



BANGLADESH FOOD SECURITY SECTOR

Strengthening Humanitarian Response

Food Security Sector Meeting

DATE Tuesday, 27th February 2018
TIME 10:00 am – 10:30 am
VENUE IOM Meeting Room, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

AGENDA

- 1- Introduction and welcome
- 2- JRP update
- 3- GFD update
- 4- Update preparedness activities at national level (FSC package and MPCG)
- 5- AoB

SUMMARY OF ACTION POINTS

- FSS coordination team will share the draft paper on JRP Livelihoods and will welcome feedback from FSS Partners before finalising;
- Localisation. Since localisation is part of FSS's main agendas, FSS Coordination team encourages all the partners to actively participate in a multi-stakeholder dialogue (public) on ways of integrating the Grand Bargain Principles in the Rohingya's refugee crisis response and facilitating localisation. The event is being organised by COAST, a local NGO. FSS Coordination team will share the email.

FSS Coordinator opened the meeting with a welcome to all, followed by a round of introductions. FSS members who were present at the meeting are: WR, CCDB, AGRAJATTRA, EETwG, IFRC, CwG, Oxfam, SCI, NONGOR, BRAC, CRS/CARITAS, ICRC, ISCG, UN WOMEN, ECHO, MUKTI, REACH, UNHCR, SI, PROTTYASHI, FSS.

DISCUSSION

- 1- Intro
 - ✓ Brief discussion on action items from previous FSS weekly meeting.
 - ✓ Minutes of previous FSS meeting approved.
 - ✓ Cross checked on the list of action items. FSS stands ready for advocacy on resource mobilisation around the question of funding gaps.
 - ✓ Cash WG to share their MEB Analysis.

2- JRP Update

Update on ISCG meeting held on 25 February:

- ✓ Additional land provided on the west part of Kutupalong: 500 acres but only 128 acres are fine. May need to review the way we do GFD.
- ✓ FD7: ISCG will continue to do advocacy on our behalf. If I/LNGOs have issues, please let FSS know. They will discuss it with the FSC team in Dhaka. The FSS and FSC team will then liaise with the relevant ministries.
- ✓ JRP:
 - The JRP has been shared with the GoB. So far, no comment on the FS section.
 - GoB is interested in Livelihoods. As the tension is increasing with the local communities (for example, some villages are blocking some trucks transporting relief items), we need to show more what we are doing with the HC. FSS is developing a Livelihoods Advocacy Paper to help us communicate with GoB and HCs as well as other stakeholders. FSS/Livelihoods WG need more visibility and more advocacy. FSS coordination team will share the draft paper and will welcome feedback before finalising.

✓ **On JRP:**

- ✓ All the documents are on the matrix. The matrix will be shared as a good practice of transparency. JRP final draft version will go to DC, RRRC, then Dhaka. As previous HRP, it will be launched in Geneva in early March. FSS coordinator sought to reiterate and clarify that submission of JRP projects/proposals is not a guarantee that FSS partners will get funds, each organisation will need to find its own funding, and do its own fundraising.
- ✓ UNHCR asked whether Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP) was under FSS or Nutrition? The response provided was that it used to be with FSS until September but to comply with international standards, it has been sent to/is now being handled by Nutrition Sector.

3- GFD update

- ✓ WFP is looking for partners for the next rounds of GFD. If FSS partner organisations are looking to join the upcoming GFD rounds, for supplementary FD, they should inform FSS coordination team which will introduce/facilitate the conversation with WFP.

4- Monsoon Preparedness Plan

Preparedness at the National Level.

- ✓ In Dhaka, currently, there are lots of revision/reviews of the packages. It is a lengthy process as a consensus is needed to be reached. The FSC has two packages: 1) immediate and 2) short term food assistance
 - The calories are below for the immediate food package. Distribution is for 7 days but usually for 3 days, mainly made of fortified biscuits.
 - Second package is for the first month with various options. In case markets are not functioning, we do food distribution. We can also do a mix of cash and food, in some cases. Option 3, FSS monetises the package in cash (around 4,000 Takas), using the Department of Agricultural Marketing for commodity price index. As markets are dynamics after a disaster, the response is mainly cash distribution.

- The FSC wants to revise this package. There is a technical WG that has been recently established at the national level. There was some push back: the quantity of pulse is quite high. Bangladeshi colleagues/counterparts are not yet quite convinced that people will gladly eat that amount (15kgs).
- If an FSS partner is providing food to HCs, then the message is that that organisation will need to use the Package agreed to at the national level. FSS will share information when the package is finalised before the end of March when the recently established Technical WG has finalised the analysis and package.

5- Cash WG update

- ✓ Another discussion with FSC and Cash WG at national level: we are doing MPCG (Multi-Purpose Cash Grant). This is for only HCs, not for Rohingyas. The current amount is 4,000 Takas. This will need to be approved by the HCTT.
- ✓ To avoid tensions around jealousy and accusations of lack of equity, Rohingyas' proposed package as MPCG should then consider this newly revised package.
- ✓ The next step is to review the Cash for Work rate, because the MEB has changed. The cost of labour across Bangladesh, MEB and GoB schemes and policies need to be analysed for this revision. The current rate is 250 Takas.

6- AoB (Livelihoods, Reporting on 4Ws, PSEA)

- ✓ 4Ws: a reminder that partners need to report regularly on both GFD and Livelihoods;
- ✓ Livelihoods WG, if FSS partners are planning to do livelihood assessments, it would be good to inform the FSS coordination team, for better coordination purposes.
- ✓ If there are issues with FD7 or visa, FSS Coordination Team can help, wherever possible. ISCG will continue to play that role at the CXB level, on government relations and other strategic matters
- ✓ PSEA (Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse) training: If interested, please contact FSS, send your EoIs..
- ✓ ISCG is assessing Capacity Building and planning to conduct a gaps analysis. Mapping is the first step of this exercise. If any FSS partner organisation needs assisting in filling the excel sheet, please contact Catriona in ISCG for assistance. So far, most sectors have expressed general capacity building needs to ISCG in broad terms: general training needs in SPHERE, Humanitarian standards, coordination, Assessments, PSEA, Gender and Protection Mainstreaming.
- ✓ FSS Coordination team also has some funding available to conduct training. If there are several organisations interested, please contact FSS. So far, only ACF expressed interest in Food Safety training.
- ✓ Coast is organising a meeting on Localisation on the Rohingya response. Localisation is part of our agenda. The FSS will share the communication.

Meeting ended at 10:45.