Bi-Weekly FSL Cluster Meeting (Minutes of the Meeting)

Date: 3rd February '21  Chair: Viola Lole, FSLC National Co-Coordinator  FSLC Virtual Room on TEAMS

The first fortnightly FSL Cluster Coordination meeting for February 2021 was held virtually, with the following agenda:

1. **COVID 19 context update for SSD and Africa** – Paulina (FSLC)

2. **FSLC update:**
   a. HRP dates & new timeline – Viola
   b. CCPM dates for submission – Isaac
   c. RRF priority 1.3 locations/ plans/ process - Isaac
   d. NAWG update on prioritization – Alistair
   e. Trend analysis feedback & updated products – Alistair & Monika

3. **Conflict sensitivity: current analysis of context & impact on livelihoods & food insecurity**
   – Pauline (WFP)

4. **Update on the RVF situation** – Wilson (FAO)

AOB:
- TWGs: planning for Fisheries – Isaac

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1. **COVID-19 context update for SSD and Africa:**
   Saturday, the 30th January 2021 marked one year since WHO declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. Last year this time, 9826 cases in 20 countries, and 213 deaths in one country (China), but today, 103 million confirmed cases, including 2.24 million deaths. According to the Africa Center for Disease Control, the total number of infected cases is 3,515, 047 and 88,993 deaths have been reported, as on 28th January 2021 in 55 African countries, with 2,990,890 recoveries. South Sudan recorded 4,037 confirmed cases and 64 total deaths.

2. **Cluster Updates:**
   a. **HRP dates & new timeline:**
      - 12 Feb: Joint ICCG/Agency programme Heads- HRP Workshop, clusters present objectives, targets,
      - 15 –22 Feb: Partners submit 2021 projects proposals through the online HPC Project module.
      - 23 February 2 March: Vetting and selection of 2021 HRP projects
      - 3-4 March: CCs feedback to partners & finalize selected projects in the HPC Projects Module.
      - 15 March: Lunch of the 2021 South Sudan HRP

   b. **CCPM dates for submission:**
      FSL Cluster launched CCPM Survey for 2020 on the 29th January and a total of 156 respondents will be participating in this survey, to assess what extent SS FSL Cluster has achieved its core functions covering the entire period from January to December 2020. Survey link sent to the operational partners (those who regularly reporting on the monthly 5Ws) and other members including UN Agencies, Donors the Government and also the observers, like we have Red Cross. The survey will be closed on the 16th February, COB.
c. RRF priority 1.3 locations/plans/process:
10 counties were prioritized (NAWG/ICCG endorsed and HCT prioritized also) where multi-sector response is ongoing (it includes priority 1 and 2 counties). Based on the IPC PIN and FSL Ranking, also FAO’s lean season gap analysis, priority 1.3 locations identified - IPC 3+ HHs highly food insecure. With the limited availability of FAO resources, the VK&FKs we are targeting 30000 Plus HHs - IOM/RRF and partners’ pre-selection was done in consultation with FAO and IOM/RRF teams – Luakpiny/Nasir 15,483HHs (VSF-G & RI), Ulang 2,167HHs (VSF-G), Maiwut 4,900HHs (RuCAPD), Panyikang 2735HHs (WV), Canal/Pigi 2140HHs (CAFAD) and Panyijiar 3150HHs (HACO), the application deadline is COB on 12th Feb. and on submission, IOM will start the due diligence process.

d. NAWG update on prioritization:
Confirmation of priority locations for response scale-up – 6 counties priority recommended and endorsed for Response Scale-Up, all of them were prioritized by HCT based on IPC results – response ongoing for all locations.

e. Trend analysis feedback & updated products:
IPC Trend Jan 2017 – Nov 2020 was explained, including the number of times counties in IPC 4 and also the number of counties in Food Security Phases, as of November 2020, 41 counties were in crisis, 34 counties were in emergency and remaining 3 counties stressed.

3. Conflict sensitivity: current analysis of context & impact on livelihoods & food insecurity:
Pauline Eloff of WFP presented on the current context of conflict across South Sudan, the impact of conflict on food insecurity & disrupted livelihoods, also the learning, experience and the key considerations / checklist for partners conducting a conflict situation analysis in their areas. At least 37 pockets of famine conditions, one famine, and one famine likely declaration have occurred across the country since January 2015 - predominantly the result of frequent and intense organized violence. The key takeaways include, organized violence involves the deliberate targeting (selective or holistic) of livelihoods and assets, restricts mobility with disastrous effects on food security and livelihoods, direct and indirect violence impacts mobility and food security, overlap conflict and food insecurity is often a byproduct of entrenched inequity and isolation. For full presentation, click here

4. Update on the RVF situation – FAO
Concerning RVF, several meetings held and joint missions conducted by FAO with various ministries, 53 samples collected, out of which 42 tested negative, and subsequently in the 2nd mission, 160 animals tested and 27 (39%) tested positive for RVF IgG, also, 5 human samples were collected (WHO on 30 Jan 2021) - yet to receive the results. High risk that RVF is in circulation and the counties at risk include, Yirol and Awerial (Rumbek center, Rumbek North), Jonglei (Bor South, Twic East, Duk county), Unity state (Panyinjar), Central Equatoria (Terekeka, Juba and EES (Magwi). Initial response ongoing - FAO is supporting the MoLF for lab testing in South Africa. Also, initiated awareness campaigns radio, posters etc) and sensitization of major actors. Partners especially in those locations are advised to focus on livestock surveillance to detect abortion storms and mitigation actions. For full presentation, click here

5. AOB:
TWGs: planning for Fisheries:
There’s a big demand from FSL partners to have Fisheries TWG, which was one of the outputs of the “Fisher Communities Resilient Enhancement project, launched last February, by FAO. FSL Cluster following this up with FAO, especially with the Fisheries Specialist, who has confirmed that, FAO is preparing to organize Fisheries Technical Working Group, in collaboration with FSL Cluster and the progress will be updated to the cluster partners.

For complete presentation of the 3rd February FSLC meeting; click here