



BANGLADESH FOOD SECURITY SECTOR

Strengthening Humanitarian Response

FSS Meeting

DATE	Tuesday, 20th February 2018
TIME	10:00 am – 11:30 am
VENUE	IOM Meeting Room, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

AGENDA

1. Welcome and introduction
2. GFD update
3. JRP Project analysis and next steps
4. Cash WG Coordinator update on MEB
5. AoB (Monsoon update, livelihoods, etc...)

SUMMARY OF ACTION POINTS

- Partner organisations which made submissions into the JRP to share information regarding funding
- CWG to share the presentation on MEB
- FSS will share again the Contingency Plan Cyclone– and welcome feedback and comments on the Plan, since this is a living document
- Emergency Preparedness: FSS to monitor and assess needs
- Emergency Preparedness: FSS with other sectors to develop common messages

WFP opened the meeting with a welcome to all, followed by a round of introductions.

DISCUSSION

1. Update GFD

WFP provided an update on GFD. Key points made were:

- Complementary food distribution is scheduled to continue throughout 2018;
- 3000 Rohingyas have been registered as new arrivals – ACF has been distributing cooked meals to new arrivals. New kitchens to be opened in the Transit Points;
- GFD process is being helped by the e-registration system – as a result, a number of deduplicates have been crossed off;
- WFP reminded on the need for better coordination -WFP needs to know on a daily basis, issues of overlap, remaining stocks in the hands of FSS Partner organisations involved in Food Assistance. If Organisations have been handing out their own food tokens, there would be a likelihood of creating duplications;

2. JRP Analysis

A presentation on the preliminary analysis of the JRP proposals was made, showing the total envelope and key areas of intervention within Objectives 1 and 2 of the FS Sector.

The FSS Coordinator thanked partner organisations which supported the FSS Team CXB to review JRP proposals and to all for successfully completing the process of submitting the proposals onto the Portal (OPS). He also informed partners that the FSS Team did not reject any JRP proposals. However, the team noted some minor issues in the quality of the proposals such as omitting to specify geographical areas of interventions, or disaggregating data on gender and other markers, and minor issues of targets and numbers re: types and expected numbers of beneficiaries, etc.

- Overall, the FSS envelope of USD 240,000,000.00 is the largest of all other sectors/clusters;
- The process of designing and reviewing project proposals up to the stage of submission was transparent;
- Livelihoods project proposals' envelope is USD 560,000 –
- 19 FSS Partner Organisations made proposals which address livelihoods and self-reliance aspects of refugee and host communities, such as projects which will conduct market assessments, infrastructure, and several which will intervene in reforestation
- In order to have a clearer picture in this analysis, the coordinator suggested that it would ideal if partner organisations which made submissions into the JRP could share information regarding funding (e.g., which of their projects/activities have already been funded, are underway, which ones have secured funding or are hopeful that they will get funding, etc...). This will assist the FSS Team to have a more accurate picture, helpful in its mandate to do advocacy and resource mobilisation for the Sector for the period March-December.
- The JRP process is now at the approval stage. The RC/HCT is the one responsible for final approvals. The methodology was discussed with FSS Team in the past. The next stage might involve adding new proposals, on the advice of the RC/HCT.

The Cash Working Group Coordinator enquired whether at this stage FSS team was able to do a breakdown of JRP proposals with regards to proposals which intend to rely on the cash modality/mechanism.

The FSS Team welcomed the query, further suggesting that a Joint Analysis between FSS Team and the Cash Working Group could be undertaken, since Cash Modality is the way of the future.

- Partner organisations which made submissions into the JRP to share information regarding funding

3. Cash Working Group Update on MEB

The convenor of the Cash WG gave a presentation on the latest analysis on MEB -and promised to share the presentation, which focussed on progress in finalising and building consensus around what constitutes a Minimum Expenditure Basket for families and households among Rohingya refugees and vulnerable members of the host communities.

- CWG to share the presentation on MEB

4. Update on Monsoon/Cyclone Emergency Preparedness Plan

- FSS will share again the Plan – and welcome feedback and comments on the Plan, since this is a living document;
- FSS continues to monitor and assess the needs on the ground (food stocks, capacity of kitchens for cooked meals, capacity for scaling up porters, etc);
- UNHCR is currently undertaking an assessment on populations likely to be affected by the Monsoon/Cyclone;
- FSS is having bilateral discussions with other sectors such as Shelter/NFI, on common key messages during the emergency: e.g., storage of fire woods, and with FSS partner organisations such as BRAC on community kitchens and stocks of cooking charcoals
- ACF has been conducting, on a bi-monthly basis, a number of assessments including:
 - Food Security Surveillance Monitoring
 - Food Consumption Score
 - Food Security Indicators

The FSS coordinator ended the meeting at 11:30 after having thanked all participants and reminded partner organisations on the reporting period for their individual 4Ws, due on 22 February.

- FSS will share again the Contingency Plan Cyclone– and welcome feedback and comments on the Plan, since this is a living document
- Emergency Preparedness: FSS to monitor and assess needs
- Emergency Preparedness: FSS with other sectors to develop common messages