South Sudan: a perfect storm and coping with COVID 19, FSLC meeting June 10th 2020
To COVID-19 IEC materials for use by partners

PROTECT YOURSELF, YOUR FAMILY AND COMMUNITY FROM CORONAVIRUS

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water
- Don't shake hands
- Avoid close contact with anyone
- Cover your mouth and nose with tissue or cough and sneeze into your flexed elbow
- Stay home and avoid travel when you have flu like symptoms

For more information: Call Ministry of Health, South Sudan
TOLL FREE NUMBER 6666

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE SIGNS & SYMPTOMS

- Fever
- Dry cough
- Difficulty in breathing
- Tiredness

For more information: Call Ministry of Health, South Sudan
TOLL FREE NUMBER 6666
1. COVID-19 context update for SSD and Africa – Paulina FSLC

2. A perfect storm: wider context and managing under COVID 19 in South Sudan – Alistair FSLC

3. FSNMS during the COVID-19 challenge – Lia/ Elliot VAM/ WFP

4. Short updates:
   • Updating the EU funded extension guides – Tayo EU technical assistance
   • SEADS – Isaac FSLC
   • DL – Viola/ Benson FSLC/ IRC
   • AOB
COVID-19 CASES IN AFRICA

• COVID-19 response planning began relatively early, in some countries as soon as the first international alert on the virus went out.

• Governments closed the borders and initiated a preventive measures, such as physical distancing, closure of schools and non-essential businesses
COVID-19 CASES IN SOUTH SUDAN

- Confirmed: 1,604
- Active Cases: 1,570
- Recovered: 15
- Deaths: 19

Numbers and Dates:
5th April 2020
1st Case of COVID-19 Reported
28th April 2020
First major spike in daily cases (28 cases in one day compared to 1 per day in the previous days).
1st May 2020
Total number of tests since 5th April 2020: 1,247
Cumulative number of contacts followed since 5th April: 251
South Sudan: topography & population density

- Swamps & river basins: Nile/ Sobat/ Bahr El Ghazal
- Diversity of agro ecology & livelihood zones
- Agro pastoral; pastoral/ sedentary farming (Green Belt)
South Sudan: food insecurity projection May – July 2020

- IPC projects that 6.5 million people will be facing acute food insecurity (IPC3+) between May – July 2020
- 1.7 million in Emergency (IPC 4)
- 1.3 million children U5 acutely malnourished
- 352,000 PLW acutely malnourished
- 15.6% U5 stunted with 3.6% severely stunted
- Especially high food insecurity across Jonglei, Upper Nile, NBEG and Warrap
Presentation objectives

1. Context of a protracted crisis in South Sudan:

2. Impact of COVID 19 on food security, coordination & humanitarian food and livelihood support deliveries

3. Impact of COVID 19 on data collection and field assessments

4. Any good practice and lessons learnt to share?
Protracted crisis timeline: 2010 - 2020

Unprecedented multi dimensional nature of our crisis:

- Conflict: national/ Inter & Intra communal
- Protection
- Food security (famine & economic)
- Public health
- Governance
- Flooding (after 2 years of dry spells)
- 2020: COVID 19 + desert locust swarms
- Ranked **most vulnerable to COVID 19 in Africa**
The evolution of food insecurity over the past 10 years: IPC mapping I
The evolution of food insecurity over the past 10 years: IPC mapping II

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The evolution of food insecurity over the past 10 years: IPC mapping III

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January 2020 IPC: food insecurity not getting any better!

Depth of lean season 2017 6.0 million (IPC 3, 4 & 5) – famine declaration & unprecedented numbers
Depth of lean season 2018 6.1 million – marginally worse
Depth of lean season 2019 6.3 million – marginally worse again!

Perfect storm: protracted food insecurity/ erosion of resilience + moving into lean season with COVID 19 and Desert Locust swarms!
COVID 19 effect on Food Security & Livelihoods

**February:** arrival of 1\textsuperscript{st} wave DL with 2\textsuperscript{nd} wave expected

**March:** NTF introduces COVID 19 restrictions to limit the potential spread & transmission:
- International flights in and out stopped;
- Banned cross border movement of people; but permitted movement of commercial & humanitarian cargo especially cereals
- Later restricted movement between states and to and from Juba (Measures now being eased)

**April:** first COVID 19 case now 231 (May 15\textsuperscript{th}) now 1,606 (June 9\textsuperscript{th})
- Flow of goods restricted & slowed due to bottle necks and significant food price hikes above the ‘normal seasonal’ food price
- New needs identified in market dependent population (especially urban poor HHs and food deficit rural HHs)

**May:** New HRP addendum C19 caseload 1.57 million on top of existing HRP PiN 6.3 million:
- Urban poor (not already receiving support) across 19 main urban centers = 1.127 million;
- 10% rural IPC 2 (high level of market dependency) expected to shift into IPC 3+ = 447,000
Coordination I:

- Post July 2016 **re-establishing FSLC and institutional linkages** – see mapping opposite;
- **Build up partner presence** in the field across all 79 counties
- **Re-activation** of former agricultural coordination forums chaired by FAO and WFP → Sub Clusters
- **WFP/FAO investment in their Field Offices** across all 10 states:
  - shift from high cost of air deliveries to big push on earlier pre-positioning (especially engaging with donors) of cereals (>300,000 MT) and seed (6,000 MT);
  - Further importance attached to FO: humanitarian hubs (Emergency) and community engagement (Development/Resilience)
**Built cluster team:**
- **IM team** managing & analyzing 5W data (lead to EU designed their Community Intervention Information System);
- **CC team**: FAO/ WFP; INGO (WV) and NNGO (SPEDP);
- Re-activation of old & new **county sub clusters** and / or **FSL focal points** (usually by NGO staff) – see map below

➤ **Strategy built around WFP & FAO** (85% resources) rolled out to 91 HRP and further 92 other operational partners (reporting on 5W);

➤ **Existing network: Messaging** (links with Risk Communication TWG) & COVID 19 SOPs & guidelines for in kind/ cash/ livelihood distributions

**COVID 19 coordination:**

- **New COVID 19 ‘normal’** generally slower logistics/ transport; online meetings (some smaller NNGOs miss out)
- Reduced INGO staff presence but **NNGO presence & staffing levels maintained** (no clear impact on delivery ... to be monitored over coming months);
- **Sub clusters**: reduced activity/ lacking internet/ space for social distancing;

**Good examples:**
- **WFP/ WB bilateral coordination** on expanded urban program
- **WFP/ UNICEF/ FAO IRRM**
- **Home Care Kits**: FSL (WFP)/ NFI/ WASH collaboration
Service delivery challenges during COVID 19:

- **Early pre-positioning** by road & rivers: process begun in late 2018 for 2019 lean season and farming season; fast tracked by WFP (cereals) & FAO (seeds) in 2020; ..... Challenge in delay in SSHF contracts!

- **Reduction in movement of cargo across southern border** (Nimule); traffic slow as drivers required testing; concern northern border might close;

- Increased air delivery (costs)

- **Planned 2 months rations for targeted beneficiaries**: IPC 5 HHs, refugees, POCs, lean season response & expanded urban program – reached 2.7 million people
  - Additionally for quarantine & isolation centers;
  - Schools closure so no school feeding (replaced by take home rations);

**Challenges:**

1. **Bottlenecks in cross border road & barge movement** for both commercial and humanitarian food carg; generally slower & reduced volumes (advocacy for fast tracking food cargo); and

2. **Funding shortfall** compared to 2019: usually 80% HRP projected to be nearer 70% in 2020 → reduced rations (as per 2017 – 2019);
COVID 19 data collection & field assessments challenges:

- **Restricted movement**: loss of face to face interviews (social distancing) and lack of access;
  - Especially loss of more **qualitative data** sources
  - Loss of **specialist assessment missions** e.g. IRNA requiring large groups people

- **COVID adjustments**: reliance on **FO & partner presence** plus linkages with local institutions
  - NAWG: (April) 4 major **crisis events**: ¾ assessed & responded by partners on ground (UN, INGO & NNGO); ¼ still struggling to access location (Tonj) .... **Response still pending**;
  - FAO: existing County Crop Monitoring (CCM), Market, Agromet & Livestock data teams
  - Market price monitoring (JMMI): by **network of 25 FSLC partners**, REACH, WFP and FAO (CLIMIS) + FEWSNET
  - Use **mVAM** (mobile phone data collection): urban success with 80% phone access; BUT: rural (1) low phone ownership; (2) limited network; (3) local languages spoken; (4) short interviews → low quality data;
  - Extend **mVAM** with key informants – **direct calls to traders** (trader 2 trader)

**Future**: return to OLS practice where ALL staff (with down time in field) trained on use of simple tools to bring back data from remote ‘hard to reach’ locations

WFP/ VAM team to talk later in the meeting about FSNMS and FSNMS+
Good practice: Preparedness for Ebola in 2018/2019

What everyone needs to know about Ebola

Ebola is a serious disease which affects humans and wild animals (mongooses, monkeys, and chimpanzees). An outbreak has been ongoing in the Democratic Republic of the Congo since August 2018, and recently a similar concern was recorded in Uganda, making the concern of its possible spread to neighboring countries including South Sudan.

**Signs & Symptoms**

These enter the body through the mouth, nose, and eyes, as well as from cuts or sores on the skin.

- **HIGH FEVER**
- **HEADACHE**
- **RED EYES**
- **BODY PAIN**
- **STOMACH PAIN**
- **VOMITING**
- **LOSS OF APPETITE**
- **SKIN RASH**

**General Advice**

- **Wash your hands** with soap and water.
- **Use protective clothing** when caring for a sick person.
- **Avoid eating meat** that has been part consumed.
- **Do not share** sharp objects such as needles, syringe, blades, etc.
- **Do not touch** carcasses.

**TO CALL**

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

WHO CLINIC: 6192894193

UGANDA CLINIC: 0701373957

Adapted from World Health Organization (WHO & Ministry of Health)

**Hand Washing**

Wash hands with soap and water for 20-30 seconds. If hands are dirty, wash hands with soap and water, not with hand sanitizers, for 40-60 seconds. Use hand sanitizer or chlorinated water if soap and water are not available.

1. Wet hands with water.
2. Apply enough soap to cover all hand surfaces.
3. Rub hands together and scrub everywhere.
4. Wash the front and back of your hands and in between your fingers.
5. Rinse hands with water.
6. Dry hands completely using a single towel or all dry.

**When to Wash Hands**

- Before using the latrine.
- After changing diapers or cleaning a child who has used the latrine.
- After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- Before, during, and after preparing food.
- Before eating food.
- Before and after caring for someone who is sick.
- Before and after treating a cut or wound.
Good practice: shifted to preparedness & response to COVID-19 in 2020!
Good practice (too early for lessons learnt):

- **Ebola preparedness & structures**: NTF & RCCE TWG etc. already established now with COVID 19 focus e.g. partner preparedness & sensitization;
- **Rehearsal across agencies** during March of *Continuity Business Plans* (CBP): office decongestion; temperature checks; hand washing stations (already in existence for Ebola); meetings: reduced numbers → online platforms *(many NNGOs unable to join)*: meeting participation dropped 120 to around 70+;

**FSL cluster approach** (based on learning from Ebola):
- Focus **internal**: self/ family/ neighbors/ workplace – ‘set example’ on reducing the spread & transmission of the virus; then
- Focus **external**: SOPs & guidelines; continuous week by week adjustments; new messaging & updates;
  - Ebola/ COVID 19 partner guidelines & messaging disseminated & in-use;

**Partner challenge**: increased COVID 19 costs: transport & cost of soap, PPEs, disinfectant & hand washing facilities etc.

*Comments in the chat on good practice/ constraints related to COVID 19?*
Good practice: social distancing & COVID 19 adjustment

Social Distancing at distribution in Northern Bahr el Ghazal. Photo: WFP/Solomon Tilahun

Guidance on suggested site set-up shared by WFP to staff and implementing partners.

Social Distancing measures through chalk floor markings at Cash Disbursement in Majok Noon. Photo: WFP/Malong Garang