MINUTES OF CLUSTER COORDINATION MEETING

Date: 27th September 2016
Venue: FAO Offices, Sana’a
Time: 11:00 am


Agenda:

1. Introductions
2. Review of last meeting minutes and action points
3. FSAC donor brief for the upcoming donor visit
4. FSAC Strategy Notes for the World Bank
5. Revised FSAC minimum food basket (Presentation by the Minimum Food Basket Technical Working Group)
6. AOB
   ✓ Updates on the Humanitarian Pooled Funds, 2nd Standard Allocation
   ✓ Activation of Sana’a/ Sa’ada hubs
   ✓ Sub-district level information

1. Introductions
All FSAC partners present did a round of introduction

2. Review of last meeting minutes and action points
There was a follow-up on the main action points emanating from the last meeting. Afterwards, the minutes of the last cluster meeting were reviewed and endorsed.

3. FSAC donor brief for the upcoming donor visit
   ➢ Several donors are planning for a visit to Yemen around mid-October. The FSAC SAG met and proposed some talking points (donor brief) that would be shared with the donors.
   ➢ The suggested focus would be on the following:
     ✓ Recommended cluster priorities
Activities - within the FSAC activities as indicated in the YHRP for 2016, specific activities will be indicated

Preparation of donor brief on the IPC (integrated Phase Classification) in Yemen.

Overview of the current Food Security situation in Yemen

Recommended priorities

Geographic locations - specific locations where humanitarian assistance is needed most

Activities (within the FSAC 2016 YHRP Strategic Objectives) that need urgent focus

Current funding status (FSAC funding gaps) and urgent funding needs for priority activities

A separate donor brief on the IPC process in Yemen

During the meeting, the partners proposed other areas to discuss during the donors visit such as the big funding gaps that can be covered by the involvement of more donors. In addition, some partners proposed adding the economic implications in Yemen stemming from the current crises, instability, and liquidity crisis.

A small group was selected by partners to further discuss the economic situation in Yemen, and come with some notes that can be shared with the donors during their visit. The group will be represented by the following partners:

- Human Appeal
- ADRA
- WFP
- NFDHR
- Global Communities
- Oxfam

Action point: The cluster Coordinator to share dates of the donor mission and confirmed donors who will be part of the mission

4. FSAC Strategy Notes for the World Bank

An informal UN-World Bank exchange took place in Amman on 23-24 August, bringing together humanitarian, development, and political actors to reflect on current and forthcoming challenges in Yemen.

The meeting highlighted the need to start planning for operations and approaches across three phases

- Institutional preservation and service delivery in a pre-agreement phase;
- Immediate stabilization support to the implementation of a political agreement(s);
- Economic recovery and institution-building in the medium term.

Send any updates and/or comments to FSAC Coordinator Gordon Dudi <Gordon.Dudi@fao.org>
This is an opportunity to engage development actors in support of key FSAC activities, especially in the first phase in which the WB is keen to support institutions and enhance service delivery in the short term.

Based on this FSAC is developing a short strategy papers (2-3 pages max) to identify practical ways and areas in which development actors could intervene to support key cluster objectives and targets.

Focus on areas/interventions that the World Bank could support that would preserve or enhance service delivery (beyond strictly humanitarian interventions).

An inter-face between Humanitarian activities and long term activities

Probably to focus on the governorate and community levels

Partners also proposed the following for consideration:-

- Rehabilitation of destroyed agriculture infrastructure
- Distribution of Agriculture inputs (wheat, sorghum, vegetables)
- The use of the solar system for water pumps
- Capacity building for relevant ministries
- Linkages with some of SFD’s activities

**Action point:** The cluster Coordinator to share SFD’s recovery strategy for Yemen (which could also inform the FSAC strategy notes for the world bank)

5. Revised FSAC minimum food basket (Presentation by the Minimum Food Basket Technical Working Group)

The revised FSAC minimum food basket was presented to the FSAC partners by the minimum food basket working group. A few comments were received from partners

The FSAC minimum food basket was endorsed by all partners

The minimum food basket has provisions for the following:-

- A minimum food basket with wheat flour as the only source of cereal
- A minimum food basket with both Wheat Flour and Rice as sources of cereals
- Four other nutritional food baskets with different items for enhanced nutritional value (a combination of whole wheat flour and refined white flour, with tomato paste, with Tuna; and with milk)

The minimum food basket meets 75% of the monthly household food needs as per the current practice by a majority of FSAC partners

The revised minimum food basket does not contain prices of the food items, FSAC will be establishing the cost of the minimum food basket based on latest partners’ surveys

The revised minimum food basket will officially become operational as from January 2017 (the current endorsed minimum food basket remains the point of reference for all FSAC partners)

**Action point:** The cluster Coordinator to share the endorsed minimum food basket after incorporating all partners’ comments

Send any updates and/or comments to FSAC Coordinator Gordon Dudi <Gordon_Dudi@fao.org>
6. AOB

- Updates on the Humanitarian Pooled Funds, 2nd Standard Allocation
  - The Humanitarian Pooled Fund (HPF) is aiming to release a new allocation strategy towards the end of September/early October which will kick off the process for the 2nd Second Standard Allocation for 2016.
  - There is potentially $30 million for the allocation
  - The allocation would most probably focus on “nutrition outcomes”
  - This is for FSAC partners’ information and heads up on the HPF process to have sufficient prior notification of the upcoming allocation to allow adequate planning.
  - It would also assist interested partners to conduct any needs assessments, coordination with the cluster and other organizations, and to ensure availability of sufficient staff available to draft proposals during the allocation timeframe (Oct/Nov).
  - The HPF Strategic Advisory Board (SAB) would be meeting soon to endorse the strategy and envelop for the 2nd allocation

- Activation of Sana’a/ Sa’ada hubs
  - We have the FSAC Facilitator for the Sana’a and Sa’ada hubs onboard and we will be re-activating the Sana’a hub in about two weeks’ time. The Sa’ada hub will be activated by end of October 2016.

- Sub-district level information
  - Partners that have not yet done so, are kindly requested to share their sub-district level emergency food assistance information, to enable enhanced coordination and avoidance of possible overlaps. This is especially important considering that there’s a substantive number of new emergency food assistance actors (funded by GCC) into the cluster.