Minutes Highlands Earthquake 2018/3

Thursday 12th April 2018 at 2:00 PM
Department of Agriculture and Livestock, Main Conference Room, Central Government Office (CGO) Building, Waigani

Chair

Helmtrude Sikas-Iha, National Food Security and Agriculture Cluster Coordinator chaired the meeting in the absence of Mr. Brown Konabe who was away for another meeting.

Participants

Refer to Annex 1.

Agenda

1. Review of last meeting
2. Coverage Update and Response Gap
3. Response Targeting
4. Response Tracking
5. Partner Updates
6. Agriculture Recovery Packages
7. AOB

1. Review of last meeting

- FSC Coordinator followed-up with ICG and field partners who were implementing in Bosavi area for observational assessments on food insecurity:
  - Generally, non-food partners implementing in the area briefly said affected people when spoken to showed interest in returning to their villages and restoring their gardens with tools and seeds, as well with immediate food assistance as start-up.

2. Coverage Update and Response Gaps

- Briefly, while some partners are continuing with food provision, others are procuring tools, seeds and ready to start early food garden recovery phase. While the private sector are now into the recovery phase, NGOs and churches are in between the food response and agriculture recovery phases. UN’s WFP and FAO will start distributions of high energy food and seeds very soon.
3. Response Targeting

- Communal hubs and distribution points
  - It was raised that food distributing organizations may have to make on the ground assessments of displaced families in care center populations, to ensure if the priority need is food or moving back to their villages and restarting their lives and the need to build houses making food a secondary priority.

- KoBo community survey and partners’ experiences
  - Partners were informed of the survey and that it will require support from partners to assist with the collection of quality information. That will be communicated to partners through email.
  - Experiences from the usage of the KoBo ToolBox were that:
    - the selection of the Android device should be the ones with long battery life considering the remoteness of the earthquake locations away from power charging stations e.g. phones for only multiple-choice questions
    - Tablets were recommended for mixed method survey i.e. open-ended questions (only) or together with multiple choice taking into consideration the survey sample size and again the phone battery life
    - The android device should be designated to KoBo use only as using the phone for other programs depletes battery life

- Coordinated efforts
  - One of the reasons for coordinated efforts by partners distributing food is to see where they can help best share costs when transporting food. If any other partners are working in the Huiya area, ADRA for example can share cost of transportation with them e.g. share the cost of front and back loads of the cost of one load

4. Response Tracking

- Partners were reminded to contribute their weekly inputs for the 3Ws and sitreps
- There was a brief discussion ensuring that indicators for food security at the household level such as people’s accessibility, availability and utilization of food including local coping strategies, should be monitored when conducting response
- Partners expressed that as part of enhancing families’ local coping strategies to recover from the earthquake sustainably, agriculture and food gardening response activities need to start happening
- While Recovery Plans of food partners are undergoing administrative approval stages, seeds and tools provision will commence
- This is to encourage disintegration of IDPs from communal hubs to return to their villages

5. Partner Updates including ongoing Delivery/Assessments

- ADRA
  - Currently distributing in Huiya
  - The only distributing partner in the area hence this is only food received in the area
  - People’s food supplies have depleted and are in need for more food
Food Cluster encourages partner within the cluster and ICG to help food partners by sharing cost of relief into the area

- United Church
  - Under the CPP, at the earlier stages of the response were have been part of the team for assessment and food distributions in Hela and surrounding communities where they distributed food for almost a month
  - They are now into NFIs, assessments and community engagements

- Caritas/CPP
  - With funds from donors, the church program will continue its response efforts in the areas of WASH, Shelter, Hygiene and agriculture recovery/livelihoods programming response activities into their psycho-social and peace building program
  - Corn seeds will be obtained from the community
  - From NARI Tambul, 2 varieties of corn were collected; 100 kg of each corn variety and 55kg of rice

- Exxon Mobil PNG (and ANUE)
  - While people are still in need of food and their needs have been exacerbated by inter-tribal conflicts
  - People are eating less and less food and need to move back into their gardens
  - Prioritize rebuilding of shelters
  - 500 kg of seeds of corn, bean and cabbage procured from Terra Nova
  - Available OP corn currently in discussion with Trukai and other seed providers
  - 5000 spades and basic carpentary tools procured in Lae for distribution

6. Agricultural food gardens packages

- Briefly partners were reminded that the cluster discourages the issue of knives and axes as to avoid exposing people to further harm as a result of food security and livelihoods interventions. Tools that can be provided are spades, shovels, seed containers and watering cans.
- Additionally, FBO partners discouraged the provision of bush knives and axes as people have been using for them for the wrong purpose.

Action points

1. Cluster Coordinator to circulate a list of recommend seeds, planting materials and tools.
2. Cluster Coordinator to circulate a seed inventory list with local seeds and planting material available sources
3. Partners to also to share what each of their current farming family gardens can provide in terms of seeds and planting material stock
### NEXT MEETING

**Friday 21st April, 2018 | Mendi | Time 10 am | Venue TBC**

### ANNEX 1 – ATTENDANCE LIST

1. Mirriam Mondai, National Technical Officer, FAO
2. Serah Kende, CDS Coordinator, EMPNG
3. Michel Schultz, Livelihoods Manager, ANU E
4. Milton Kwaipo, Emergency Response Coordinator,
5. Willie Kunsei, Emergency Coordinator, ADRA
6. Kevin Koivi, United Church PNG
7. Helmtrude Sikas-Iha, NFSAC Coordinator, FAO