



FSC PARTNERS MEETING MINUTES

7th June 2021

Mode: Virtual - Zoom

Meeting Agenda:

1. Opening Remarks (MoAI, MoHADM and MoL)
2. Introduce: Abdiaziz Sheikh Hassan (Care) NGO-Coordinator focusing on Sub-National Coordination
3. Post Gu Assessment (Planning and timelines) - FSNAU
4. Climate Update – SWALIM
5. Emerging needs: Xudur
6. Update on MoHADM ongoing assistance
7. FSC Response Planning
8. SAG Meeting updates on Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM) results
9. Agriculture Technical Working Group Updates
10. AOB

Action Points

- Agricultural Technical Working Group to share invite for the next meeting timely
- Partners to take note of the Post Assessment Timeline (refer to item 4 of these minutes) and plan to participate accordingly.
- Partner to share with the FSC planned assistance to Xudur.

1. Opening Remarks

Mr Mahmoud (Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation) opened the meeting. He thanked the partners for their commitment to coordination and responding to food security needs.

2. Introducing Abdiaziz (NGO Co-coordinator)

FSC Co-Coordinator introduced Mr Abdiaziz Sheikh Hassan who joined the FSC as NGO Co-Coordinator on secondment from Care International. Mr Abdiaziz Sheikh Hassan will be focal



point for sub-national food security cluster coordination. In turn, Mr Abdiaziz Sheikh Hassan appreciated the FSC secretariat and partners for their warm welcome.

3. Post Jilaal Assessment Results

Summary of key message

Drought conditions between December 2020 and late April 2021 due to:

- Below-average *Deyr* season rainfall from October to December 2020
- Warmer-than-normal temperatures during the January to March 2021 *Jilaal* season. and
- A delayed, poor start and performance of 2021 *Gu* (March/April to June) season rainfall

Impacts:

- Pasture, browse and water availability continued to deteriorate/or deplete in many areas
- Extreme water shortages, widespread reliance on water trucking, and high water prices reported since January
- Livestock were concentrated near water points with limited migration options
- Cases of abortion and livestock death reported in several regions in northern and central Somalia

Rainfall increased between late April and mid-May. However, cumulative amounts remained below average in many parts of central and southern Somalia. There have been limited rainfall between mid and late May and current forecasts indicate little or no rainfall through mid-June, potentially signaling an earlier than normal withdrawal of *Gu* season rainfall. Accordingly, the 2021 *Gu* season cereal production in Somalia is expected to be 20-40 percent below average. Observed improvements in pasture and water availability that followed increased rainfall in late April and early May are likely to be short-lived as we head into the mostly dry *Hagaa* (Jul-Sep) season.

Approximately 2.73 million to 2.83 million people across Somalia are expected to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse outcomes between April and September 2021, reflecting the deteriorating food security situation in the country.

Desert Locust Infestation and outlook

- After limited damage to pasture was reported in localized areas of Puntland and Somaliland in February, the ongoing Desert Locust upsurge had significantly declined in March.
- Ongoing control operations, coupled with poor rainfall that was less conducive to hatching, led to declining Desert Locust swarms. However, some swarms and adult groups were reported in April, including in parts of northern Somalia.



- As of late May, hatching continues, and more bands are forming on the escarpment and plateau in the northwest (Somaliland) where mature swarms are still laying eggs; there are unconfirmed reports of mature swarms in the northeast (Puntland)
- Latest forecasts indicate that Desert Locust swarm breeding is likely to continue through July, enhanced by recent improvements in vegetation conditions, thereby posing a risk to *Gu* season crop harvest in July and pasture availability during the mostly dry *Hagaa* (Jul-Sep) season.

Prices and Cost of Minimum Expenditure Basket (CMEB), April 2021

- Atypically high prices of water, staple cereals and Cost of Minimum Expenditure Basket (CMEB) were recorded in many parts of Somalia in April 2021
- The increase in prices and CMEB have adverse impact on food security among rural, urban as well as displaced populations

Population Movement/Displacement and Insecurity, Jan-Apr 2021

- Data from UNHCR's PRMN indicates that approximately 370 000 people have been displaced across Somalia between January and April 2021, mainly due to insecurity (85%) and drought (13%).
- Most of the displacements occurred in Banadir(50%), Bay (17%), Gedo (10%) and Lower Shabelle(7%) regions.
- Based on data obtained from ACLED (The Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project), a total of 850 security-related incidents were reported across Somalia between 1 January and 30 April 2021, reflecting a 7.3 percent increase in events compared to the same period of 2020. The majority of incidents occurred in Lower Shabelle(27.8%), Banadir(19.2%), Lower Juba (10.7%) and Bay (8.5%) regions.

Since January 2021, Somalia witnessed political tensions and increased violence, mostly in central and southern regions due to:

- Military clashes between insurgents and Somali government and allied forces
- Clashes between insurgents and clan militias in Lower Shabelle
- Clan and resource-based conflict in Galgaduud, Hiran and Lower Shabelle
- Localized inter-clan violence was also reported in parts of Sool region

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 Bakooland parts of Hiran
- Insurgents continue to collect forced Zakat and illegal taxation in areas under their control

Food Security Outcomes and Projections: Apr-Sep 2021

- 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 **2.83 million** is projected for July-September 2021.
- The revised and updated estimates reflect the observed and likely deterioration of acute food insecurity across Somalia through September 2021, including the extended impact of drought conditions, a below average 2021 Gu season rainfall and harvest prospects, continued Desert Locust infestation, socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 and conflict/insecurity).

4. Post Gu Assessment (Planning and Timelines)-FSNAU

2021 Gu Seasonal Food Security and Nutrition Assessment Timeline

Dates	Activities (Food Security)	Dates	Activities (Nutrition)
11 Jul	Regional planning meetings in Hargeysa, Garowe, Dhusamareeb, Beletweyne, Mogadishu, Baidoa, Dollow, and Kismayo.	27-30 Jun	2021 Post Gu Integrated Rural survey training
12-24 Jul	2021 Post Gu Rural comprehensive food security assessment (field work)	1-15 Jul	2021 Post Gu Rural Integrated survey data collection (field work)
25-31 Jul	2021 Post Gu Rural comprehensive food security assessment, data entry and analysis	16 Jul-6 Aug	Rural survey data entry, cleaning and preliminary analysis
1-2 Aug	Travel to Regional Analyses Workshops	7-8 Aug	Travel to All Team IPC analyses workshops: Hargeisa (Northwest), Garowe (Northeast) and Mogadishu (Central & Southern Somalia)
3-8 Aug	Regional Analyses Workshops: Hargeisa (Northwest), Garowe (Northeast) and Mogadishu (Central & Southern Somalia)		
9-17 Aug	2021 Post Gu All Team IPC Acute Food Insecurity (AFI) and Acute Malnutrition (AMN) Analyses Workshops – Hargeisa, Garowe, Mogadishu and Nairobi (concurrently with joint virtual core sessions)		
19-29 Aug	Finalization of IPC figures, maps, briefing presentations, Technical Release, communication brief, etc.		
30-31 Aug	Briefing for Senior Government and UN Officials (virtual)		
2 Sep	Presentation of the 2021 Post Gu assessment results to All Stakeholders, Federal Member States and Somaliland (virtual)		
2 Sep	Presentation of the 2021 Post Gu assessment results to All Stakeholders (including UN, NGO, Donors) – virtual, including briefing for the media and launch of a Technical Press Release		
3-10 Sep	Finalization and dissemination of 2021 Post Gu multi-partner Somalia IPC Acute Food Insecurity and Acute Malnutrition Communication Brief		

5. Climate Update-SWALI

- There are no rains expected in June.

Juba and Shabelle River levels

- There has been a sharp decrease in river levels along the two rivers over the last 2 weeks.

- Current river levels at Belet *Weyne* along the Shabelle and Luuq along the Juba are within normal for this period.
- In the middle and lower reaches the levels remain relatively high and are expected to decrease
- With the rainfall forecast indication no rainfall in the coming weeks within Somalia and Ethiopian highlands, there is **No Risk** of flooding along the two rivers

Vegetation Condition

- Negative vegetation index in the south as a result of late start and early cessation of the season and

Conclusion

- There remains a great concern in parts of Puntland and most of the Southern and central regions due to insufficient rains during the Deyr season.
- With no more rains expected in the coming months until the next rainy season, the condition could deteriorate further towards **a moderate drought situation**.
- SWALIM and other technical partners are on the lookout of such developments.

6. Emerging Needs-Xudur

Background information.

- Gu rains came late and have been below average in 5 districts (Xudur, Elbarde, Rhabdhure, Wajid, Tayeeglow) – negatively affecting crop and pasture as well as recharge of water sources.
- The general security situation in Bakool region remains volatile as the non-state armed fighters escalated nighttime attacks on Xudur town. During the reporting period.
- All supply routes entering Xudur are still blocked affecting supply accessibility which caused an increase of food prices. FSC partners noted that price of food commodities has increased. This situation has negatively impacted living conditions.
- Since January 2021, an alarming number of people in villages under Xudur district in Bakool region have had to abandon their homes and livelihoods in the face of security related and protection concerns including intimidation, forced taxation and other threats by the Non-state armed elements (NSAEs).

New displacements



- The new displacements came because of communities being notified to relocate or move to areas within the control of NSAEs and cut off trading relations with residents living the main town under government control. Upon receiving the news, the residents of all villages (villages within or outside 15km from Xudur main towns) have started to move to the Xudur town. As per the community representatives, residents of surrounding villages have been displaced from their settlements into Xudur town. Partners and local authority are now doing joint visit to locations where new IDPs arrivals came as to be able to produce the exact figure of displacement. More IDPs are anticipated to arrive in the coming days if current insecurity situation remain unchanged. However, FSC partners are in Xudur are planning to conduct a joint MSNA as soon as possible.
- According to a letter issued by Xudur district authority stated almost 42 villages in radius of Xudur
- The displaced persons are in urgent need of safety, better livelihood opportunities and humanitarian assistance. Therefore, there is need for activation of crisis modifier/ new funding to response the urgent needs. These includes

Recommendations

- Partners present to conduct verification of displaced families that are facing imminent crisis.
- Conduct need assessment of the identified displaced/affected population
- Advocacy for funding opportunities from major Donors/INGO/LNGO/Governments and private sector.
- Bakool joint cluster adhoc meeting scheduled to address the looming humanitarian crisis.

7. Update from MoHADM

ACTIVITIES

- The Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs & Disaster Management (MoHADM) is currently doing a lot of activities such as Covid-19, Locust response ,Flood Management
- DRDIP- Project Social Economic Serves for IDPs Benadir, Baidoa and Kismayo
- On job training (EWs) Staff jointly in Mogadishu, MoHADM & SWALIM More the 15 person during four Months.
- Direct awareness in the IDPs Camps and IDPs Site Definition Categories (Project)
- IDPs Site Definition Criteria, Household Site per HH
- Dry food and non-food items in the sectors to be distributed to the displaced and vulnerable population across the FoBs under its security responsibility

COVID-19 Response



- MoHADM, Established COVID-19 Task Force team 15-02-2021.
- MoHADM received 1M Face mask shield from Government Djibouti.
- MoHADM delivered food distribution 1000 H/Hs in Mogadishu , Gedo, Hudur .
- MoHADM delivered 50,000 Face Mask shield and 10,000 gloves to Banadir Region, Gedo Region authorities
- Awareness through government media SNTV, Radio Mogadishu and Ring Call phones.
- Direct awareness in the IDPs Camps and Host communities.

8. FSC Response Update

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

Objective 1: Improved Access to Food

- In January 2021, partners reached 2,052,239 out of 2,103,495 people targeted
- In February 2021, partners assisted 1,396,370 out of 2,103,495.
- 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

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

- The season started in February partners have managed to reach 389,517 people cumulatively for the months of February, March, and April out of a seasonal target of 1,250,300 (27%) achievement.

Districts with less than 30% for April coverage in Objective 1:

District	Obj 1 Monthly Target	April response	% coverage (Actual vs Target)
Cadale	8,100	2,250	28%
Eyl	20,700	5,717	28%
Bossaso	169,800	45,430	27%
Garoowe	63,700	15,292	24%
Qandala	11,000	2,430	22%
Buur Hakaba	20,900	4,452	21%
Qardho	23,800	3,966	17%
Iskushuban	16,800	2,544	15%
Banadir	260,600	32,982	13%
Qansax Dheere	10,300	24	0%
Adan Yabaal	4,600		0%
Afgooye	33,600		0%
Badhaadhe	6,800		0%
Bandarbayla	5,000		0%
Baraawe	5,500		0%
Bulo Burto	13,700		0%
Burtinle	14,300		0%
Caluula	11,600		0%
Ceel Barde	5,400		0%
Ceel Buur	13,000		0%
Ceel Dheer	17,300		0%
Jamaame	17,200		0%
Jilib	18,800		0%
Kurtunwaarey	23,600		0%
Qoryooley	27,100		0%
Rab Dhuure	4,700		0%
Saakow/Salagle	10,400		0%
Sablaale	2,600		0%
Tayeeglow	8,800		0%
Waaqid	13,400		0%
Wanla Weyn	8,100		0%
Xudur	17,700		0%

July-Sep Target 2021 targets

Region	Improved access to food (Obj 1)	Seasonal Inputs & Livestock asset protection (Obj 2)
Awdal	154,800	128,200
Bakool	64,600	55,100
Banadir	260,600	-
Bari	238,000	36,700
Bay	247,400	158,000
Galgaduud	100,200	51,700
Gedo	95,200	35,300
Hiraan	93,200	59,400
Lower Juba	173,800	54,800
Lower Shabelle	153,300	106,700
Middle Juba	50,700	30,700
Middle Shabelle	87,900	75,700
Mudug	199,000	55,800
Nugaal	102,400	46,300
Sanaag	217,100	193,900
Sool	125,600	34,700
Togdheer	200,500	35,400
Woqooyi Galbeed	262,200	91,900
Grand Total	2,826,500	1,250,300

9. Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM)

The FSC Strategic Advisory Group (FSC-SAG) conducted a review of the CCPM results for 2020 and provided guidance on how to address feedback received from partners. Summary of the discussion are as per the matrix below.

CORE FUNCTION	PERFORMANCE STATUS	CONSTRAINTS: unexpected circumstances and/or success factors and/or good practice identified	FOLLOW-UP ACTION, with timeline, (when status is orange or red) and/or support required
1. Supporting service delivery*			
1.1 Providing a platform that ensures service delivery is driven by Humanitarian Response Plan and strategic priorities	Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusivity of the partners in the Humanitarian Project Cycle Engagement of local actors has improved with greater participation and provision of information Regular and timely dissemination of information on food security to partners through meetings, email, web or through a training commendable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The FSC shall undertake a training needs assessment among partners <u>by end of August 2021</u>. Strengthening coordination among implementing partners on ground <u>by continuing to provide</u> detailed 3Ws to the State Level Focal points and Regional Vice Coordinators. Request State Level Focal points and Regional Vice Coordinators to propose any initiatives that can further enhance coordination at Sub-National Level (<u>this is an ongoing action</u>).
1.2 Developing mechanisms to eliminate duplication of service delivery	Good		
2. Informing strategic decisions of the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) and Humanitarian Country Team (HCT)			
2.1 Preparing needs assessments and analysis of gaps (across and within Clusters, using information management tools as needed) to inform the setting of priorities	Satisfactory	<p>In the survey nothing was mentioned as requiring improvement for this specific function.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrate more with other clusters - There is need to also focus on CCCM and Education as tied to FSL Strengthen mainstreaming of crosscutting issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – awareness on disability inclusion – Strengthen Age, Gender, Diversity, disability inclusion etc – Review the data template to integrate SADD – Mainstreaming cross cutting issues in the implementation of different projects, through training to for the partners <p>Above will be implemented through (a) training of partners including on reporting, (b) ensuring a standing agenda on cross cutting issues at regional cluster meetings, and (c) arranging with resources persons/organisation to provide presentations at various FSC meetings</p>
2.2 Identifying and finding solutions for (emerging) gaps, obstacles, duplication and cross-cutting issues	Yes, Fully		
2.3 Formulating priorities on the basis of analysis	Yes, Fully		
3. Planning and implementing Cluster strategies			
3.1 Developing sectoral plans, objectives and indicators that directly support realization of the overall response's strategic objectives (e.g. of an HRP)	Yes, Fully	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revitalised Emergency Livestock Technical Working Group in consultation with Ministry of Livestock and Rangeland development to promote better coordinated emergency livestock-based responses. Revitalised the Emergency Agriculture Technical working group in consultation with Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation to promote better coordinated support in agriculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification of funding requirements and planning guidelines should be shared early enough <p>Timeline: Through 2021</p>
3.2 Applying and adhering to common standards and guidelines	Yes, Fully		
3.3 Clarifying funding requirements, helping to set priorities, and agreeing Cluster contributions to the HC's overall humanitarian funding proposals	Yes, Fully		
4. Monitoring and evaluating performance			
4.1 Monitoring and reporting on activities and needs	Yes, Fully	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly dashboards shared with partners through the FSC website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beyond the excel based 3Ws, the FSC is working towards an interactive dashboard (Via PII) <p>Timeline: Through 2021</p>
4.2 Measuring progress against the Cluster strategy and agreed results	Yes, Fully		
4.3 Recommending corrective action where necessary	Good		
5. Building national capacity in preparedness and contingency planning			
5.1 National contingency plans identified, updated and shared	Yes, Fully	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The involvement of government authorities in regional coordination meetings has strengthened 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to engage with early warning partners to ensure early warning message dissemination to FSC stakeholders Provide a platform to early warning technical partners to engage with partners (e.g. through meetings)
5.2 Cluster roles and responsibilities defined and understood	Yes, Fully		

5.3 Early warning reports shared with partners	Yes, Fully	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> cohesion between the cluster and the government. Currently, the National FSC meetings are co-chaired by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management, and Ministry of Livestock, Forestry and Range 	Timeline: Through 2021
6. Advocacy			
6.1 Identify concerns and contributing key information and messages to HC and HCT messaging and action.	Yes, Fully		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold workshops on Agriculture and food security/climate change – online or face to face Continue to strengthen coordination through sharing lessons learnt To maintain advocacy based on needs/priorities <p>Timeline: Through 2021</p>
6.2 Undertaking advocacy on behalf of Cluster, Cluster members and affected people	Yes, Fully		
7 Accountability to affected people			
7.1 Mechanisms to consult and involve affected people in decision-making agreed upon and used by partners	Yes, Fully	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The cluster is working with partners to strengthen inclusion, including using community-based targeting approaches, to ensure targeting is inclusive of marginalized groups. Notably, the FSC already consulted with partners and developed the Community Based Targeting guidelines. The Community Based Guidelines seek to strengthen partners' ability to target people most in need, including socially marginalized groups, and their accountability to affected populations. With regards to minority inclusion, one representative of a minority clan organization is now regularly invited to be member of each of the sub-national Food Security Cluster to highlight issues pertaining to needs, coverage and gaps analysis with regards to minorities. This initiative started in August 2020 with the nomination of Livelihoods, Relief and Development Organisation to represent minorities in 6 of the FSC Sub-national hubs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue holding discussions on crosscutting issues through the various FSC platform <p>Timeline: Through 2021</p>
7.2 Mechanisms to receive, investigate and act upon complaints on the assistance received agreed upon and used by partners	Satisfactory		
7.3 Key issues relating to protection from sexual exploitation and abuse have been raised and discussed	Yes, Fully		
8. Overall satisfaction	Good		

10. Update on the Agriculture Technical Working Group

The Working Group will be conducting a meeting in the course of the coming two weeks. Invitations will be shared with partners and their attendance is highly encouraged.

11. AOB

There being no AOB, the meeting was adjourned.