Monthly Food Security Sector (FSS) meeting was held on August 24\textsuperscript{th}, 2016 in WFP Office. The meeting was attended by 13 partners, including 3 UN Agencies, 5 INGOs, and 1 Donor representative. Representatives from OCHA, WFP, FAO, Trocaire, Solidarites International, Acted, Welthungerhilfe (WHH), and Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) attended the meeting.

The following Agenda was adopted for the meeting:

1. Round of Introduction and Review of Previous Minutes;
2. Coordination updates;
   i. Flood 2016;
   ii. FSS coordination in Rakhine;
3. Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) for 2017;
4. AOB
   i. Roll out of GBV guidelines in Myanmar – update;

1. **Review of Meeting Minutes and Action Points**;
   - The action point of further interactions with ERN were positive to include the progress of ER projects in the quarterly reporting of FSS in HRP, however the focal point has been changed for ERN and FSS will resume discussions with the new ERN coordinator;
   - The action point of re-activating FSS coordination in Rakhine has been achieved and update is included in the agenda;
   - The showcasing of experience from Solidarites project on agriculture interventions with IDP population has been shifted to the next FSS meeting.

2. **Floods 2016**:
   - Participants were updated on the analysis of 2016 floods situation in Myanmar; the torrential rains and riverine flooding affects more than 480,000 people across 11 states in Myanmar;
   - Floods affects all walk of life but left a significant impact on food security situation in the affected areas; more than 400,000 acres of monsoon crops are affected, food stocks have been damaged, and initial estimates show considerable damages to poultry and fish farming;
   - Government is not requesting the formal humanitarian support, but encouraged national and international organizations to complement their relief efforts. More than 740 million MMK (Kyats) has been spent by Government on relief items, mostly emergency food and staple rice;
   - Responding to the immediate food security needs of flood affected population, WFP provided emergency food rations to more than 168,913 people in different regions (Bago, Ayeyarwaddy, Magway, Mandalay); FAO is supporting Agriculture Department to
provide compound fertilizer to 1500 families in Rakhine; while IRC, Oxfam and ICRC also supported affected farmers with agriculture packages (home gardening, livelihood cash grants) in Rakhine;

- Rapid assessments of FSS partners did identify the immediate life saving needs of affected population and recognize critical recovery needs in agricultural livelihoods, health, WASH, and NFI sectors in the following period; FAO is in close consultation with con Agriculture and Livestock departments for agricultural damages and analyzing response strategy;
- WFP VAM colleague shared an analysis of recent flood intensity on virtual maps (flood observatory of Colorado State University; http://floodobservatory.colorado.edu/Events/2016Myanmar4365/2016%20Flood%20Myanmar%204365.pdf), ; Department of Meteorology and Hydrology forecast of more rainfall in the remaining monsoon season is concerning and will emanate more impact on food security situation in Myanmar;
- Humanitarian Coordinator is considering a CERF Rapid Response proposition to target the most critical needs of flood affected people in Ayeyarwaddy, Magway and Mandalay;
- FSS lead Agencies (FAO and WFP) are taking part in the CERF round; the plan is to target 67,075 flood affected people in Ayeyarwaddy and Magway region with emergency food assistance and agricultural livelihood interventions in food security sector;
- Moreover, an Myanmar Humanitarian Fund (MHF) is also working to allocate reserve funding (possibly 600,000$) for complementing life saving activities of humanitarian community during floods response; priority will be given to local NGO’s for such allocation;
- One of the participant was conveying a concern from local organizations in Magway that the flood response is not sufficient, local organizations are facing difficulties in fund raising for communities didn’t receive necessary support; the comment was well taken for follow up among respective organizations;
- It was highlighted that the CERF window will target primarily those vulnerable communities who are in dire need of life saving assistance. All stakeholders including local organizations will be consulted to make the targeting more effective;
- One of the participant shared the experience from floods 2015 that accumulate extensive mud on agriculture land, which add to the hardship of farmers in clearing their land for winter cropping. It was suggested to analyze this aspect further with agriculture department as part of the recovery strategy. Suggestion was endorsed for further follow up.
- It was agreed to continue consultation and coordination on the floods response and its subsequent affects on food security situation.

**Action Point:**
- *FSS partners, and OCHA to improve coordination with local organizations in flood affected areas, specifically in Ayeyarwaddy and Magway region for effective targeting.*
- FSS CC to consult with DoA to analyze land preparation needs in the affected region for winter cropping season.

3. **FSS Coordination in Rakhine:**
   - The forum was updated on the deliberations of food security sector coordination in Rakhine. The forum was re-activated and met twice fortnightly primarily for coordinating floods response and initiate re-structuring to promote an integrated approach towards food security and livelihood sectors in Rakhine;
   - 26 participants from 17 organizations renewed membership in the forum, both Agriculture and Livestock departments are engaged in the deliberations of the forum;
   - Coordination of floods response with respective needs/gaps analysis and mapping for active partners, technical guidance agriculture department on winter cropping calendar, and initiation of 4W exercise are some important outputs of Rakhine FSS;
   - The TOR’s of the FSS to be updated to provide room for preparedness, and linking emergency with longer term development programs in the region;
   - Participants acknowledge the complexity of coordination environment in Rakhine, and reckon strong support for the deliberations of FSS in Rakhine;
   - Discussion on the 5 year development master plan clarified that it is the strategy of Rakhine State Government, UN agencies are assisting the government with technical support in during the process; the priorities identified within the defined sectors will provide vision for the development agenda of government as well as development partners;
   - FSS has not direct linkage with the development plan, though discussion on identified priorities will help FS partners to align their response strategies in Rakhine;
   - Rakhine based partners strongly acknowledge the initiation of mapping exercise starting with 4W exercise of floods response and capitalizing it further detailed needs/gaps analysis for the complex emergency;

**Action Point:**

*FSS members to report their respective projects to 4W matrix in Rakhine. The exercise is likely to start in the first week of September.*

4. **Humanitarian Planning in 2017:**
   - Participants were informed on the HCT decision to adopt Humanitarian Program Cycle (HPC) for year 2017;
   - The process will start from Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO), providing the context of emergency, affected population and people in needs of respective sector/cluster response;
   - The recurring needs in conflict emergency of Rakhine and Kachin/Shan are recognized for the planning year of 2017, the recovery needs of floods 2015 response is supposed to
be over towards the end of 2016 and remnant needs will evolved into development orientation in the coming timeframe;

- Displaced population, Returnees, crisis affected, hosting communities, and re-settled population are the recognized categories from ongoing response;

- The updated planning numbers from CCCM cluster were shared with the partners to check if the locations and respective numbers are in line with the ongoing response of FSS partners;

- The early recovery multi-sector assessment of UNDP in Rakhine, baseline survey of Solidarites International, and feasibility of income generating activities by Save Children are some of the most recent studies, that can contribute to the analysis of FSS;

- Solidarites shared lessons from their food security and livelihood interventions with displaced population in Kachin; baseline and endline reports highlight encouraging results and its important impact on food security and livelihoods;

- Diversification of income sources, small scale kitchen gardening, other income generating activities have limited scale in camp areas but an important impact on food security of displaced population;

- The same project interventions supported/planning more than 12,000 people in Kachin and Rakhine with these interventions and will require support in 2017;

- Premiere Urgence (PU-AMI) and ACTED International are also working on agriculture activities with displaced population in Kachin and Rakhine, and endorsed to consider the same activities for inclusion in HNO;

- Other participants also endorse the recognition of floods 2016 response in the planning process of HNO; almost half million people affected to date, more than 400,000 acres affected, detailed damages are yet to be ascertained and more importantly preparedness towards floods should be an important consideration for food security sector; the suggestion was endorsed for further working;

- The food assistance partners were asked to verify planning figures of CCCM with their ongoing response, as well as highlighting the needs of food assistance (transitioning from blanket to targeted response) and respective modalities to be clarified for the response strategy of FSS;

- Another round consultation was suggested to have focused discussion on the HNO process; the suggestion was agreed for follow up.

**Action Point:**

- *FSS to consider the floods response in the preparation of HNO 2017; CC to work out analysis of possible floods caseload*
- *Solidarites to share with baseline survey on agriculture project with IDP’s with partners*

5. **Roll Out of GBV Guidelines in Myanmar:**

- The meeting was updated briefly on the roll out of GBV guidelines and effectively integrate it in the response of FSS response strategy in Myanmar;
• The Global support team is organizing a training workshop with FSS partners in Rakhine in the 2-3 week of September; Nutrition and Livelihood partners will also participate with FS partners;
• Invitation and details of logistic arrangement will be circulated soon;
• There was a suggestion to consult Protection Cluster on their ongoing protection incidence monitoring, that SOP’s can help in the roll out of GBV guidelines in FS response strategy;
• The suggestion was acknowledged for further follow up with Protection Cluster.

**Next Meeting:** tentatively planned on 21st September 2016.
Annexure: Participant List

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