Food Security Sector coordination meeting: Beirut Blast

Meeting minutes

12 October 2020

Location: Teams meeting

Chair: WFP

Co-Chair: ACTED

Attendees: WFP, FAO, ACF, ECHO, Islamic Relief, SCI, OCHA, IRC, ACTED, MCC, CAMEALEON, OXFAM, UNHCR, Michel Daher Social Foundation, WVI, ARCS Culture Solidali, ACF, ADRA, Global Communities, UN Women, AMEL, WHH, SCI, MERATH/LSESD, Dorcas/Tabitha, LHDF SC, UNICEF, OCHA, ShareQ

Contact (fsc_lebanon@wfp.org)

Agenda:

1. FSS coordination:
   i. Coordination MSMEs: first meeting
   ii. De-duplication exercise: updates/WFP

2. Partners Updates
   i. ACTED REACH Market monitoring mission study objectives/TOR

3. Response monitoring updates- IM
   i. OCHA Update on AI reporting exercise on backlog
   ii. OCHA interactive dashboard
   iii. Next reporting deadline on AI
   iv. Question on hot meals reporting

4. Task-forces feedback
   i. Cash-based transfers
   ii. Nutrition task force

5. Feedback on the field level coordination: Help desks
   i. Help desk update, current available locations, active NGOs supporting this initiative (volunteers)
   ii. Field level challenges, efficiency of the help desks, how to increase visibility
   iii. Reporting mechanism, updates (as sector we did not receive any feedback so far)

6. AOB: ACT4 event World food day 16 October
1. FSS coordination:

   i. Thematic group on coordination support to MSMEs: 1st meeting 21st of October
      - WFP and DRC under the FSS are chairing a coordination thematic group for partners working to support MSMEs affected by Beirut blast
      - For partners that would like to join, email the FSS and DRC to be added to the list, the invitation will be shared shortly
      - As the BB response will phase out the group will be aligned under the LH sector

   ii. De-duplication exercise (Updates deduplication working group)
      - Deduplication working group is identifying an algorithm for the duplication exercise
      - Requested all partners to fill an excel sheet, each actor under the sector they are supporting, to know more about the data they are collecting (language, size of the database…) to be able to create the algorithm
      - There is also cash for work, protection, mixture of different sectors
      - Know some MPCA actors relying on LRC data, what is needed is the number of cases identified and any recent update
      - Also actors that have completed their beneficiaries lists are encouraged to be part of this exercise
      - Upon receiving feedback, the algorithm will be finalized and a platform will be set up so as to transform data into unique identifiers, and those will be the same across all agencies
      - WFP and LRC will be offering services registration data de-duplication and de-duplication identifier
      - We want all actors to be part of this system
      - Will ask the organizations to share their data in an encrypted manner and will be holding a demo once the system is ready
      - All organizations will need to sign a data sharing agreement

   WFP
   - As an Interim solution to make sure we are not duplication assistance, partners can share their beneficiaries lists with WFP who will cross check those lists with their own
   - WFP is finalizing list for October distribution, which is increasing the number of HH
   - The request from partners can come to Carla and directly to WFP (charbel.habib@wfp.org)

2. Partners Updates

   - Beirut port explosion merged with COVID response under LEA priority 4

ACTED REACH market monitoring exercise mission: objectives of TOR

   - ACTED REACH Joint Market Monitoring Initiative (JMMI)
   - REACH project lunching mission to target market monitoring and assessment
   - Already sent out emails to have meetings with key colleagues from various sectors and NGOs
Objective: develop a join market monitoring initiative to better understand the gaps

To support the set up a type of mechanism – cash and market tool

Will start with consultation phase, still quit early

If interested please get in touch with ACTED Email: kareem.traboulsi@acted.org

Looking to make it a national exercise in case there is a need

The next coming week or 2 the colleagues will start collecting information, then literature review them will come to Beirut to lunch the assessment and monitoring objective

The timing will depend on the interaction of the partners

WFP

Data collection last week, started with data cleaning this week

Part of the assistance will be provided through vouchers through WFP contracted shops and then there will be top us of the assistance; then will start e-cards distribution of the assistance

Now planning for October batch distribution

Still aiming to reach 10,000 HH

AMEL

Started last Thursday to distribute food parcels to affected areas

Will be distributing 200 food parcels in total

Target group: No specific categories but started with households with children

Previously did some assessment

Didn’t have the capacity to do all the distribution in one week so started with HH with children

ACTED

Collecting data from 2 areas Bourj Hammoud and Karm El Zeitoun

Vulnerable people affected by the blast, filling the assessment as WFP cooperating partner.

After that WFP will assess if they will get assistance

Getting data from different resources; referrals, hotlines, NGOs....

ACF

Forms and assessments are finalized just waiting for the team to be on board

WVI

Starting assessment and accepting referrals for micro business in Beirut; still didn’t identify the beneficiaries because have some criteria that need to be applied

3. Response monitoring update – IOM

i. OCHA updates on IA reporting
• Reporting for the BB started with an excel sheet 5W then on activity info
• Started to build interactive dashboard
• Challenges with activity info especially with FSS because of difficulty narrowing to 8 geographic zones
• On Friday OCHA will reopen the database for food partners for their updates
• Lots of partners reported under the 5W and unfortunately not much are reporting under activity info
• If issue for the next round OCHA and sector IMO can support you
• Needed info for many purposes; example: Presence map
• The interactive dashboard still not shared; 21 partners reporting and could see the updates. Only partners reporting on activity info will see their updates shown on the interactive dashboard
• The reporting is not only for creating the maps but also for extracting the beneficiaries figures to report on the progress against different indicators

ii. Next reporting deadline on IA

• The implementing partners should be the ones to report
• For this exercise deadlines were too tight and some UN agencies preferred reporting by themselves as they have the accurate figures
• For the next reporting we will mention that all implementing partners should report unless there is a justification that UN agencies do the reporting on their behalf
• Next reporting during 16 to 20 of October

WFP

• On this issue don’t know if applicable for cash transfer as we have the final figures and figures from self-registration platform
• So would suggest reconsidering this guidance for cash transfer

Question on hot meals reporting

• Possible confusion regarding the hot meals issue: Under activity info indicator is focusing on the number of beneficiaries reached with hot meals whereas under 5W it was requested to report the number of hot meals
• Asking for the partners what would be the best way to go: easier to provide beneficiaries reached by Hot meals or easier to have the number of hot meals delivered

WV: Partners reporting on the number of Hot meals distributed

4. Sub-sectors feedback

CBT task force

• A new cash mapping document will be sent out this week, just waiting for inputs from other activities and sectors
• Good to go on MPCA side
Nutrition task force updates

- Asking to create a sector on nutrition in parallel of the other sectors under the new Lebanon coordination structure
- Some concerns from FAO to review the TOR and OCHA requested to have more doc and info
- If no objection the sector will be created
- Call of the FSS partners in express interest to support the distribution of supplementary food for children is still on
- Some of the other activities the task force is working on are: key messages, working on join plan, secondary data review,
- The nutrition task force has a IMO working 3 days a week

5. Feedback on the Field level coordination: Help desk

- One helpdesk functioning in Gemayzeh supporting by Leb-relief
- If any organization is willing to support the storing of the materials of the help desk
- Increase the visibility of the humanitarian forum to share info of the desk in their social platform
- DRC did a presentation to LHDF regarding reporting on RIMs, so volunteers will be reporting on RIMs
- So far no feedback for the sectors received by the helpdesks

6. Event by ACT4 tomorrow to celebrate World Food Day on October 16

Details shared in the newsletter on Friday

Next meeting: 26 October 2020