Title: Protection Mainstreaming in Food Projects (COVID - 19 context)

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Protection Mainstreaming in Food Projects - COVID - 19

OBJECTIVES:

1. To engage with partners on protection mainstreaming in food projects, considering COVID - 19 (and emerging contexts)
2. To engage with partners on protection mainstreaming in food projects, considering COVID - 19 (and emerging contexts)
3. Reflection on key risks facing food projects communities
4. Systematization efforts for humanitarian response planning and sustained commitment to learning and improvements
5. Prioritization of Plans and Advocacy Agenda
Protection Mainstreaming in Food Projects - COVID - 19

What it means for Food Security Cluster Actors:

Implementing food access, agricultural, nutritional and livelihood activities in non-discriminatory ways that promote the safety, dignity, and integrity of the people receiving assistance, and equally considers the different needs of women, men, girls and boys, all activities are consistent with humanitarian principles.

Why do we mainstream protection in food security?

- Enhancing relevance and quality of food provision
- Maximization of Impact
- Considerations for both staff and beneficiary protection
- Enhanced understanding on who is at risk for food provision?
Who are the risk groups? Prioritization of risk groups

Men, boys, girls, women, people with disabilities, mental health issues, elderly, children at risk, youth and others.

Community level prioritization to reach the most vulnerable and at risk with understanding of specific needs context. For example, household headed by children, people with disabilities and people with mental health issues must be communicated with specific considerations.

Covid - 19 Query?
Do communities (others) with identity issues status deserve to receive protection for COVID – 19 mitigation measures? You are at risk not only from COVID - 19, but also potential violence from a community member who may be exposed to confinements.
Key Risks Facing Communities

Psychosocial risks are key concerns facing communities; crunch in psychosocial support services (PSS) i.e. poor referral system available exposing food nutrition adverse communities to mental health concerns. COVID - 19 confinements leading to more risks on gender based violence.

Discrimination and stigmatization concerns are prevalent impacting participation and empowerment in the humanitarian, development and peace preparedness, response and recovery actions.
Key Risks Facing Communities

Capacity issues are prevalent in handling measurements and adequacy of interventions, leading to weak accountability. Acting as “risk triggers”.

Distinct groups - are we aware of their district needs and risks? Knowledge barrier risks.

Knowledge barriers could lead to risks like Sexual Exploitation and Abuse included in Fraud concerns. 50% of FSC actors have received any training on PSEA, 50% capacity concerns to be addressed.
Systemization Efforts for Protection Mainstreaming

- Key system barriers were needed for baseline knowledge, knowledge on crunch in access to services
- Capacity concerns on standardization on categorization of psychosocial risks

How are we addressing them systematically?
Baseline knowledge to address capacity gaps
Baseline alignments with Humanitarian Response Planning and Cluster Objectives
Efforts to communicate standard definitions on categorizations and key aspects of protection mainstreaming
Communications on our framework lens on protection mainstreaming
Protection Mainstreaming Lens

Prioritize safety & dignity and avoid causing harm

Prevent and minimize as much as possible any unintended negative effects of your intervention which can increase people’s vulnerability to both physical and psychosocial risks.

For example, dignity and empathy communications was rooted in various avenues addressing entry point barriers for engagement. Over 100 health workers assigned to conduct contacts tracing were trained on dignity and empathy communications for meaningful and protection centered engagement with risks populations. Engagement with regional health delegate was done to sharpen categorizations for people with mental health concerns on pre existing vulnerabilities, now exaggerated by COVID - 19 emerging context.
Protection Mainstreaming Lens

Meaningful Access

Arrange for people’s access to assistance and services - in proportion to need and without any barriers (e.g. discrimination). Pay special attention to individuals and groups who may be particularly vulnerable or have difficulty accessing assistance and services.

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COVID - 19 Is the body language related to social distance communicated with discrimination? Is privacy given to the community member you are engaging with?
Protection Mainstreaming Lens

Accountability

Set up appropriate mechanisms through which affected populations can measure the adequacy of interventions, and address concerns and complaints. Support the development of self-protection capacities and assist people to claim their rights, including - not exclusively - the rights to shelter, food, water and sanitation, health and education.

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Protection Mainstreaming Lens

Participation and Empowerment

Baseline reviewed against participation capacity to inform integration and communications for centrality of protection. For example, PSEA baseline communicates knowledge capacity and participation in learning initiatives by people who referred to themselves as “others” in food security cluster baseline assessment.
Prioritization of Plans and Advocacy Agenda

• FSC Gender Based Violence champions to be selected and capacity development on information sharing.
• Best Practice Sharing.
• Targeted capacity development on knowledge gaps against baselines for partners and cluster functions.
• Systemization efforts on protection mainstreaming for food projects in core cluster functions and partners engagement.
• Strengthening categorizations particularly for PSS risks and communicating the common standards as per the context and appropriate referral systems strengthening for FSC, tailored support to Regional Health Delegate.
• Alignments with HRP and cluster objective priorities and self assessed gaps.
• Advocacy agenda - engagement with ‘others’, reflection on the third gender and people with identity issues.
Share your experiences, ask questions?

THANK YOU!

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