

MINUTES OF THE BORNO FOOD SECURITY SECTOR MEETING

Location: Borno State Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources (MoANR), Conference Room

Date: 14 January 2020

Time: 10:05am – 11:30am

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 the preliminary findings of WFP CVA feasibility assessment in Bama and MMC, by WFP (20 min)
4. Consultation with partners on capacity building needs for 2020 (15 min)
5. Sector updates (25 min)
6. Partner updates (15 min)
 - o Government stakeholders (MoA, NEDC, NEMA, SEMA, MRRR, NCFRMI, etc.)
 - o Others
7. AOB (5 Min)

SUMMARY OF ACTION POINTS

1. Sector to verify the food gaps in Madinatu and African Mission Camp with SEMA, partners and other sectors.
2. Sector to provide updates on discussion between EFCC and humanitarian communities on vendor and CVA issues.
3. Sector to give a dedicated briefing session with the new Borno MoA Permanent Secretary
4. Sector to facilitate the discussion on which potential areas for agriculture activities in 2020 in Agriculture and Livelihood WG meetings
5. Sector with support from partners to revise the harmonization guidance notes
6. Sector to finalize the list of FSS focal points for key LGAs in Borno State and share the ToR
7. Sector to share Lessons Learnt on Poultry, Cattle/Sheep/Goats
8. Sector to share the Expression of Interest and draft TOR for the position of FSS Co-coordinator/NGO Co-Lead
9. WFP to share EFSA findings

No	PROCEEDING	ACTION POINTS
1	Welcome, Opening Remarks and Round of introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting was opened by the Chair and followed by self-introductions. 	
2	Review of action points and approval of previous minutes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The sector to give a dedicated briefing session with the new Borno MoA Permanent Secretary – Pending in Jan. 2. Sector to facilitate the discussion on which potential areas for agriculture activities in 2020 in Agriculture and Livelihood WG meetings – Pending, next Agriculture & Livelihood meeting scheduled on 22 Jan. 3. Sector with support from partners to revise the harmonization guidance notes – Pending on the validation of MEB data by end of Jan. 	Pending items from the meeting will be part of the action points for next meeting

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Sector to provide updates on partners covering the food gaps in the informal settlements in MMC areas – Ongoing discussion with partners, govt. and donors. PUI has committed to provide food assistance in Doro, Doron Baga and Umar Bolori sites for 12 months. 5. Sector to finalize the list of FSS focal points for key LGAs in Borno State and share the ToR – Pending, also seeking partner to voluntarily take on the FSS focal point for MMC/Jere 6. The sector to share Lessons Learnt on Poultry, Cattle/Sheep/Goats – Pending on technical review/revision 7. Sector to share the Expression of Interest and draft TOR for the position of FSS Co-coordinator/NGO Co-Lead – Pending on internal discussion 8. WFP to share EFSA findings - Pending <p>After the review, the minutes of the meeting held on 17th December were adopted.</p>	
3	<p>Presentation on the preliminary findings of WFP CVA feasibility assessment in Bama and MMC, by WFP (20 min)</p> <p>Before any modality is preferred a feasibility assessment needs to be conducted.</p> <p>The full presentatoin on how WFP approaches Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) feasibility assessment can be found here.</p> <p>Example: Selecting transfer modality for Bama LGA Borno State</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given the market-based socio-economic context, it is likely that interventions will be increasingly cash-based to achieve the objective of building resilience for enhanced food/nutrition security of internally displaced persons (IDPs), host communities and returnees in Borno State. • Furthermore, the scaling-up of the cash component of its interventions would be an opportunity for WFP to contribute to the development of the banking sector to reach currently excluded populations thereby achieving financial inclusion of beneficiaries. • Feasibility analysis result: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CBT implementation in Bama is very feasible as it appears apparent that markets are functional within and outside the camp and can absorb the expected demand during the lean season. • Existence of 4G telecoms service, as well as willingness of the Financial Service Provider; including support and cooperation of the camp management and security as well as beneficiaries' acceptance, has further made it clearer that mobile money transfers are feasible in Bama. • Majority of female beneficiaries prefer cash transfers to in-kind. • Local authorities (SEMA) and community leaders (Bulamas) welcome cash transfers. • There are no major security concerns associated with cash transfers. • Cash transfers via mobile money are feasible in terms of the capacity of the local market, the CP, ICT, financial institutions. • Cash transfers via mobile money transfers would have been the most feasible and appropriate solution in Bama. <u>However, due to government policy, it was quickly reverted back to in-kind following restriction of cash movement by financial service providers (Access Bank and Airtel).</u> 	

The FSPs requested for more time to clear with EFCC (Economic and Financial Crimes Commission). A second updated version that will explore E-Voucher modality is ongoing.

Recommendation

Scaling up cash transfer would entail that certain risks, particularly related to the capacity of the financial service sector (feasibility) and the consumption patterns of beneficiaries (effectiveness). Although both risk factors can be mitigated through the right measures addressed in this assessment, WFP will consider back-up plans with in-kind food in case it needs to switch back from cash transfers to in-kind due to, for example, an unexpected outbreak of armed conflicts, which might distort the local markets and affect feasibility of mobile money transfers.

Discussions

- Legal framework for mobile money transfer is critical and to establish it can be time consuming.
- Some of the challenges that WFP face on E-Voucher using SCOPE is that sometimes the plastic card that links it to the beneficiaries' fingerprint (Biometric data) does not capture well the fingerprints. Additionally, some retailers/suppliers are not able to supply all food items (22-25).
- WFP introduced rapid response E-voucher by providing blank E-Vouchers (no biometrics). However, it is difficult to track what the beneficiaries received (commodities) without the biometric data register.
- WFP/FAO also has cash for fresh food intervention which tries to link farmers with farmers who produce agriculture/poultry produces.
- Partners highlighted the challenges faced by previous Joint FAO/WFP project, whereby FAO provided beneficiaries with poultry and WFP was supposed to provide cash to buy poultry feed. WFP indicated the lessons learned that a feasibility assessment needed to be done since earlier as delivering cash was a challenge due to security reasons.

4 Sector updates

MMC/ Jere

- Forced displacement: On 3 January, a total of 461 people were brought into Dalori I camp by the military from Jakana. They are from the villages of Burti, Mamatiri and Garari. Over 90% of whom are women and children.
 - a. *SEMA has provided 5 bags of rice and 1 bag of beans. WFP have given two-week in-kind ration. Still follow up with the govt. to see how long they are going to stay.*
 - b. *Urgent advocacy to prevent additional forced displacement, ensure government full involvement/support the displaced people, and principled return.*
- In the last three weeks, 45 Households arrived into Dalori I camp. These caseload has been displaced multiple times and coming directly from Fofore camp in Adamawa state
 - a. *SEMA has also provided food rations.*
 - b. *WFP/IMC has provided emergency food voucher assistance. They will be incorporated in the caseload in January*
- In Dalori II, 39 households of new arrivals have been recorded. These are from Gomari-Fore, close to Dalori. This is following an attack on their village.
 - a. *WFP/IMC has provided emergency food voucher assistance. They will be incorporated in the caseload in January*

- In Gubio camp, 76 households comprised of female headed households arrived in August continue to be in need of urgent assistance.
 - a. *40 out of the 78 HHs have been incorporated by WFP/IMC and provided with assistance. There is concerns that the remaining 38 HHs may not be genuine arrivals.*
- NYSC camp: The IDPS are from Konduga.
 - a. *WFP supported the new 352 people with a 24 day ration of food during the week of 6-10 January*

Protection concerns: If any HHs being prevented from registration, please flag it to the sector.

Rann

- WFP is ready to dispatch food to Rann and only pending government support in terms of access. SEMA to confirm with the state government to support in transporting the food to Rann from Ngala.
- There is a potential for doing cash distribution in Rann. However, the process may be slowed down by the EFCC-related challenges and also cash may be a risk leading to more attacks, hence protection issues

Monguno

- On 28 December, 174 people were also brought in by the military, from Gudumbali in Guzamala Local Government. While some remained at the reception center, others went back to their area of origin).
 - a. *WFP/ACTED has provided emergency food assistance (in-kind) to the caseloads in the reception centre.*
- Monguno FSL partner joint verification exercise updates
 - a. According to IOM-DTM:
 - b. Total IDPs Registered in Camps & Camp-like Settings is 110,260 individuals 32,092 households.
 - c. Total IDPs Registered in Host Communities 43,202 individuals 12,865 households.
 - d. Camp by Camp details will be part of the upcoming report

Gajiram displacement

- There were attacks on Gajiram, Nganzai on January 11. So far the number tracked is 19 HHs having 99 individuals who have been displaced into MMC and Jere. These movements were reported to be towards host communities, not in IDP camps.

Yobe

- Between 8- to 31 December 2019, Yobe received a massive influx of IDPs new arrivals, from Borno state. These new IDP arrivals have settled in the host community which makes tracking them quite difficult. 708 households, a total of 3,450 individuals many of whom are within Geidam, Gujba and Bade.
 - a. *WFP has provided assistance to 2,022 new arrivals in Geidam*

Agency for Coordination of Sustainable Development and Humanitarian Response (ACSDHA)

- The law has been approved by the Governor on 11th December 2019

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Agency will support the implementation of the State Development Plan currently being developed and planning transition towards development over the next 25 years (Borno 2045). The Borno 2045 should be launched officially in February 2020. • The law seeks to support the coordination of implementation of humanitarian and development activities in the State. • All actors must individually register with the agency. All actors will be given certificates of operation which will last for only 3 years, but renewable. • Agency is linked to MRRR • A draft copy of the HRP should be shared with the agency immediately • It was agreed that the proposed sectoral meetings that were scheduled for next week should be rescheduled to February to enable the humanitarian community better prepare; obtain a better appreciation of the law and anchor the engagement within the framework of an approved version of the HRP 2020. • The HRP is inclusive to the Borno 2045, reflecting thus on their intention to promote an integrated approach (HDPN) and capitalize on existing strategies and operations (we insisted a lot to ensure that existing coordination mechanisms were embedded into Government strategies and plans). • Agency to improve accountability and transparency. Agency will provide cover to actors where necessary, especially on issues relating to the military • Agency will compile all existing data with OCHA support and will ensure that joint monitoring is conducted on regular basis against commonly set targets • Agency will be the CLEARING HOUSE for all actors in the state • All sectors must be connected/attached/coordinated with government departments • Junior, Middle level staff will be employed as persons from within the state. Where not possible, then they should be from the North East, If not found, then from the Northern region and then the rest of the country, in that order. Partners are encouraged to set up mentorship programmes for the youths in the North East. <p>Discussions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With guidance from HCT, etc. OCHA/INGO Forum/Sectors are trying to seek more clarity on how best we can work together with govt. • Some partners inquired on the roles of various government agencies for better understanding how they complement and not duplicate each others' efforts. <p><u>EFCC – request for list of all types of vendors??</u></p> <p>INGO forum is meeting with EFCC in Abuja next week. FSS re-iterate the points below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is not feasible and also not making sense, considering that our partners are using hundreds of vendors, many of whom are community-based, and the vendors also have their own commercial activities ongoing in addition to being contracted by humanitarian partners for FSL voucher activities. • We would be strongly against providing a list of vendors to the government. This is likely unfeasible and will likely lead to corruption among other issues. • We would like to ask for clarity on the laws surrounding company registration, and govt. guidance on how to make sure our vendors use a pre-existing legal framework. • We would suggest that the gov't. provides a black list, which we can use to screen vendors. (It is important to highlight that humanitarian organizations do conduct background check when 	<p>Sector to provide updates on discussion between EFCC and humanitarian communiteis on vendor and CVA issues.</p>
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	<p>doing vendor selection to ensure that the vendor meets the source/nationality requirements and is not an ineligible supplier and/or blacklisted by the government).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We would suggest that the Traders’ Union and Transport Union be the best source for information on transporters/vendors with varying capacities. Vendors/transporters caught in violation of existing laws should be dealt with accordingly. Humanitarian CVA related goods do not represent the majority of the goods that are being moved to different areas; commercial entities move majority/the bulk of the goods. <p><u>Consultation with partners on capacity building needs for 2020</u></p> <p>The floor was opened to the partners to share feedback on what they would like for 2020 capacity building. The following are the topics raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate-Smart Agriculture (ex: irrigation specific trainings) • Farmer Field School (T.o.T training) • CVA • Nutrition-sensitive FSL response • Protection/AAP/GBV/PSEA integration training • CH training prior to the analysis cycle – Deeper understanding of the CH including process, analysis and its importance. • IM and reporting training. 	
5	<p>Partner updates</p> <p><u>Mercy Corps</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Damboa and Bama the FFP (Food for Peace) is ending in January 2020. Another round to start for 12 Months to support around 30,000 beneficiaries with food assistance. • Bama (EU Project) been supporting 5,500 beneficiaries with food assistance. <p><u>FAO 2019/2020 Dry season farming</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAO has planned to reach 25,250 people, who have access to water and irrigable land to engage in farming • The beneficiaries will be supported with seeds, fertilizer and irrigation infrastructure (water pump and wash boreholes) in some areas. • Interventions will be carried out in 15 LGAs in Borno state. Beneficiary targeting and selection is on-going while distribution is expected to commence by 25th of January and end 25th of February 2020. <p><u>WFP</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WFP reported pipeline gaps in vegetable oil due to delays in clearances at the port, since October. However, clearances have been sought and the vegetable oil stuck at the port and shipment in transit should be cleared soon, and ready for distribution in February • There are also pipeline gaps expected in supply of sorghum due to gaps in supply by suppliers. January distributions may be affected. In February and March, Maize and sorghum will be procured as well to cover gaps where needed. • Super cereal is facing a supply gap globally. Therefore, there is a likelihood for a gap in February. • Super cereal + will be a longer challenge as the gap is wider globally, as only one factory produces it in Africa 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall, WFP is planning a compensation and substitution plan for areas which may be affected by the pipeline breaks. More updates to share in the coming day. 	
6	AOB: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to SEMA, there is information that in Madinatu, there is around 52 individuals who are reported not to be receiving food assistance – to be verified. It was reported that there is food needs in Africa Mission Camp – to be verified. 	Sector to verify the food gaps.
7	CLOSING: With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am. The next meeting date will be on 28 January, 2020 – Same time, same place	

IN ATTENDANCE: 37 partners were in attendance - 54 individuals (12 Females & 42 Males)

Government/UN/Donors/Others	INGOs	NNGOs
1. MoA	2. ADRA	3. OCF
4. WFP	5. ACTED	6. IDS
7. FAO	8. SCI	9. DHCBI
10. FMA&RD	11. CRS	12. LABI
13. NCFRMI	14. INTERSOS	15. CBI
	16. Mercy Corps	17. GREENCODE
	18. CAID	19. NEYIF
	20. CARE	21. PROPCOM
	22. ZOA	23. FINDEF
	24. REACH	25. REBHI
	26. Plan	27. WINN
	28. SIF	29. YAI
	30. FEWS NET	31. SHF
i.	32. Tearfund	33. ERC
		34. IDEE
		35. SWNI
		36. VSF
		37. AISVIP