MINUTES OF MEETING

FOOD SECURITY SECTOR - Rakhine

29 May 2017

Food Security Sector (FSS) meeting was held on the 29th of May 2017 in WFP Office in Sittwe from 10 till 12. The meeting was attended by 19 individuals from 10 Organizations: Plan International, DRC, WFP, ICRC, SI, Oxfam, IFRC, UNHCR, CDN and FAO.

The following Agenda was adopted for the meeting:

- Q1 sector progress
- Updates from partners
- 4W matrix – review and clearance for rollout in Rakhine
- Future of Camps exercise – review and clearance
- Preparedness response and contingency planning/ stocks – review and clearance
- AOB

1- Q1 Sector progress

A presentation on the Q1 sector progress under the Humanitarian Response Plan 2017 for the Food Security sector. Overall, only 6 partners reported their Q1 updates. For more information, please refer to the meeting presentation.

2- Updates from Partners

- CDN: food distribution activities ongoing in Sittwe camp, in zone 1 and in arm conflict zones. Agricultural livelihoods activities to start in June
- DRC: non-agricultural livelihoods vocation trainings are ongoing in Sittwe and Maungdaw with NRC. In addition to Cash For Work activities in Sittwe, Kyauktaw and Pauktaw and small businesses support in Kyauktaw.
- Plan: distribution of food in Sittwe to 6,950 households. Currently working on improving distribution points
- WFP: completed Cash for Asset intervention in Zone 1 and currently implementing Food for Asset activities with MHDO as implementing partner in Pauktaw, Myebon and Rathedaung reaching 16,000 beneficiaries (2,900 participants). It has been reported that beneficiaries were more accepting to the Cash for Asset more compared to Food for Asset modality. Food assistance to IDPs in Sittwe, Rathedaung, Kyauktaw, Pauktaw, Kyaukphyu, Myaebon and Ramree continued together with Nutrition support to under 5 children and pregnant and lactating women in the same locations as well as for ex-
IDPs in Myaebon, Kyauktaw, Mrauk U and Minbya. School Feeding programme currently stands at 56,000 students in 9 townships and is set to expand to 70,000 in 11 townships.

- **ICRC**: completion of livelihoods assessment in Q1. Continued distribution of fuel for cooking in Pauktaw and Myebon to 4,315 households on a monthly basis. In Q2, conditional cash grants of 250,000 Kyats per household were distributed to 317 households in total for livelihoods and small businesses, of which 11 most vulnerable HHs received unconditional/social safety nets. Similar activities to start in Pauktaw in June to support 300 HHs with conditional cash grants. Livestock trainings are ongoing with collaboration with the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department (LBVD).

- **UNHCR**: currently conducting post distribution monitoring (including protection and food security related) for WFP beneficiaries. Results will be shared with the FS sector as soon as completed.

- **IFRC**: currently resilience project targets 9 villages in Sittwe and 21 in Minbya. HH assessment will be conducted in July and activities to initiated in October, including conditional cash grants for agriculture, livestock and small businesses and vocational trainings. In August-September 2017 MRCS-IFRC will conduct an internal review to learn about the impact of the previous livelihood program from 2014-2016.

- **Oxfam**: livelihoods activities were implemented during 1st quarter of the year in one Muslim IDP camp, 3 Muslim host villages, and 2 Rakhine relocated sites of Sittwe Township. Currently the project is being monitored and assessed to capture evidences and potentiality for scaling up. Activities included agricultural livelihoods (including land leasing, vegetable cultivation, irrigation and tools), reviving of non-agricultural skills and support for some income generation programme. The interventions reached to 585 individual beneficiaries and kind also cash transfer support were provided. Several lessons learnt were identified and will be presented during the next FS sector meeting.

- **SI**: agricultural activities are ongoing in Sittwe camps using off-soil techniques (bags). In addition to home gardening activities, winter crops, poultry and livestock, CFW (for roads, ponds, canals), seeds, fertilizers and mechanization (power tillers for farmer groups and plowing tools) in Rathedaung township (in 2 camps and 4 villages). After monsoon season, income generating activities and home gardening will be initiated in 2 camps and 4 villages of Chien Kar Li and Koe Tan Kauk.

- **FAO**: current activities in Rakhine target northern Rakhine, with distribution of paddy seeds, vegetable kits and fertilizers to 2,000 households in Maungdaw and livestock, feed, vegetable seeds to 1,600 households in Buthidaung.

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3- **4W matrix – review and clearance for rollout in Rakhine**

The objectives of the 4 W matrix and the ways forward was presented. Where the main 2 objectives are to: 1) awareness and coordination among partners on who is doing what
and where in order to avoid gaps and duplications; and 2) use it as a reporting tool against the sector indicators and targets under the HRP 2017.

The ways forward include: review of the 4W matrix during the sector meeting for main comments, which will then be shared with attending partners for second round review. After compiling all comments, the FS sector will request partners to fill in their information for both Q1 and Q2. During July, the sector will review the matrix and report back to partners on status and discuss needed changes. The matrix will be used as a pilot in Rakhine, with the aim to be used for all Myanmar.

Main discussion points were:
- Geographical level of reporting: it was discussed that village level would be recommended even though it requires a lot of effort. Partners will attempt to report at this stage at village level, results to be reviewed in July to finalize agreement on reporting level.
- Non-agricultural livelihoods activities: 4 additional options were suggested – cash grants; savings and credits; income generating activities and non-conditional/social safety.

4- Future of Camps exercise – review and clearance

Background on the exercise was presented and the 5 questions were discussed and answered during the meeting. For more information, please refer back to the “Future of Camps exercise” document.

5- Preparedness response and contingency planning/ stocks – review and clearance

Briefing on the current contingency plan for the FS sector: WFP and partners have already initiated a contingency plan to respond with in-kind food assistance (including rice, pulses, vegetable oil and salt) for 30,000 households for a period of 15 days in addition to High Energy Biscuits (HEB). Partners include:
- Plan International: Minbya
- CDN: Mrauk U, Pauk Taw and Kyauk Taw
- MHDO: Rathedaung, Kyauk Phyu, Myebon and Ramree

ICRC informed their ability to respond with unconditional cash support in case markets are accessible.
IFRC to follow up on response if any.

6- AOB
- Cyclone Mora update: Sunday 29 May, rainstorm was upgraded from orange to red. Full impact is expected Monday 30th. Forecast is expected to intensify into cyclonic
storm during the next 24 hrs. As a result, ICCG has been requested to meet to review preparedness situation and agree on procedures based on the SOPs.

- **Labour incentive exercise**: within the ICCG, an exercise was conducted for all the sectors/cluster to assess the labour rates within each sector for different types of skills. The FS sector will take over the exercise and will request partners to submit their information. The purpose of this exercise is to assess whether different rates are given by different agencies and to agree on ways forward within the sector.