Food Security Sector coordination meeting: Beirut Blast

Meeting minutes

24 November 2020

Location: Teams meeting

Chair: WFP

Co-Chair: ACTED

Attendees: WFP, FAO, MCC, LRC, Dorcas, CAMEALEON/Oxfam, ADRA, Merath, B&Z, ACF, Michel Daher Social Foundation, AMEL, UNWOMEN, PARCIC, WVI, SCI, FTL, OCHA, WHH, LRC-IFRC, AMEL, ACTED

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Agenda:

• FSS coordination updates on the extension and revision of the flash appeal/coordination structure updates
• Task force updates:
  ➢ Nutrition task force
  ➢ Cash based transfer task force
  ➢ SME support group
• Partners updates
• Response monitoring updates
• AOB

Next meeting: December 7

FSS coordination updates on the extension and revision of the flash appeal/coordination structure updates

• HCT that met last Friday agreed on extending the deadline of the flash appeal which was published in August 2020 to and was intended to finish in mid-November, until 31st of December
• Sectors had been requested to revise the budgets and targets accordingly while strategy and objectives remain the same. The FSS will continue to have the 2-objects in the flash appeal. The activities (lifesaving and critical ones) to prioritize are the ones that can be initiated and for which funds will be received by end of the year.
• For the FSS the flash appeal in August comprised 22 projects and 21 partners
• There are a lot of partners who had been doing lots of work outside the flash appeal, and that was taken onto consideration in the revision to the flash appeal
• The draft submitted to OCHA had reduction of the budget from 100M to 50M and 90,000 beneficiaries
• OCHA will be contacting the sectors to amend the projects in the HPC system
• There are some activities that have been kept such as port rehabilitation and cash for work for which no funds have bee received so far and that can be absorbed by the concerned pillars in the 3RF framework.
• On the coordination structure updates:
  • Coordination mainstreaming of existing coordination mechanisms (Beirut blast, COVID, LCRP). Common EOC will be merged together. Discussions on sectors to be merged continues and we are waiting for follow up on the coordination structure and confirmation from HTC regarding the standalone nutrition sector

Task force updates

Nutrition task force

• Proposition on have a nutrition sector was discussed at last humanitarian coordination meeting on Friday. The feedback on the ToRs will be sent by the HCT members and waiting for the final decision
• Infants and Young children feeding community to assess the IYCF capacity building need among health professionals
• The questionnaire will be sent soon: short small survey, with respect for Covid restriction and international recommendations, and pending on who will receive the fund
• Nutrition had been highlighted for the BB and the LCRP updates
• Nutrition assessment will fill the gaps and support understanding for the nutritional needs
• Also they also advocated to include nutrition in the master framework of the summary of the 3 RF, which is also concluding the finalization of the report

CBT task force

3 updates for the CBT task force:

1st update:

• Cash mapping exercise there is a lot of progress in terms receiving updates from partners
• Up to 73 M to today still missing few inputs on MPCA
• Kafa and UN women partnering together, waiting for info
• Mapping completing except for small business mapping as they are still waiting for feedback from Dorcas.
• Will be circulating a new draft to triple check that all info are correct
• If not part of the group to email Dima directly

2nd update:

• De-duplication system
• Receiving user access code, received 21 users access form to date, only 1 user updated the info
• Ask all partners to fill the info
• Other who didn’t submit the form please reach out

3rd update:
• Reporting for on-going cash programme through activity info
• Ask for those who didn’t report to for access from OCHA
• Outside or through flash appeal
• Asking OCHA to add indicators, will be conducting trainings next Monday
• Urgent cash actors to report activities and invite the focal points to attend the meeting
• OCHA colleagues also creating dashboard, this will be discussed in the training sessions
• Disbursement currency and amount indicators added

SMES task force
• Next meeting tomorrow. The activities had been focusing on on the ground coordination with area focal point
• Assessment done in August by the 9 NGOs
• Received interest form NGOs to assess the areas that were not assessed
• Deduplication exercise on-going

Monitoring system
• As partners are continuing their assistance, checking and preparing standard core questions that can help them in the analysis

Partners updates

WFP
• October distribution completed
• Reaching up to 12,000 HH with MPCA
• Finished data collection for the entire targeted population under this fund of 15,700 HH that will be targeted in November cycle and December cycle until March
• Data collection by Self-referral or partner referral
• For FP assistance can’t take additional self-referrals as reached budget limit, so the 15,700 HH will take till March
• Self referral link is still on-going as still operation working
• If partners want to use it let us know as made some amendments and can be used for in-kind

MCC
• Target of 1000 still valid, No issues related to the lock down
• Considering switching to vouchers in January, I September will still do in-kind assistance
MERATH

- 10 local partners are conducting November food voucher distribution to about 1300 HH across multiple zones
- Collecting data to participate in the de-duplication exercise

Carla: Lots of partners providing assistance with food but only 3 of them had been inputting in the data in the de-duplication platform. Please reach out to coordination team if interested the de-duplication exercise.

WVI

- Continuing with the in-kind assistance: Qarantina, Borj Hammoud and Achrafiey
- Responding on the needs based on the assessment conducted
- Because of the lockdown we stopped
- If the lockdown is raised, we can proceed for November and December
- For November distributed 300 food parcels
- All depends on the grant received
- And then will see if need to apply to additional fund
- On SMEs: have assessed many family businesses in Achrafieh area

WHH

- SMEs rehabilitation: 104 SMEs
- Supported them with rehabilitation or cash or in-kind support
- The list had been shared with the FSS

ACF

- Support for SMEs: selected 44 and they receive the cash grant next week
- Total amount 140,000USD,
- 1,000 HH have selected from October to now for MPCA
- After that they will receive the mentorship

ACTED

- Stopped responding for Beirut blast
- Now distributing mazout in Bekaa
- ACTED is also implementing partner for WFP MPCAs
- Different types of ids or documents
- The transfers whether in LBP or USD are totalling the same value
- Receiving complains through the hotlines
- Stopped taking new beneficiaries