MINUTES –RAKHINE FOOD SECURITY SECTOR MEETING

September 2016

Regional Food Security Sector in Rakhine was called in Sittwe on 15th of September, to see the progress around Food Security coordination in Rakhine. The meeting was attended by 16 participants from 11 institutions, including 4 UN Agencies, and 4 INGOs.

The meeting encompasses the following agenda items;

1. Round of Introduction and review of previous meeting minutes;
2. Update on HNO/HRP for 2017;
3. FSS 4W matrix - template;
4. Update on GBV Guidelines Rollout Workshop

1. Review of last FSS meeting Minutes;
   • The action points on the development of Technical guidance on winter crops, initial template of 4W matrix for FSS in Rakhine, and coordination between active organizations in central townships of Rakhine (FAO, Oxfam, IRC, ICRC, IFRC and RI)
   • The action point related to the harmonization of data of affected population was linked with the proposed SCOPE exercise of WFP in IDP camps; the proposed agenda item of providing orientation on the SCOPE methodology was moved to upcoming meeting due to the pressing engagements of relevant WFP colleagues;
   • The TORs of Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment (CFSVA) is not finalized yet for onward sharing with FSS partners; it will be followed with WFP VAM Unit along with the first draft of TORs for FSS in Rakhine from the Sector Coordination.

2. Update on Humanitarian Program Cycle (HNO/HRP):
   • Meeting participants were updated on the Humanitarian Program Cycle for the year 2017; the HCT endorsed the planning process with the initiation of Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) during the month of August; the scope of HPC in 2017 was limited to the conflict emergencies of Rakhine, Kachin and Shan;
   • The HNO exercise captured three broad areas for every sector/cluster i.e. the humanitarian overview of the situation, recognition of affected categories in emergencies and population in need of particular sectors/clusters in the planning timeframe;
   • The HNO process was dealt mainly with FSS partners at Country level but with close consultation with active partners/colleagues in the field offices;
   • The FSS triangulate information from different assessment exercises, and data collected from the active partners through their on-going projects;
• For Rakhine, an estimated 265,000 people are in need of humanitarian assistance in food security sector during 2017; the needs of both displaced and non-displaced population affected from on-going conflict were recognized in the 11 townships of northern and central Rakhine regions;

• The non-displaced population in northern Rakhine was debated among humanitarian community either it should become part of humanitarian planning, since the issues there are more longer term and chronic in nature especially the health, nutrition and food in-security;

• Food Security Sector has identified the recurring humanitarian needs of these population and fearing the food security to be aggravated if the support is withdrawn from the Northern Rakhine State. Partners are welcome to provide any further thoughts to augment the discussion, since HNO is yet to be endorsed by HCT;

• The HRP step will follow after the endorsement of HNO for strategizing food security response around these identified needs, during the month of October.

**Action Point:**

- Partners will be updated on the HRP stage, planning workshops will be organized at the national and sub-national levels for agreement on a coherent FS strategy in 2017 for inclusion in HRP plan

3. **4W template of FSS in Rakhine:**

- As agreed during the last FSS meeting in Sittwe, a 4W template was developed with the support of OCHA colleagues at the country office;

- The template was designed to include standard indicators of Who, What, Where, and Whom information with some additional program information for adding value;

- The template was largely endorsed by the participants with couple of additional information level to include;
  
  a. Location of IDP camps and its name of camp;
  
  b. Additional details of the activities, like package designs or cash transfer value along WHAT indicators to see harmonization of interventions

- A suggestion was also being raised to include nutrition indicators in the 4W matrix, it was informed by Nutrition Sector colleagues that they have their own 4W matrix; however level of complementarities can be checked during analysis phase of both sectors;

- It was also mentioned that some basic SOPs will be developed to guide on the data collection intensity, analysis pattern, focal points and data sharing protocols of 4W matrix;
Action Point:

CC to update the template of 4W matrix for FSS in Rakhine and share with partners to capture further comments and endorsement. The 4W will be launched during the month of October

4. Rollout of GBV Guidelines in Rakhine:

- The participants were updated on the successful conduct of workshop for the rollout of GBV guidelines in Myanmar, starting from Rakhine;
- 25 participants representing different organizations attended the workshop; Organizations were thanked for their proactive participation in the workshop for food security, nutrition, and livelihood sectors in Rakhine;
- The workshop was facilitated by Global Support Unit of GBV Guidelines; conceptual clarity on GBV, its incidence, and importance in different phases of emergency response was highlighted;
- The guidelines were further translated in the program cycle management, and practical suggestions were provided for the prevention and mitigation of such incidences in different steps of humanitarian programming;
- Facilitators encouraged organizations to work out GBV commitments and action plans to help promote these guidelines in the working of their organizations;
- Further support from the global support unit and ICCG will guide more practical guidance on the integration of these GBV guidelines in the programs, coordination structures and strategies of different sectors/clusters;
- Such workshops are planned to be replicated for partners in Kachin/Shan and Yangon later this year.

5. AOB:

- Nutrition Sector updated on the upcoming mission of ECHO food security experts to Myanmar during the first week of October; the mission is requesting a joint meeting with nutrition and food security partners in Sittwe on 3rd of October 2016;
- The request was endorsed and agreed for further action by respective sector coordinators; the joint meeting will help in much needed integration of nutrition and food security sector in Rakhine.

Next Meeting: tentatively planned on 13th October 2016.
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