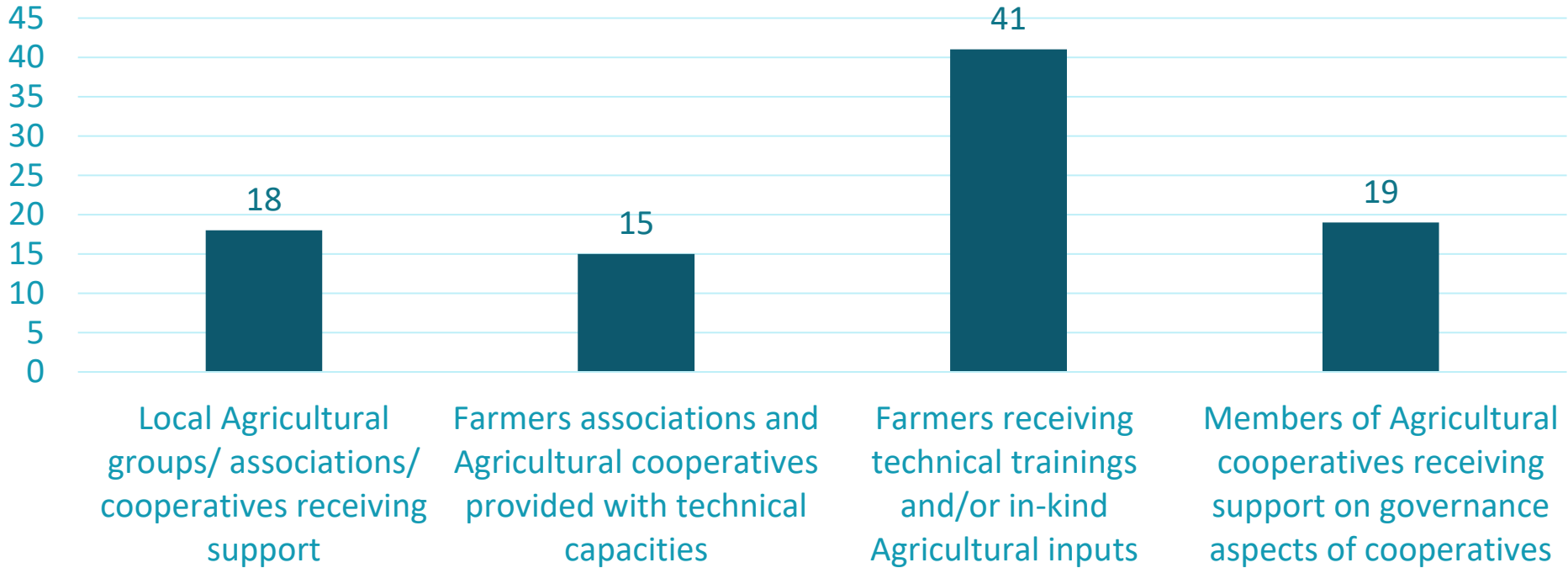


Cash redeemed (in USD)

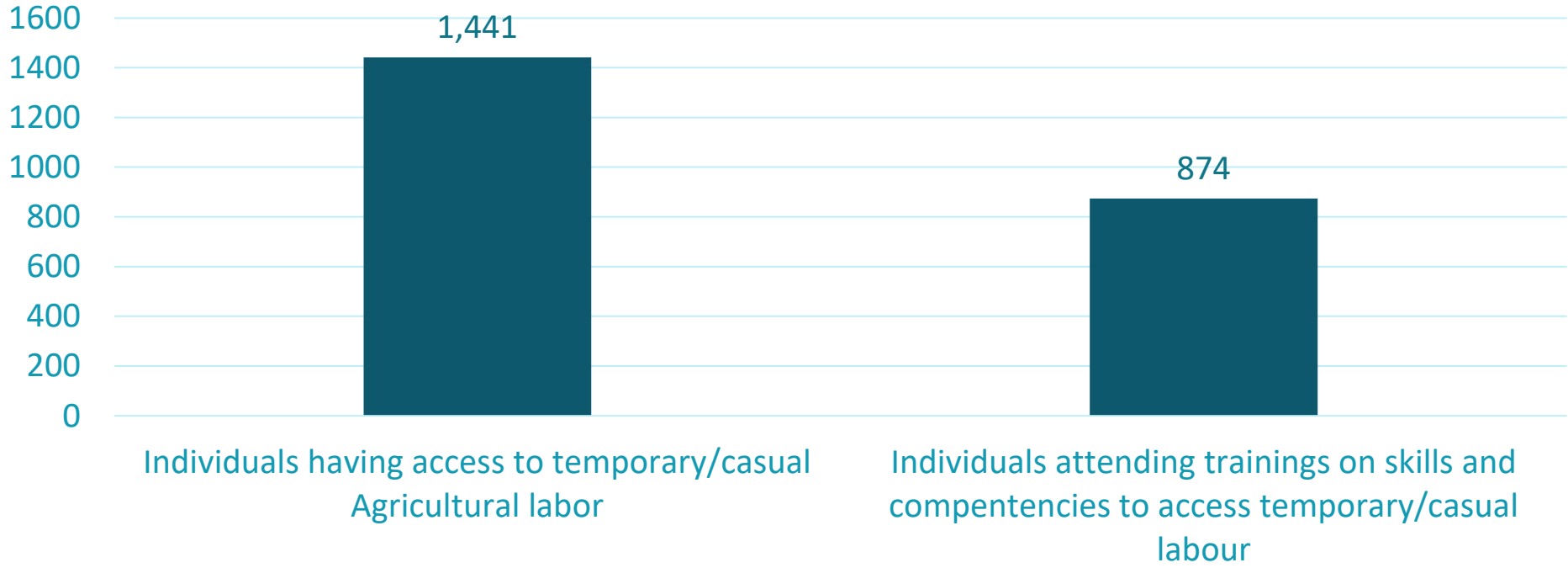


WFP CBT Redemption rate March: 95% for the food ecard and 99.5% for CFF

March 2021 updates: Support to agriculture and agriculture livelihoods



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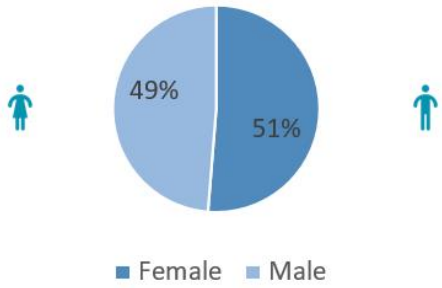
March 2021 updates: COVID-19 food assistance

Covid-19 Response. Food Parcels Distributed – March 2021

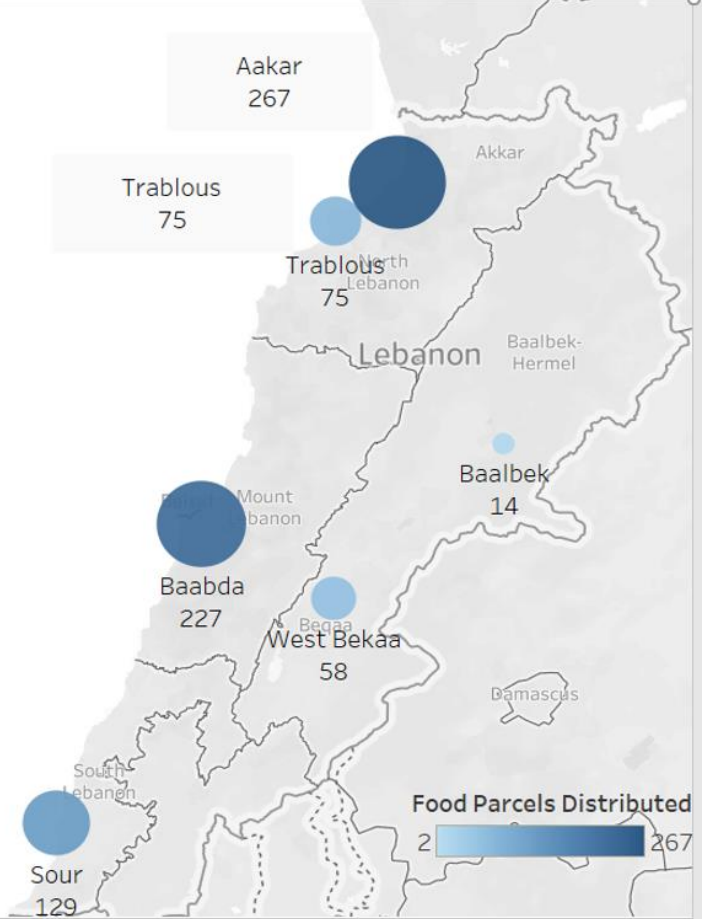
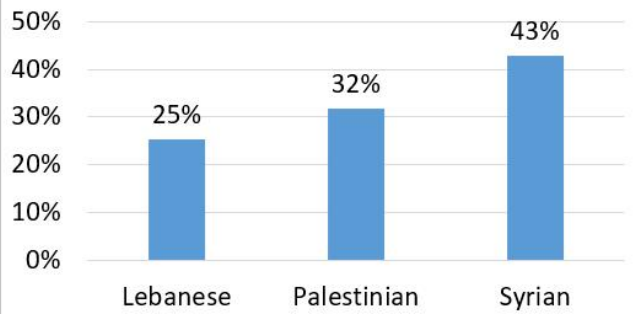
Lebanon Food Security Sector

Total number of food parcels distributed: 772

Gender



Cohort



Reported Partners: ACF, SCI



FSS assistance transfer value

- In-kind food parcel: on the basis of the FSS composition of the food parcel: value @USD 550,000 LBP/HH/m (latest available data from the retail database)
- Cash-based food assistance (all modalities): budgeted for 2021 LBP 120,000 LBP/p/m; currently used LBP 100,000/p/m
- Cash for work: LBP 50,000/p/d unskilled workers
- FFA/FFT: monthly value aligned with WFP cash-based food assistance

Currency of transfers

- Transfers currently in LBP



The dashboard presents data compiled from two data sources: Inter-Agency Referral Monitoring System (developed by the Inter-Agency Coordination) and Referral Information Management System (RIMS, developed by the Danish Refugee Council). It is a product of collaboration of partners in the field, the Danish Refugee Council, UNHCR and the Inter-Agency Coordination.

- Q4 2020: Decline in the total number of reported referrals for food security services from 68% of all referrals reported in Q3 to 2% in Q4. Q3 increase was led by WFP referrals to the LHF first standard allocation partners.
- The biggest declines in referral rates by region are observed in Mount Lebanon, the North and the South.
- The **response rate remained high** at 82% of all referrals receiving response. Marked increase in the rate of acceptance from 0% in Q3 to 54% in Q4. Acceptance rates were highest in Nabatiye, Baalbek-El Hermel and Beirut. However, the rate of 'no feedback received' increased to 17%.
- Looking at RIMS data, the majority of referrals came from **Child Protection or Protection partners** in Bekaa, the North and Beirut, while the main source of referrals in Mount Lebanon came from **Health partners**.
- The majority of referrals were for Syrians in Bekaa, the North and Mount Lebanon, with the majority of referrals directed to vulnerable Lebanese households in Beirut and Nabatiye.
- All referrals continue to be for adults aged 18-59 years in most regions, except for Beirut and Mount Lebanon where about a quarter of all referrals are for services for those aged 60 years and older.



- The majority of referrals were for **female beneficiaries** across all regions, which indicates a change in Bekaa from Q3 when nearly all referrals were for male beneficiaries.
- There was a **notable improvement in response time** in Q4 with all referrals in Bekaa, Mount Lebanon and Nabatiye receiving a response in 48 hours or less.
- While Beirut received the most referrals in Q4, they also seem to have had more trouble responding on time with nearly two-thirds of all referrals reportedly having delayed response times.
- Improved response times may have contributed to observed improvements in referral process timeliness, with all reported referrals taking less than 14 days to fully process in Mount Lebanon, and Nabatiye.

Key actions from sector:

- Clarify with partners who can accept referrals, who can't and why not (update of service mapping) and make information available to other sectors to manage expectations
- Write-up with BA on MPCA/CFF/food e vouchers + revision of sector services
- Continue advocacy with donors on funding for partners to respond to referrals
- THU 22 APR @ 11am - Sector refresher training on service mapping/referrals processes

FSS AWP 2021 update Q1 and Q2 focus



1. Link to AWP 2021:

[2021 FSS AWP draft 28012021.xlsx - Google Drive](#)

2. AWP Q2 focus:

1. Guidelines for door-to-door distribution/home-based deliveries/proof of delivery
2. Creation of a platform to link partners to local producers, easily accessible, comprehensive with updated contact info, able to be filtered by region and by item
3. Deduplication platform
4. Standard templates/core questions/indicators for outcome monitoring

4. Feedback USD disbursement of humanitarian cash assistance



Current discussion on possible USD disbursement led by Resident Coordinator Office

The consolidated risk and mitigation measures analysis across the humanitarian community paper discussed in ad-hoc HCT meeting on April 8th

- The HCT has expressed support for a hybrid system: i) dollarizing all direct humanitarian cash assistance programs; ii) exception for those programs where it is not possible; for which an exchange rate equal to the parallel market rate should be applied (i.e. programs channeled through government institutions)
- The transition to dollarization for humanitarian cash programs is temporary
- The HCT agreed to identify humanitarian interventions that cannot be dollarized and constitute 'red lines' for the humanitarian community
- As next step, the HC tasked the Cash Task Force under the HCT to prepare a two-page document with clear red lines and caveats identifying humanitarian interventions with no ability to dollarize stemming from grave operational and programmatic risks that cannot be mitigated.
- **Concerned partners to fill out google sheet template identifying the humanitarian interventions with no ability to dollarize by 14 April.**

5. Sector Coordination Performance Monitoring (with GfSC)-2020



Core Functions	Questions	Performance status	Partners feedback
1. Supporting service delivery			
1.1 Providing a platform that ensures service delivery is driven by Humanitarian Response Plan and strategic priorities	Q2.1	Good (96% overall satisfaction with meetings)	
1.2 Developing mechanisms to eliminate duplication of service delivery	Q2.2	Good (68% overall satisfaction with cluster products) but satisfaction on selected products was at 40% only	Full time IMO recruited in February 2021 (interactive dashboards appeal and implementing ; partners presence maps; Ramadan dashboard; agri. cooperative mapping)
2. Informing strategic decisions of the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) and Humanitarian Country Team (HCT)			
2.1 Preparing needs assessments and analysis of gaps (across and within Clusters, using information management tools as needed) to inform the setting of priorities	Q3.1, Q3.2	- 44% fully/28% yes need minor improvement - 64% fully/ 24% yes need minor improvement	
2.2 Identifying and finding solutions for (emerging) gaps, obstacles, duplication and cross-cutting issues	Q3.3, Q3.4	36% good/ 24% satisfactory needs minor improvements—Q3.3	Q3.4 we think not applicable to the context of the LCRP
2.3 Formulating priorities on the basis of analysis	Q3.5	40% good/ 32% satisfactory needs minor improvements	
3. Planning and implementing Cluster strategies			
3.1 Developing sectoral plans, objectives and indicators that directly support realization of the overall response's strategic objectives (e.g. of an HRP)	Q4.1, Q4.2	- 64% fully/ 8% yes need minor improvements - 56% fully/24% yes need minor improvement	
3.2 Applying and adhering to common standards and guidelines	Q4.3, Q4.4	-32% fully/40% yes need minor improvement -37% strong/ 63% satisfactory	Sector developed food parcels guidelines + COVID related+ C&V for farmers in 2020 What else is needed?
3.3 Clarifying funding requirements, helping to set priorities, and agreeing Cluster contributions to the HC's overall humanitarian funding proposals	Q4.5	-68% fully/ 17% yes need minor improvement	

In 2021 FSS to consult with GfSC to review the questionnaire to account for Lebanon context.



5. Sector Coordination Performance Monitoring (with GfSC)-2020

4. Monitoring and evaluating performance			
4.1 Monitoring and reporting on activities and needs: Sharing Sector Information Products	Q5.1	64% fully/ 16% yes need minor improvement	
4.2 Measuring progress against the Cluster strategy and agreed results: information products and updates, needs analysis and response planning supported and influenced your organization's decisions?	Q5.2	36% fully/ 32% yes with minor improvements/ 8% NA	
5. Building national capacity in preparedness and contingency planning			
5.1 National contingency plans identified, updated and shared	Q6.1, Q6.2, Q6.3	NA for LCRP	
5.2 Cluster roles and responsibilities defined and understood	Q6.4		
5.3 Early warning reports shared with partners	Q6.5		
6. Advocacy			
6.1 Identify concerns and contributing key information and messages to HC and HCT messaging and action.	Q7.1	32% fully/28% yes need minor improvement	
6.2 Undertaking advocacy on behalf of Cluster, Cluster members and affected people	Q7.2	16% fully/44% yes need minor improvement	IS advocacy. Advocacy note on removal of subsidies Included in 2021 AWP, prepared and circulated. Currently being updated and will be disseminated in April. Advocating for more resources for responding to COVID-19 Anything else?
7 Accountability to affected people			
7.1 Mechanisms to consult and involve affected people in decision-making agreed upon and used by partners	Q8.1	32% fully/ 20% yes need minor improvement	
7.2 Mechanisms to receive, investigate and act upon complaints on the assistance received agreed upon and used by partners	Q8.2	28% fully/16% yes need minor improvement	CFM is part of IS work. Anything the sector should be doing?
7.3 Key issues relating to protection from sexual exploitation and abuse have been raised and discussed	Q8.3, 8.4	- 52% fully/ 16% yes need minor improvement - 63% fully/ 19% yes need minor improvement	FSS focal point for PSEA

7. AOB



1. LCRP Review: identification of best practices and lessons learned
2. LCRP/EOC Contingency plan
3. Food system summit
4. National training on child labour in agriculture 20 April
5. Advocacy Note on removal of subsidies updated, presented at the national Intersector meeting and will be disseminated in April again
6. Joint bimonthly meeting on agriculture cooperatives on 23 April

