MINUTES OF FSAC NATIONAL CLUSTER COORDINATION MEETING

Date: 9th August 2017
Venue: FAO Offices, Sana’a
Time: 11:00 AM

Attendance: ITDC, RI, LMMPO, Care, SMEPS, SC, SEI, IRC, IRY, YDN, EXU, BFF, UNICEF, ICRC, Arkan, YLDF, PU-AMI, WCUK, RDP, VHI, SYDF, Direct Aid, WFP, ADO, RCO, FSTS, NFDHR, IYCY, FAO, DRC, TYF, CHR-T

Agenda:
1. Introductions
2. Review of last meeting minutes and action points
3. Presentation on “FSAC Famine Risk Monitoring” - Final Guidance Documents
4. UNICEF presentation on “Emergency Cash Transfer Project”
5. Presentation by Al-Thuraya for Agriculture Consulting on “Al-Thuraya experience in working together with farmers, NGOs and rural people in deferent governorates of Yemen”
6. AOB

1. Introductions
   ➢ All FSAC partners present did a round of introduction, followed by introductions of the new FSAC facilitators for Sa’ada and Ibb hubs.

2. Review of last meeting minutes and action points
   ➢ There was a follow-up of main action points emanating from the last meeting, followed with an endorsement of the last cluster meeting minutes.

   Action point: The 2-pager advocacy brief document to be shared with FSAC partners once finalized.

   Action point: Invitations to FSAC partners to any upcoming IPC trainings at the field level/hubs, as capacity building to partners in prioritization of food security related response.

Send any updates and/or comments to FSAC Coordinator Gordon Dudi <Gordon.Dudi@fao.org>
3. Presentation on “FSAC Famine Risk Monitoring” - Final Guidance Documents

- A presentation was made on the final famine risk monitoring guidance documents, highlighting the methodology of the monitoring that must cater for at least 100 HHs per district.
- Two districts are still uncovered by partners within the 95 high priority districts as per the FSAC district level mapping of partners. Partners are requested to urgently cover these districts in addition to other 2nd priority “FSAC Only” districts.

**Action point:** Training session to be conducted to partners on the key food security indicators as well as the methodology of the Famine Risk Monitoring exercise.

4. UNICEF presentation on “Emergency Cash Transfer Project”

- UNICEF made a presentation to FSAC partners on the Emergency Cash transfer project, which highlighted the objectives of the proposed intervention.
- The presentation was also as a result of concerns raised by FSAC partners in the previous cluster meeting on possibility of duplication, and non-harmonized approaches by World Bank funded projects.
- FSAC partners were concerned about the following:
  - The adherence to a cash transfer value that was designed several years ago (2008) by the Social Welfare Fund (SWF) which doesn’t consider the current dynamics in the country
  - Utilization of an out-dated SWF beneficiary list that was established several years ago and needs updating
  - Relatively low amount of cash transfer value per household (with minimal impact)
  - Lack of clear AAP measures, including feedback mechanism and communication with beneficiaries
  - Coordination mechanism with FSAC partners
  - The possible impact of such huge cash transfer inflows into the local markets and financial systems. This could lead to possibility of “flash inflation”
  - Exchange rate dynamics - Possibility of further depreciation of the Yemeni currency due to huge cash inflows

- UNICEF responded to the aforementioned points and highlighted that this is a short-term project, and all inputs will be considered for future interventions taking into account the current context.

**Action point:** UNICEF PowerPoint presentation to be shared with FSAC partners.

**Comment:** FSAC suggested that beneficiaries who are in SWF list should not be excluded from other food security interventions, since the transfer value is very minimal with no meaningful impact on household food security status. Moreover, this was the agreed framework during previous SWF social protection programs.

Send any updates and/or comments to FSAC Coordinator Gordon Dudi <Gordon.Dudi@fao.org>
5. Presentation by Al-Thuraya for Agriculture Consulting

- Al-Thuraya Consulting presented the company’s profile as well as area of expertise in the agricultural technical support field.
- The company’s services presented including the following:
  - Surveys and technical studies
  - Training courses on various fields
    - Maximizing farmer gross margins
    - Livestock production
    - Forage and nutrition
    - Beekeeping
    - Water harvesting and integrated water resource management
    - Water User Groups (WUGs) and Water User Organizations (WUAs)
    - Production of vegetables and fruits
  - Technical translation of technical papers, reports and studies
  - Pest control
  - Other services

Action point: Al-Thuraya Consulting PowerPoint presentation to be shared with FSAC partners.

6. AOB

- There was no AOB for this meeting