

Food Security Sector Working Group (SYRIA CRISIS)

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VENUE ESCWA, WFP Office, Beirut

Yasir Iftikhar	FAO	Yasi.iftikhar@fao.org
Eugene Donadio	GVC	donadioeugenio@gmail.com
Josef Acquati Lozej	DRC	josef.lozej@drclebanon.dk
Hessen Sayah	CLMC	hsayah@eclmc.org
Shiva Kumar	AMURT	shivakumar@amurt.net
Farah Asfahani	IOCC	fasfahani@iocc.org
Jessica Moujabber	WVI	jessica_moujabber@wvi.org
Maysam Mohammed	OXFAM	MMohammed@oxfam.org.uk
Miriam El-Fawal	Mercy USA	mfawal@mercyusa.org
Sarah Adams	MCC	mccrep@lebanon.mcc.org
Bruno Guenther	MCC	mccrep@lebanon.mcc.org
Zanobi Tosi	Oxfam	Zanobi.tosi@oxfamitalia.org
Helois Ellien	IFRC	hellien@ifrc.org
Clemence Quint	Save the Children	Clemence.Quint@savethechildren.org
Tom Glue	ICRC	tglue@icrc.org
Charlie Rapoport	UNWRA	c.rapoport@unrwa.org
Rob Dolan	DFID	r-dolan@dfid.gov.uk
Mauro Clerici	TDH Italia	m.clerici@tdhitaly.org
Anne-Claire Bremard	ADRA MENA	Anneclaire.bremard@adramena.org
Nagi Khalil	ADRA MENA	nagi.khalil@adramena.org
James Astleford	ADRA Canada	-
Jim Cornelius	CFGB	-
Joan Barkman	CFGB	jbarkman@foodgrainsbank.ca
Susanna Romeno Romero	WFP	Susana.moreno@wfp.org
Lynne Miller	WFP	Lynne.miller@wfp.org
Catherine Said	WFP	Catherine.said@wfp.org
Charbel Habib	WFP	Charbel.habib@wfp.org
Ronan Macnamara	WFP	Ronan.macnamara@wfp.org
Julia Hug	WFP	Julia.hug@wfp.org

AGENDA

1. Approval of the minutes from previous meeting
2. VASyR- Update

3. Targeting Campaign-Update
4. Co-chairing
5. 3W Matrix Update- Simplification
6. E-card Update
7. AOB

- Next meeting

1. Approval of the minutes from previous meeting

The meeting was opened by WFP's Monitoring and Evaluation Programme Officer who welcomed the group and went through the minutes of the last meeting. The minutes from the 8th FSSWG meeting, which took place on 23 July 2013, were reviewed and endorsed.

The group welcomed guests from the Canadian Food Grains Bank and ADRA Canada.

2. Vulnerability Assessment for Syrian Refugees in Lebanon (VASyR)- Criteria Update

WFP'S Food Security Expert presented the latest set of results from the assessment for the FSSWG. The methodology used to estimate the current vulnerable population was presented as well as a draft questionnaire including the most sensitive indicators to assess vulnerability identified through the analysis of the VASyR. Most questions will be based on refugees' answers but some observatory questions have also been included to strengthen the accuracy of the assessment. This questionnaire is currently two-pages long.

ACTION POINT

WFP will circulate the questionnaire to the group for review and comments. The next step is for all organisations to agree to use this form once targeted assistance is implemented.

3. Mass information campaign

WFP's Head of Country Operations presented the latest developments of the mass information campaign for the transition to targeted assistance.

The first feedback from the field is positive: information dissemination has gone reasonably well and there were no delays in distribution. The next step of the information campaign is likely to be critical. Therefore, WFP is encouraging all stakeholders and partners to participate in the Working Group on Communicating Targeted Assistance.

The Working Group is currently drafting a document that would contain all information needed for implementation and which would be circulated to all relevant actors. It is also working on creating a short video to be shown at distribution sites. Discussion on content and design is on-going.

The Working Group is also discussing the operationalization of the targeting. It was agreed at their last meeting that, in addition to the campaign at the distribution sites, families would need to be warned individually. It was also reiterated that "vulnerability" is a dynamic concept that will need to be re-evaluated regularly.

DRC commented on the first two weeks of the information campaign. The main feedback so far has been a need to increase visual presence and need to increase staff presence among refugees to discuss targeting.

4. E-card update

WFP's Cash and Voucher Programme Assistant presented the latest developments of the e-card project. The contract is being finalised with the bank. A first draft for the leaflets and posters is under preparation.

The pilot is scheduled to take place at the end of August in two shops in Mount Lebanon. The roll out of the project is scheduled to take place in September.

The card will be capable of supporting the fuel voucher in winter if petrol stations are being provided with POs. WFP is still discussing with the bank the possibility of adding multiple accounts to the card.

5. Co-Chairing

Loreto Palmera withdrew from his position as co-chair of the FSSWG. DRC has come forward to co-chair until the end of September.

ACTION POINT

WFP will circulate a short description of the co-chair role to FSSWG members. Members are asked to consult with their management team the possibility of co-chairing the group in the future.

6. 3Ws/5Ws Mapping

The updated 3Ws/5Ws matrix was presented to the group. It was agreed that the matrix would be simplified by deleting the second “project description” column and the “type of organisation” column.

ACTION POINT

All organisations are required to fill in the “progress” section under the form of 1) Number of beneficiaries assisted in July 2) Percentage of their end-project target. The results will be consolidated on a monthly basis to report on the achievement of the FSSWG.

7. AOB

Announcement

IOCC has published “Nutrition Exchange” booklet to be distributed to refugees and containing information on food security and nutrition. The publication exists in Arabic, English and French. IOCC is offering to deliver as many copies as necessary to FSSWG members for free and upon requests.

ACTION POINT

IOCC will circulate a soft copy of the booklet. Members should write to iocclebanonnutritionteam@gmail.com to order copies, specifying the number of booklets needed and the delivery address.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on the **27 August 2013**.

FSSWG CONTACTS:

Sector Lead: Ekram El-Huni, Ekram.elhuni@wfp.org

Information Management Officer: Julia Hug, Julia.hug@wfp.org