Communications and Advocacy

COVID - 19: Impact and Action - Food Security Cluster

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Objective and Purpose

• Provide a snapshot of the situational analysis

• Discuss gendered impact - men, boys, girls, youth, elderly, people with disabilities, mental health concerns and other specific need groups

• What WFP is doing (ACTION) to address this through communications and advocacy
Situational Analysis

• School meal suspension

• Delays in food assistance due to COVID - 19 measures, logistical constraints

• Limitations in access to markets, COVID - 19 measures

• Hard to reach areas, further exposed to food violence with limited access to health facilities

• Information gaps, at various levels, particularly people
Gendered Impact

• Closure of schools, will increase pressure on women to be sole caretakers - limiting women economic empowerment

• Reduced labor capacity for high risks groups such as pregnant and lactating mothers, elderly and other people with specific needs increasing exposure to GVB

• Increased tension in food insecure households, due to limited access to markets, potential increase in domestic violence
Gendered Violence

• Issues around conflict sensitivity: access to medical facilities will further crunch with an outbreak, here tensions can exarbate with host communities who are not supported by assistance, but their facilities will be put to use.

• Gender imbalance in staff structures in various committees, clusters, partners will limit discussion on critical issues like menstrual health and hygiene.
Communications and Advocacy Response

• Communication is aid principle - just like water, shelter, food, protection.

• WFP and UNFPA joint approach established for targeted community engagement on GVB issues.

• WFP advocacy efforts on in increasing the value of women working from home such as care takers, to find alternative ways to economically engage them.

• Joint approach with UNFPA on capacity strengthening on GVB issues in food security sector which will also benefit COVID - 19 gaps.
• Updating of standardization guidance on specific needs to ensure no one is left behind

• Other joint approaches to community engagement with actors clusters

• Systematic information provision and putting structure in place for GVB referral coordination - communicating at all stages

• Social cohesion radio programming

• Mapping of information services - to link communities to suitable mechanisms
• Strengthened advocacy efforts on communication is aid at all levels - field agreements, cluster guidance, agency efforts, joint approaches etc.

• Working with women groups such as teachers on menstrual health and hygiene community engagement
Discourse in place

• WFP engagement on GVBIM systems and contributions which will also support COVID – 19 survivors

• Establishment of more joint approaches and engagement on protection monitoring

• Information provision through alternative services such as churches in hard to reach areas
Questions?