

MINUTES OF THE BORNO FOOD SECURITY SECTOR MEETING

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

Date: 28 February 2019

Time: 10:06am – 11:40am

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. Updates on the upcoming Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA), by WFP-VAM (15 min)
4. Discussion on post-election partners' activity planning (15 min)
5. Sector updates
 - a. Key operational updates (15 min)
 - b. Updates on Cadre Harmonise 2019 preparation (10 min)
 - c. Upcoming training opportunities for sector partners (10 min)
6. Partner updates (15 min)
 - a. Government stakeholders (MoA, PCNI, NEMA, SEMA, MRRR, etc.)
 - b. Others
7. AOB (5 min)

SUMMARY OF ACTION POINTS

1. Sector to invite the National Social Safety Nets Coordinating Office (NASSCO) to the sector meetings
2. Tearfund to share their market assessment in Michika and Madagali through the sector -
3. Sector to reach out to AAP Working Group to support partners' feedback & complaint mechanism harmonization
4. Sector with support from partners to revise the harmonization and targeting guidance notes
5. Sector to follow up with SCI on proposed HEA training
6. Sector to share updates on the CH analysis timelines in relation to the WFP EFSA timelines

No	PROCEEDING	ACTION POINTS
1	<p>Welcome, Opening Remarks and Round of introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting commenced at 10:06 am with a new projector in place and followed by self-introductions as invited by the Chair, Mr Dalatu. • The Food Security Sector Coordinator also gave a special welcome note to the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and IDPs (NCFRMI) who were in attendance for the first time 	

<p>2</p>	<p>Review of action points and approval of previous minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sector to share the Social Protection Cross-Learning Summit (SPECS) relevant links to presentation/resources – DONE 1. Sector to invite the National Social Safety Nets Coordinating Office (NASSCO) to the sector meetings – Pending; next meeting 2. Tearfund to share their market assessment in Michika and Madagali through the sector - Pending 3. Sector to reach out to AAP Working Group to support partners’ feedback & complaint mechanism harmonization - Ongoing 4. Sector with support from partners to revise the harmonization and targeting guidance notes - Ongoing 5. Sector to follow up with SCI on proposed HEA training – Pending <p>After the review, the minutes of the meeting held on 05 February was adopted.</p>	
<p>3</p>	<p>Updates on upcoming Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA)</p> <p>A quick timeline on the next EFSA was shared. The EFSA is led by WFP in collaboration with government counterparts including NBS, NPFS, NEMA, FEWS NET, FAO and other partners. The EFSA was supposed to run from early February to end by February 15 right before elections. However, the schedule was changed as a result of the change in election dates.</p> <p><u>Key Upcoming dates for EFSA (updated as of 16 March):</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inception workshop in Abuja – 7th March 2. State level enumerator training and field test – 25th to 28 March (taking place in each BAY state) 3. Data collection – 29th March to 15th April 4. Preliminary findings – 15th to 27th April <p>EFSA is ideally supposed to be followed by the Cadre Harmonize (CH) to ensure the EFSA data fits into the CH analysis. However, the CH timelines are not yet confirmed and being discussed at the regional technical committee level.</p>	
<p>4</p>	<p>Sector Updates</p> <p>a. Updates on Cadre Harmonise 2019 preparation (updated as of 16 March)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The regional Cadre Harmonise Technical Committee and CILSS decided not to invert the CH schedule for Cameroon and Nigeria, despite requests from both countries, and joint advocacy from Co-Lead Agencies (FAO and WFP) and other FSS partners. This means that the CH exercise is going ahead now (covering 16 states + FCT), without the EFSA primary data as key input for the BAY states. Following the results of the EFSA, there is an opening to have an update to the CH analysis on BAY states. • The CH, led by the GoN, will take place from 13th to 21st of March. All the analysis of the 16 states + FCT will take place in Abuja. • Usually there are two rounds of CH March and October. The WFP EFSA data usually contributes significantly to the CH analysis. This year, due to election, WFP EFSA has been postponed. • Together with CLAs and donors at both country and regional level, the FSS, has been strongly advocating for a postponement of the CH in order to enable it to benefit from the WFP EFSA data. We had very much hoped that we would be able to convince the technical committee in Dakar of the postponement but were not successfully. 	

- Without EFSA, the analysis will be conducted using the evidences of contributing factors and other available data, ex HEA.
- During the FSS meeting in Abuja on February 21, there was a detailed discussion regarding how to go forward with the CH.
- Concerns among humanitarian partners on the credibility of the CH results that would be generated.
 - The credibility of the CH results lies in the availability of relevant data derivable mainly from the WFP EFSA.
 - This is contradictory to the continuous advocacy/enforcement of “no data, no CH analysis” for other non-BAY states to own up the process by making necessary commitment.
 - The context of the NE three states has been very fluid with many security incidents and sudden influx of displacement in various locations – this will be factored in during the EFSA and it is not captured in the previous data.
 - Another large-scale data source – REACH MSNA – will not be available either. REACH will only start data collection at the earliest April, though most likely, after Ramadan.)
- Three possible options were discussed and concerns raised at CH Regional Technical Committee level:
 1. CH will go ahead in March as CILSS planned, with an “update” when WFP EFSA and other data sources is available.
 2. Nigeria skips the March cycle CH and only conducts October CH for 2019.
 3. To have the CH around end of April/early June in order to capture how the food security situation will evolve during the lean period.

Among three options, most stakeholders preferred the 3rd option. Humanitarian partners emphasized our position on supporting the government leadership. While we express our concerns, the final decision lies in the NPFS.

- **Joint Mission to Hard-to-Reach Area in Borno State (Bama Case Study) - NPFS, NIMET, WFP, FAO and FEWSNET**

Following completion of the government-led Joint fact finding mission by the National Programme for Food Security (NPFS), Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet), World Food Programme (WFP), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWSNET) in January 2019, the preliminary findings presented by the NPFS during the Abuja Food Security Sector (FSS) meeting on 21st February, 2019.

Implications for the Cadre Harmonise Analysis

- Phase classification and estimation of affected population experiencing food and nutrition insecurity should take into account the proportion of population in these hard-to-reach/inaccessible areas vis-à-vis the total population in the LGA.
- Analysis should adequately take into consideration, the food security and nutritional condition, with more emphasis on nutrition, in these hard-to-reach/inaccessible areas (current & projected periods), using proxy measures such as the findings from this assessment and similar studies.

- Scale up similar initiatives and consult with partners (e.g. IOM, REACH Initiative etc.) further to explore possibilities to mainstream analytical approach into existing systems as seen in the case of UNICEF/IOM-DTM ETT.
- **Updates from REACH Initiative (read-out by FSS Coordinator on behalf of REACH Initiative)**
- REACH are planning beginning data collection for the MSNA in April this year (TBD in discussions with OCHA and others) but would love to begin the process as soon as possible.
- For H2R data collection and analysis:
 - Data has been collected, daily/ongoing since November 2018 in: **Bama, Dikwa, Gwoza, Monguno, Miaduguri, Ngala and Rann.**
 - Rann site is no longer active following AOG attack in mid January but all others continue data collection
 - Data from 1 Nov 2018 - 7 Jan 2019 is being analyzed at the moment. Analyzed and aggregated data can be shared next week for partners who are interested. Formal situation overview will be published and shared mid-March
 - Potential for expansion of H2R into 2 additional sites in 2019 - happy to discuss those locations with FSS and CH cell partners
- Most partners agree that additional sites for REACH staff to be based in and collect info from people arriving from H2R areas may include: Damboa, Mobbar or Kukawa
- **Key Operational updates**

Monguno:

- There is a FSL partner coordination forum facilitated by ACF on the ground in Monguno.
- Existing partners in monguno are encouraged to cover new arrivals in their existing sites of operation instead of having other partners coming into another camp where there is already a partner.
- A key challenge remains the issue of verification and harmonizing the registration. Things are a bit slow due to the election. Addressing inclusion and exclusion errors needs to be urgently followed up after elections, with support from the IOM biometric registration data.
- It was raised that in some cases, new arrivals and returnees are being treated differently and it is causing tensions. It was emphasized that food assistance should be based on vulnerability criteria instead of status-based – regardless new arrivals from H2R areas, returnees from MMC or secondary displacement from MMC.
- WFP intends to make a field visit to Monguno to follow up some of the issues raised regarding registration and targeting. It was agreed that before WFP goes to the field, a meeting with all food response partners in Monguno and IOM/DTM will be organized to discuss the issue of targeting and registration.

Rann

- As of 27 Feb, at least 10,000 internally displaced people reportedly returned to Rann town, Kala/Balge local government area, from Cameroon. These civilians are among 40,386 Nigerian women, men and children who originally fled Rann following deadly attacks in December 2018 and January 2019.
- Reports from sources on the ground indicate that hundreds more are en route to Rann from Cameroon (8 kilometers) by foot. All these people are in dire need of humanitarian assistance, including shelter, food and safe water.
- International and national humanitarian organizations have not been able to return to Rann to provide humanitarian assistance due to ongoing insecurity since 17 January 2019.
- Follow up is being made with partners on the Cameroun side as well.
- One could consider that the situation in Rann is currently not conducive for large scale returns of refugees following the destruction of service delivery facilities and the looting of humanitarian goods.
- There is need for a security assessment in Rann, given that most of the assets are destroyed and also to ensure safety for staff. Overall, it is also necessary to understand whether it is now feasible for large scale operation in Rann.
- Information on the realities of the situation in Rann needs to be shared with refugees before they return, ensuring return is informed and voluntary.
- All partners to ensure any commitment made with institutional actors is in line with a commonly agreed position that aims at protecting refugees, returnees while addressing humanitarian imperatives, having in particular consensus on the situation and next steps

SAFE activities

- Partners have been encouraged to continue putting into consideration, the aspect of food preparation with emphasis on energy for cooking for the households.
- Partners were also encouraged to reach out to the SAFE Working group to ensure technical guidance is provided for fuel-efficient stove selection.
- Energy-related activities are expected to be scaled up in 2019. The Sector, through its SAFE Working Group, has conducted a preliminary overview of planned fuel-efficient cookstove distributions in 2019 by five partner organizations, targeting more than 56,000 households. This coordination exercise aims to reduce the risk of duplication and encourage other partners who are planning such distributions to contribute and collaborate.

Partner	Planned locations (tentative)	Nr. of HHS
Food and Agriculture Organisation	Dikwa, Gwoza, Ngala, Mafa, Monguno and Damboa	18,000



World Food Programme	Dikwa, Pulka (Gwoza), Shehuri (Bama), Ngala	11,769
Kanem Borno Human Development Association (KABHUDA)	Pulka (Gwoza)	32,188
Christian Rural and Urban Development Association (CRUDAN)	Gwoza	2,000
Green Concern for Development (GREENCODE)	Bama	2,200
	TOTAL	56,388

Next SAFE Working Group meeting will take place on March 7th at the FAO conference room.

Rain season planning

- *The 2019 Seasonal rainfall prediction by NiMet is based on a warm ENSO phase (El Niño year) as predicted by the international ENSO prediction centers. **It is expected that the predominant warm phase will moderately suppress rainfall in the country during this period particularly in the North** while normal rainfall is expected from the predicted neutral phase towards the end of the season from September 2019.*
- *As the year 2019 is anticipated to be an El Niño year, **rainfall deficits with varying magnitudes are expected for most parts of the country, especially northwards.** This is expected to have an impact on the timing of the end of the growing season.*
- *Early rainfall cessation is expected in most areas of Borno, Yobe and Northern Adamawa (including Madagali and Michika), which has implication for the length of the planting season. **Rainfall cessation is predicted for 29th September in most areas of Central and Northern Borno and Northern Yobe and 6th October for the other zones in Borno and Yobe including Northern Adamawa.***
- ***Most areas of the northeast will experience shorter planting season.** Therefore, early provision of agricultural inputs and accessibility to improved/drought resistant variety (early maturing) seeds are recommended.*
- *Places in the extreme north of the States of Sokoto, Katsina, **Yobe and Borno are expected to have the least rainfall amounts within the range of 300-700mm.***
- *The probabilistic dry spell forecast shows that places around Bauchi, Jigawa, Sokoto, Zamfara, Katsina, Kano, Kebbi, **Yobe and Borno States are likely to experience severe dry spell in the month of June. This may last 10 to 21 days after the onset spilling into July.***

In light of the recent NiMeT Seasonal Rainfall Prediction released in late January, recommendation is made:

- To select short cycle varieties, and to adapt the distribution calendar to avoid farmers being affected by dry spells.
- Sensitization activities regarding updated cropping calendars will be also required.

Agriculture and Livelihoods

- There was a stakeholders' meeting organized by the Office of the National Security Adviser (ONSA) on fertilizer distribution to the North East on Tuesday 19th, February 2019.
- The purpose of the meeting is to review and update recent developments regarding the temporary restrictions on distribution, storage, sales and use of fertilizers in North East states of Borno, Yobe, Gombe and Adamawa.
- While the official read-out is still pending, it is understood that the regulations will be further more restricted with more information and advance notice required for moving fertilizers. Therefore, partners planning to distribute fertilizer to start procurement and clearance process early.
- Seed security assessment and distribution guidance note has been developed by the Co-Coordinator. This has been shared among key partners for review before it is shared more widely with all partners for further review. This is aimed at harmonizing seed distribution:
- The 8-page guidance note focuses on how to:
 - Analyze and assess seed systems and seed security.
 - Design seed-assistance interventions.
 - Monitor and evaluate seed-assistance interventions.
 - Including basic guidance and reference resources on Seed Testing, Seed Security Concept and Conceptual Framework, Seed Security Assessment Tool

Upcoming trainings and capacity building

Name of Training	Date	FSS Quota
1. iMMAP IM training in Maiduguri	11- 15 March	4 per sector
2. Protection Mainstreaming and Risk Analysis in FSL programming training in Maiduguri	14 March	FSS (three states) partners only – 50 people max.
3. Housing Land & Property (HLP) mainstreaming into FSL programming training in Maiduguri	18-19 March	FSS (three states) partners only – 29 people max.
4. iMMAP IM training in Damaturu	18-22 March	4 per sector
5. iMMAP IM training in Yola	TBC	TBC

	<p>In addition, basic FSS IM and reporting training sessions will also be organized in the three states for partners.</p> <p>Stadium relocation from Teachers Village Camp:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelters and WASH facilities are under construction and there is going to be a meeting to ensure that all sector constructions are finished by end of this week. • There was a premature movement of people by SEMA from Teachers’ Village camp to Stadium camp. However, after discussions, the movement was stopped since some facilities were not yet complete. The relocation plan will then be revised and shared. • In terms of Food assistance, SEMA and LGA chairperson have committed to providing wet feeding and some food items. ICRC plans to provide 3 months of In-kind GFD. Depending on the intention of NEMA to support, possible handover to WFP to transit to e-Voucher modality at the end of the three rounds. 	
<p>5</p>	<p>Partner Updates</p> <p>Partners were asked to share critical issues regarding their activities. Other general updates on program achievements can be shared with the sector team bilaterally for inclusion in the minutes.</p> <p>1. National Commission For Migrants, Refugees and IDPs (NCFMRI)</p> <p>A special welcome was given to the NCFMRI who were attending the FSS meeting for the first time. They liaised with SEMA (this year) and also MRRR (last year) to provide humanitarian assistance.</p> <p><u>Food Assistance</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In 2018, completed food distributions to IDPs in Gwoza, Bama, Banki, Konduga, Kareto, Maiduguri Metropolitan Council (MMC), El Miskin Camp, Kale Balge. Food Basket comprises of Rice, Beans, Maize, Millet, Soya Beans <p><u>Self-reliance/ Economic Empowerment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Distributed agricultural inputs including irrigation inputs, pesticides, sprayer kits, hoes, grinding mills, watering cans, seeds, seedlings in Gwoza, Bama, Konduga, Damboa Road and Monguno for self-reliance. - In Mobbar, Konduga and Gamboru in Ngala distributed fertilizer, soap making kit, fish growing inputs and briquettes. They are seeking collaboration with other partners. - In 2019, additionally, they are planning for the following trainings for more 600 IDPs: Carpentry, briquette making, tailoring, fish processing, local fertilizer. Location not yet confirmed. <p>2. PCNI: continuing with food distributions after elections as follows:</p>	

Camp name	Number of Households
1. Chezkoan	219
2. Railways	253
3. Biafra	194
4. Bash	102
5. Bamudu	22
6. Molayi	Data collection ongoing <i>(For Molayi, there is a plan for medical assistance as well)</i>

3. Save The Children

After the Konduga fire incident in Yantatanari Gana where 87 households were affected. All houses burnt down. Currently SCI will cover food assistance including those that were previously not part of their caseload. NFIs are urgently needed for the affected communities.

4. Mercy Corps

Agriculture and Livelihood Market Recovery Initiative:

- Conducted 5 day training for 16 Agricultural Extension workers in Biu on Good Agricultural practice (GAP).
- Trained 15 Extension workers in Biu on Farmer Business School (FBS) for eight days.
- Held meeting with Village Agents on training of VSLA groups
- Conducted training for village agents on the use of VSLA monitoring tools
- Village agents have started training VSLA groups on VSLA methodology. Number of groups trained will be ascertained by end of the week.

Poultry Development for Resettlement:

- Supply of Noiler pullets and voucher redemption to 253 (4,870 Chic's and 244 Bags of feed) in Maiduguri and 237 (4,740 chic's) and 237 bags of feeds) in Biu small holder poultry farmers.
- Training on VSLA methodology for 6 (M 3 F 3) Village agents in MDG for 3 days.
- Conduct internal learning sessions in preparation for phase 2 of PDR targeting deep sites (Damboa,Gwoza and Dikwa)
- Conducted Monitoring of Small holder farmers across 3 communities Dala Alamderi,Bulabulin Nganaram and Mairi recording zero mortality and also Noiler pullets laying egg plus the growth at 9 weeks was impressive.
- Conduct PDR scale up meeting with Amo Farm for preparation of the phase 2 in order to hinder challenges faced during the first phase.

Food Voucher

- Conducted conditional food assistance 8500 HH beneficiaries in Damboa through E-voucher with a transfer value of 18,100 NGN per HH in 8 communities across Damboa town.
- Also conduct conditional food assistance 513 vulnerable women beneficiaries HH in Bama through E voucher with a transfer value of 18,000 NGN per HH in 12 communities across Bama town. Kindly find below list of areas of intervention in Bama: Abuja, Hausari, Kasugala – B, Kasugala- West, Kasugala-Kirikasama, Mairi, Shehuri, Shehuri-Central, Shehuri-Kangaleri, Shehuri-Kasugula Tandari-Kasugula, and Yobe.

	<p>- Note that program activities were on hold in Southern Borno hence little has been achieved for the month of February 2019.</p> <p>5. Christian Aid As a WFP partner, conducting food assistance for two months for 6000 households in Monguno and Dikwa. After elections, they will start livelihoods activities in Monguno with WFP.</p>	
6	AOB: None	
7	CLOSING: With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40am. Next meeting date is to be confirmed due to the election period.	

IN ATTENDANCE: 36 partners were in attendance, 49 individuals (8 Females & 41 Males)

Government/UN/Donors/Others	INGOs	NNGOs
1. WFP	2. NRC	3. Salient
4. PCNI	5. ZOA	6. SHI
7. UNDP	8. CRS	9. GUMN
10. MOA	11. INTERSOS	12. CCDRN
13. FAO	14. SCI	15. CIDAR
16. NCFRMI	17. ACF	18. SWNI
19. SCEUBS-EU	20. Plan	21. Ngidda
	22. TWB	23. YIPDI
	24. CARE	25. HARAF
	26. IMC	27. GREENCODE
	28. Christian Aid	29. YIPDI
	30. Action Aid	
	31. ACTED	
	32. CRS	
	33. IMC	
	34. PUI	
	35. ADRA	
	36. Mercy Corps	