

MINUTES OF THE FOOD SECURITY CLUSTER (FSC) PARTNERS MEETING

28th January 2020, NCA Hotel, Mogadishu, Somalia

Chairs

Dr. Mahad Mohamed Hassan - (MoHADM)
Mr. Mohamud Isse Farah - (MoAI)
Mulugeta Shibru - Somalia FSC Co-Coordinator
Bernard Mrewa - Somalia FSC Co-Coordinator

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 am by Dr. Mahad Mohamed Hassan, (Director of National Humanitarian Coordination Centre (NHCC)/Food Security and Nutrition Analyst, Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management-MoHADM) who welcomed all the participants. He encouraged partners to continue with efforts to address needs of affected populations. He highlighted government commitment to the HRP/HPC processes and outcomes and encouraged FSC partners to be innovative.

The co-chair and the FSC cluster coordinators were introduced and a round of introduction for meeting participants was done.

Agenda

1. Opening remarks – Government (MoHADM)
2. Update from the MoAI
3. Update from MoHADM
4. Review of action points of the previous meeting
5. FSC Quarterly response update: needs, coverage and gaps
6. Update on the Desert Locust Outbreak
7. Cash Working Group Update: CFW discussion on harmonization of rates and work norms
8. Agriculture Working Group – discussion on the proposal
9. Accountability to Affected Populations
10. AOB
 - a. Roll-out of SHPERE Training
 - b. Integration: Capacity building training
 - c. Next meeting

1. Review of minutes of previous meeting: Mr. James Kimathi - (WFP/FSC)

The FSC facilitated the partners meeting in Mogadishu at NAC hotel. The meeting was well attended (by 54 partners, including the FSC team); UN, INGOs, LNGOs and staff from different ministries linked to food security activities. A review and action of the previous actionable points was made and discussed. These includes the below:

1. Partners should timely report their activities to the FSC to ensure comprehensive needs, coverage and gaps analysis
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2. Ensure sharing of various presentations to partners, follow up on the compilation of the minutes and action points from the meetings are addressed.
3. Collate the ongoing partners flood responses/plans and ascertain the gaps periodically and report to FSC stakeholders
4. Facilitate reflective discussions with partners in the process of the HNO/HRP to be organized by UNOCHA

2. 2019 FSC monthly response analysis for October, November & December: by Bernard Mrewa - FSC Coordinator

In the month of December seventeen (**17**) partners reported various food security responses.

Under objective 1 (improved access to food and safety nets), FSC partners assisted **1,913,667** out of **2,090,310** targeted (92% achievement). Nevertheless, less than 40% of the people targeted for relief assistance reached in Middle Juba, Lower Shabelle and Lower Juba. The positive trend in assistance should be sustained to mitigate impact of the upcoming extended hunger season. Notably, people assisted with unconditional transfers are mostly those in IPC 3 or worse who experience significant consumption gaps.

Objective 2 (provision of seasonal livelihood inputs). During the calendar month of December, FSC partners assisted **63,753** beneficiaries with seasonal inputs. Cumulatively, for the 2019 Deyr season, **2,324,179** people have been reached: representing 92% of target (**2,529,069**).

Under Objective 3 (supporting livelihoods through conditional transfers), FSC partners reached **356,032** beneficiaries (or 34%) compared to a target of **1,038,127**. This achievement is 2% lower than the previous month when 36% of the target was reached. There is need to scale up these activities which include repairing and effectively managing small-scale productive infrastructure to mitigate shocks, life skills training activities and mitigating other threats to food security including Fall Armyworm, quelea birds and locust invasion being experienced in various parts of Somalia.

ACTION POINT(S)

- i) Cluster partners need to provide explanation to stakeholders including the cluster why in some districts/areas the response remain =.
- ii) Conduct a SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities and Treats) to livelihood Assets creation in most parts of Somalia – building resilience against current and future shocks.
- iii) Ensure sharing of various presentations to partners, follow up on the compilation of the minutes and action points from the meeting are addressed.

3. Update on Desert Locust Outbreak: by Mohamud Isse Farah (MoAI)

Definition: Locust is mainly a tropical grasshopper with strong powers of flight. It is usually solitary, but from time to time there is a population explosion and it migrates in vast swarms which cause extensive

damage to vegetation. Starting around September **2019**, locust in three waves migrated and affected large areas in **Somalia** consisting of agricultural and rangelands in northern, central and southern.

These locusts have migrated to the surrounding countries and will require both region and global support to combat. The current status of infestation is critical and above normal rains for the Deyr season rains have created favourable conditions for breeding and could cause a considerable increase in numbers for Somalia as well as neighbouring countries.

In Somalia, most of the affected areas are areas planted late due the seasonal flooding and these households may be seriously affected by food insecurity.

Some of the initiatives to control the locust menace:

- i. Providing training to the staff in the charge of locust control
- ii. Equipping with insecticide backpack or vehicle mounted sprayers and use of pesticides that are bio-degradable.
- iii. Rehabilitating counter locust centers throughout the country .
- iv. In January 19th-20th 2020, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation with a helping hand from FAO has trained a team on how to conduct surveys and data collection related to Desert Locust

ACTION POINT(S)

- i) Both funding and rapid response is necessary before the start of Gu rainfall season and the hatching of the 2nd generation locusts
- ii) Continuous monitoring of locusts to help pinpoint affected locations and enhance control measures
- iii) Collate the ongoing government and partners responses/plans and ascertain the gaps periodically and report to FSC stakeholders.

4. Cash Working Group Update – Work Stream by: Juergen Feldmann (DKH)

Cash Working Group: work stream

Cash for Work interventions provide employment to unskilled and semi-skilled workers on labour intensive projects such as rehabilitation of irrigation systems, soil conservation, and road construction and maintenance. Implementation of these activities are affected by:

- i) Widespread perception of CfW/CfA as mechanism of disbursement of cash
- ii) Un-transparent and not standardized remuneration of cash for work
- iii) No clear procedures of accountability and community participation
- iv) CfA is assumed to become an important approach in projects that address both, humanitarian needs and transitional development.

CfA activities have dual objectives:

- The disbursement of cash to poor and otherwise vulnerable persons and that are in need to address survival, but that also have their workforce to mobilize own resources as unskilled labourer and that are in the condition to do so

- The creation of assets that a community needs to restore their livelihood and to become/remain independent from humanitarian aid by building resilience against current and future shocks

Cash for Work programmes can address basic needs, prevent negative coping mechanisms, while building or rehabilitating productive assets, reduce the impact of natural hazards and promote climate change adaptation and mitigation, enhance livelihoods resilience to shocks and crises and thus help to address food security in the medium and long term. CFW can be linked to existing Social Safety Net programmes.

5. *Creation of Agriculture Technical Working Group by: Shibru Mulugeta (FSC Coordinator)*

Plenary discussions

The need to revitalize the Agriculture Technical Working Group for Somalia was discussed and agreed upon and a leadership team for developing the TOR was formed led by Mr. Mohamud Isse Farah (MoAI), Ms. Elisabeth (FAOSO) and Nancy Koech. They were to agree on:

- i) Potential areas where the working group would focus on – such as irrigation, high quality seeds, etc.
- ii) Create a monkey survey on:
 - a) FSC and partner meeting engagements and what the ATWG should provide
 - b) Question: Do you agreed to have ATWG?
 - c) If No, please provide the reason(s).
 - d) If Yes, select potentially relevant areas of involvement
- iii) List key areas to be listed for ATWG priorities

6. *State of AAP in Somalia by: Paul Gol*

AAP Consultative Workshop was held in January 2020 to discuss why past collective efforts on AAP did not work. Recommendations on collective approach to AAP and ways to channelling collective feedback to the HCT to adapt operational response were agreed on.

Participate in the Community Engagement Working Group whose process of formation started last year 2019 where each cluster was to nominate a representative. The group aims to rally AAP efforts in a collective system that would escalate information from the Affected Populations to the Humanitarian Country team and to ensure that AAP is embedded in HRP and HNO.

AOB

- i) Next FSC meeting is planned to take place on 31st March 2020.
- ii) For further meeting details, please refer to the already shared/ uploaded presentations.

Source: Somalia FSC - January 2020

Note: Other elements on FSC monthly responses are provided through monthly dashboards that can be access via <https://fscluster.org/somalia>