



FSC PARTNERS MEETING MINUTES

26th July 2021

Mode: Virtual - Zoom

Meeting Agenda:

1. Opening Remarks (MoAI, MoHADM and MoL)
2. Update on Ongoing Post Gu Seasonal Food Security and Nutrition Assessment (timelines/progress)
3. FSC Response updates
4. Awareness Raising on Developing Agriculture Extension Training Manual - MoA
5. SHF 2nd Allocation Update
6. Technical Working Groups
7. AOB

Action Points

- Partners requested to actively participated during the Post Gu seasonal assessments. The FSC will be disseminating requisite information with regards to schedules etc.
- The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation to present the on the ongoing work pertaining to the development of the Agriculture Extension manual at the ATWG. This will provide partners an opportunity to share inputs/feedback
- The FSC secretariat will convene a meeting with partners whose proposals were recommended to be funded through the SHF. The meeting will be focused on agreeing on the next steps including on coordination with ongoing responses in the targeted locations.

1. Opening Remarks

Mr Mahmoud of Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation opened the meeting. He applauded the partners for their active cooperation and coordination with the cluster and being committed to conducting monthly meetings.

2. Update on Ongoing Post Gu Seasonal Food Security and Nutrition Assessment (timelines/progress)

August-December2021 Precipitation Forecast Background and assumptions

- The July-September 2021 *karan* rains in **northwestern Somalia** are likely to be above average.
- The July-September 2021 *hagaa* rains in **southern Somalia** are likely to be below average. Forecast hotter than normal temperatures will likely exacerbate water supply issues and hasten vegetation degradation during the dry season.
- Based on the NMME, WMO, and ECMWF forecasts, the October-December 2021 short rains/deyrin **Somalia** is most likely to be below-average related to La Nina and a negative IOD.
- Based on the NMME standardized anomaly forecast, the *xays showers* in **northwestern Somalia** in December and January are most likely to be below average.

Desert Locust Infestation and Outlook update:

- Aerial control operations continue against a few remaining immature swarms on the coast, escarpment and plateau in the northwest (Somaliland). Swarm movement is limited *due to cooler temperatures on the plateau and strong winds*.

Population Movement/Displacement and Insecurity, Jan-Jun 2021

- Data from UNHCR's PRMN indicates that more than 492,000 people have been displaced across Somalia between January and June 2021, mainly due to insecurity (73%) and drought (14%) and flooding (11%).
- Most of the displacements occurred in Banadir (39%), Bay (14%), Gedo (8%), M. Shabelle(8%) and L. Shabelle(7%) regions.

Insecurity and displacement Impacts on food security and livelihoods:

- Confiscation of livestock from pastoralists and the torching of their settlements and assets by insurgents
- Disruptions of trade flows, mainly in Bay and Bakool and parts of Hiran Insurgents continue to collect forced Zakat and illegal taxation in areas under their control

Somalia Food Security Outcomes and Projections: Apr-Sep2021

- The number of people in urgent need of humanitarian assistance to increase from the previous estimate of **2.65 million** between April and June 2021 to **2.73 million** (revised estimate). Further increases to **2.75 -2.83 million** is projected for July2021-January2022.
- The revised and updated estimates reflect the observed and likely deterioration of acute food insecurity across Somalia through January2022, including the extended impact of drought conditions, a below average 2021 Gu season rainfall and harvest prospects, continued below average Deyr (October–December) rainfall, socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 and conflict/insecurity).



Humanitarian Assistance (Food/Cash Assistance Coverage: January to June 2021 (FSC Data)

- Humanitarian food assistance plans are significantly under-funded in Somalia, resulting in a 25 percent decline in beneficiaries since January, even as the population in need of food assistance increased.
- Although an average of 1.63 million people received food assistance monthly from January to June, current and anticipated levels of food assistance are inadequate to prevent Crisis (IPC Phase 3) in many areas.
- The shortfall in funding is of urgent concern, as past trends show the severity of food insecurity in Somalia can rapidly worsen during multi-season droughts.

Overall Food Security Update Summary and Key Message.

- The impacts of two consecutive below average rainfall seasons on crop and livestock production in late 2020 and early 2021 have driven a sharp increase in the food insecure population in Somalia, especially in rural areas
- Drought conditions led to some livestock losses in northern and central Somalia in early 2021 and increased household spending on animal feed and water Dry spells and the early end of the gu rainfall season also caused crop losses and reduced agricultural labor income Crisis (IPC Phase 3 and Stressed (IPC Phase 2 outcomes are widespread
- The food insecure population is expected to remain elevated until at least January Based on FSNAU and FEWS NET's preliminary estimates, the 2021 gu cereal harvest in July will be at least 30 40 percent below the long term average 1995 2020 which will diminish a key source of food and income for farmers and drive an increase in local staple food prices in both rural and urban areas
- Additionally, poor pastoral households will likely sell more livestock than usual to repay debt and fund food and water purchases during the upcoming prolonged dry season, eroding their livelihoods and coping capacity
- Furthermore, long term forecasts indicate a third consecutive season of below average rainfall in late 2021 which would likely result in a three-season drought
- Humanitarian food assistance plans are significantly underfunded in Somalia, resulting in a 25 percent decline in beneficiaries since January, even as the population in need of food assistance increased Although an average of 1 63 million people received food assistance monthly from January to June, current and anticipated levels of food assistance are inadequate to prevent Crisis (IPC Phase 3 in many areas The shortfall in funding is of urgent concern, as past trends show the severity of food insecurity in Somalia can rapidly worsen during multi season droughts A scale up in food, water, and livelihoods support is needed to prevent Crisis (IPC Phase 3 or worse outcomes through at least the end of 2021



- In a worst-case scenario of rainfall failure, more extreme food security outcomes would be likely

3. FSC Response Update

FSC updated the partners on the responses for the months of January 2021 -June 2021 as follows:

Objective 1: Improved Access to Food

- In March 2021, FSC partners assisted 1,573,031 people out of 2,103,495
- In April FSC partners reached 1, 458,300 beneficiaries out of 2,652,000
- In May 1,516,843 beneficiaries out of 2,731.100 were assisted.
- In June 1,768,036 beneficiaries have been assisted out of 2,731,100 targeted (65%) achievement

Objective 2: Livelihood Seasonal Inputs on Agriculture and Livestock Asset Protection responses

- The season started in February partners have managed to reach 960,395 people cumulatively from the month of February up to June out of a seasonal target of 1,250,300 (77%) achievement.

4. Awareness Raising on Developing Agriculture Extension Training Manual - MoA

Background

- Prior to the civil unrest, Agricultural Extension Services had fully functional offices in 10 agricultural regions (six have potential for irrigation, while the other four were relied wholly on rain fall. In these ten regions, 33 districts had potential for both crop and on-farm livestock production. The Government at that time decided accordingly to limit the extension service to these 33 districts.
- The limited and/or lack of allocated budget for agriculture extension sector, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MoAI) – Somalia has resulted in many stakeholders (private, Research institutions, LNGOs and INGOs, UN, universities etc) filling that gap in training farmers in remote areas which is appreciated.
- However, such efforts are undermined by use of agriculture training extension materials that are not standardised or harmonised and approved by MoAI
- This means each player uses own training materials to train farmers and students depending on their experience.
- Hence the need to have agriculture extension material standardised to guide all players in supporting farmers on crop production interventions across the country.

Revitalizing Agricultural Extension and Research centres

- Development of national agricultural extension policy
- Establishment of National agricultural Research and Extension Centre (NAREC)



- On-going development of t agricultural extension training manual/curriculum

Objective

- To develop a standardised Agricultural Training Curriculum/Manual on Good Agricultural Practices from land preparation to post harvest management including Climate Smart Agriculture practices which are suitable for smallholder farmer adoption to bridge the gap between actual and potential crop yields.

Approach/methodology

- MoAI Plan to use an inclusive process – those willing would be welcome to support the initiative
- MoAI acknowledges that, over the years many stakeholders such as FAO, LNGOs, INGOs), consortiums SomReP/BRICs), private sector agricultural firms academic or University institutions/universities, Research Institutions etc have supported and continue to support agriculture interventions at various levels where farmers have been trained on improved practices.
- These stakeholders have or may have documented agricultural training materials used which have to be assembled to inform the Training manual.
- Through the inclusive process we expect to have a manual with right content which would widely be used.

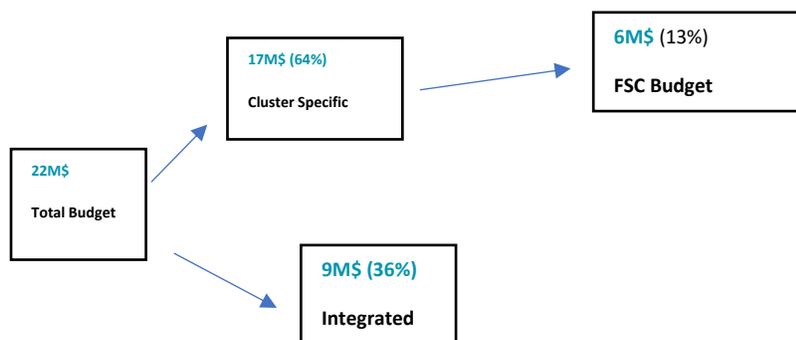
Approach/methodology

1	Planning and consultation and awareness creation within MoAI Federal – Departmental Directors
2	Planning and consultation and awareness creation with Member states - DGs
3	Consultant hired to work the manual through SomRIL/SomRep
4	Planning & Consultation & awareness creation with Key players or stakeholders in agriculture (Agric Tech working group, FSC, UN, Local/International NGOs, Consortiums (SomReP/BRICs), Research Institutions, Agriculture Universities etc
5	Formation of Agricultural Extension Curriculum/Manual Development Committee or Task Force
6	Committee refine & agree on process and plans to guide Agric Extension Training Manual or Curriculum Development
7	Stakeholder mapping - who is involved in Agriculture activities
8	Establish number of crops to be worked on based on agreed criteria by Committee (Cereals, Legumes, Oil Crop, Vegetable etc)
9	Collect crop production practices from the agencies
10	Drafting of Agriculture Extension Training Curriculum by consultant
11	

Next Steps

- Formation of Task Force – Those available and willing to support join us and send us name of your representative so that we include them in the task Force
- The Task Force under MoAI Leadership will guide the process
- We welcome Financial contribution to support validation/dissemination workshops

5. SHF 2nd Allocation Update



Priority Activities for the FSC

- Provision of cash and/or vouchers (Improved access to food)
- Provision of agriculture inputs for the Deyr season

Total Proposal Submitted -24

Recommended – 13 (see below tables)

STATUS	NUMBER	AMOUNT(\$)	%
INGO	2	1,000,000	17
LNGO	11	5,000,000	83

LOCATION	ORGANIZATIONS	AMOUNT (USD)
Banadir	CPD, KAAH	1,000,000
Gedo	CODHNET, HOD, ADA ACTED, NAPAD, GEWDO	2,500,000
Hiran	AADSOM, DRC	1,000,000
Lower Juba	WRRS	500,000
Middle Shabelle	PDA, AV	1,000,000
Total		6,000,000



6. AOB

There being no AOB, the meeting was adjourned.

