

## MINUTES OF FOOD SECURITY SECTOR - AGRICULTURE & LIVELIHOODS TASKFORCE MEETING

**Location: Borno State Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MoARD), Conference Room**

**Date: April 03, 2019**

**Time: 02:05 – 03:30 pm**

### AGENDA


1. Welcome, opening remarks and round of introductions (5 min)
2. Review of action points and approval of minutes of the previous meeting (5 min)
3. Presentation on FAO Post-Harvest Assessment Findings and Discussion, by FAO (25 min)
4. Consultation on draft FSS Seed Security Assessment and Distribution Guidance Notes (15 min)
5. Partners' updates on upcoming rainy season plans and coordination (30 min)
6. AOB (5 min)

### SUMMARY OF ACTION POINTS

1. Sector to invite Early Recovery and Livelihoods Sector to share their CfW activities and related harmonization efforts.
2. Sector to invite NiMET present the seasonal rainfall forecast for 2019
3. Sector to organize a proposed recommendations and lessons Learned workshop between partner involved in micro/kitchen/backyard gardening (including FAO, AAH, NRC and SCI)
4. FAO to share LGA-level post-harvest assessment findings for Borno State
5. UNDP to share its monthly updates and quarterly PDM report with sector partners

NO	PROCEEDINGS	ACTION
1.	<p><b>Welcome, Introduction and Opening Remarks</b></p> <p>The meeting commenced at 02:05pm and followed by self-introductions. The meeting was opened by the Chair, Mr. Dalatu and co-chaired by the Food Security Sector Coordinator.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Review of action points and approval of minutes of the previous meeting (5 min)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sector to invite Early Recovery and Livelihoods Sector to share their CfW activities and related harmonization efforts. – Pending</li> <li>2. Sector to share the draft Seed Security Assessment and Seed Distribution Guidance Note for partners' review and comments – DONE</li> <li>3. Sector to invite NiMET present the seasonal rainfall forecast for 2019 – 1<sup>st</sup> updates done by the sector; Ongoing</li> <li>4. Sector to organize a proposed recommendations and lessons Learned workshop between partner involved in micro/kitchen/backyard gardening (including FAO, AAH, NRC and SCI). – Pending</li> <li>5. Sector to consult FAO on any crop development analysis for 2017-2018 and share to better inform the sector members – DONE</li> </ol>	



	<p>6. UNDP to share its monthly updates and quarterly PDM report with sector partners - Pending</p> <p>After the review, the minutes of the meeting held on 06 March was adopted.</p>	
<p>3.</p>	<p><b>Presentation on FAO Post-Harvest Assessment Findings and Discussion, by FAO</b></p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide continued support to farmers as rain fed agriculture remains the main source of food and livelihood. In addition support for pest control to be given to farmers to reduce loss of harvest.</li> <li>• Future interventions should focus more on WFP beneficiaries and IDPs who have access to land and are willing to practice farming. This will help reduce their household hunger gap and increase food self-sufficiency.</li> <li>• FAO and WFP to explore on modalities of having common partners for both food and seeds distribution.</li> <li>• Conduct advocacy to community leaders, host communities and other stakeholders to support IDPs with farm lands for cultivation in order to improve land access</li> <li>• 2019 rainy season intervention can pilot communal farming or agriculture cooperatives with plan for scale-up in the future. This may help increase the households’ production yield and improve the period of food self-sufficiency.</li> <li>• Identify and support households who have no other source of income generating activity, aside farming, with vocational skills and start-up grant. Thus, future projects should focus on both increasing or diversifying the sources of income of farmers, particularly women and IDPs.</li> <li>• Develop empowerment programs (including cap making) for some farmers to augment income from farming. Efforts should be made to encourage small and medium enterprises. This will help improve the economic growth of the states.</li> <li>• Ensure timely distribution of seeds to farmers to enable them use the seeds for farming during the planting or sowing period. Continuous mentoring and information dissemination should also be done before, during and after seed distribution</li> <li>• Rain seasons interventions to support more households with other seeds such as beans, rice and groundnuts. This will help households generate more income to support their household members.</li> <li>• The post-harvest survey is better to be conducted soon after farmers harvested, with no more than 20 days. This will ensure accuracy of collected data.</li> </ul> <p>For the full presentation, please see below:</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>FAO Rain season post harvest report I</p> </div>	<p>Sector to share the FAO presentation</p> <p>FAO to share LGA-level post-harvest assessment findings for Borno State</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p><b>Consultation on the draft FSS Seed Security Assessment and Distribution Guidance Notes</b></p> <p>Basic Elements for Assessing Seed System Security</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are farmers’ most important crops in normal times?</li> </ul>	




- What do they use them for? Consumption, income or both?
- What lesser crops might become important in times of stress? How do farmers' usually get seed or planting material for these crops?
- What are the sowing basics for each major crop? (Average areas sown, seed rates, multiplication rates.)
- Are there important or preferred varieties, by crop?
- Which inputs and management practices might be essential for particular crops or varieties?
- Who within the household is responsible for decision-making and actual management of the diverse crops, at various stages of production and post-production?

The tools used in the Rapid Seed Security Assessment data collection should be customized to measure the five elements of Seed Security Conceptual Framework (Availability, Access, Seed quality and Varietal suitability) at household and community level.

- **Local Market (LM) and Agro-dealer's:** Local markets and agro-input dealers usually form part of the sources of seed to farming households/communities;
  - **Key Informants Interview (KII):** This targets officials and or experts in selected organizations. (At State levels, the major focus will be on farming and the seed system, supply and distribution, crop production and the extent to which the states are affected by the insurgency in the past years, specifically for the last two years cropping seasons.)
  - **Seed producers:** This helps in understanding seed production activities in the target states, types and volume of seed produced by various individuals, groups and cooperatives.
  - **Focus Group Discussion:** with affected community/village level. Focused on:- the major crops and varieties grown in the area, average area under cultivation (per household), intercropped seeds, seed-rates, and yield in normal and constrained years & seed sources.
  - **Household surveys (HHS):** focus on demographic and livelihood characteristics; crop/seed system profile; and seed channels/sources, and on seed aid.
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- Seed aid distribution is taking place in an alarmingly large number of countries:
  - Giving seed aid is itself becoming a chronic activity & business.
  - Seed aid systems should develop a proper and clear exit strategy.
  - In the absence of seed-related needs assessment, the default option has been to assume that there is a lack of available seed. Most Evidence shows that that automatic assumption of lack of availability is often incorrect in the extreme
  - Community based seed multiplication schemes and community owned seed banks are some of the exit strategy that should be considered during the design and implementation of seed assistance programs.

For the final guidance note, please see below:



	 FSS_Seed Security Assessment and Dis	
5.	<p><b>Partners' updates on upcoming rainy season plans and coordination</b></p> <p><b>FAO</b> <b>Vegetable and crop production</b> Targeted to implement the following for the upcoming rainy season in all 3 BAY states, Targeting 120,000 households Providing assorted vegetables and different cereal and leguminous crop seeds, fertilizer, alongside training in crop and vegetable production.</p> <p><b>Aquaculture</b> for the next 3 years in Borno and Yobe states: Targeting 300 households through a cluster based approach Providing 1 tank, 500 fingerlings and 35 bags of feed for each cluster, alongside training in fish husbandry through a rotation system for 10 households at a time.</p> <p><b>NRC</b> <b>Crop and Vegetables Production</b> Targeting 6,133 households Providing assorted crop and vegetable seeds Training in crop and vegetable production</p> <p><b>CRS</b> <b>Crop and Vegetables Production</b> Targeting 3,175 households for field crops and vegetable seeds distribution Training, fertilizer, pesticide, knap sack sprayer Distribution is expected to be completed by May 2019</p> <p><b>Borno</b> Magumeni: 948 households Gubio: 1,185 households</p> <p><b>Yobe:</b> Gujba: 524 households Gulani: 519 households</p>	
6.	<b>AOB: NA</b>	
7.	<b>CLOSING:</b> The meeting adjourned at 3:30pm. The next meeting will be on 17 April, same place, same time.	



**Partners in Attendance:** 26 Partners – 35 individuals (11 females, 24 males).

Government/UN/Donors/Others	INGOs	NNGOs
1. MoA Borno	2. CRS	3. LMP
4. FAO	5. CARE	6. CRUDAN
7. WFP	8. ActionAid	9. SWNI
10. UNDP	11. IMC	12. JDPH
13. NCFRMI	14. SCI	15. REBHI
	16. PUI	17. SACSUI
	18. INTERSOS	19. JDF
	20. NRC	
	21. MC	
	22. ZOA	
	23. AAH	
	24. ADRA	
	25. CAid	
	26. ACTED	