

Food Security and Agriculture Working Group

FSA WG Monthly Meeting Minutes



21 March 2018

Gaziantep

Chaired by: Ahmed Ekzayez (FAO) and Bahodur Umarov (WFP)

Hosted by: WFP and FAO

Participants: Abdulkarim Lakmas (ISWA), Abdulmelik Elravi (Al-Sham), Anas Alsamar (Adaleh), Christopher Bender (UNHCR), Firas Amani (Al-Resala), Hanifi Kinaci (TRC), Isaac Macha (WFP), Mehtap Akgun (UNIDO), Mohammad Bakkar (Watan), Mohammed Alsaad (SR), Nouran Alhousen (Al-Resala), Osama Hafez (SOW), Rukas Ibrahim (WHH), Safwan Alhaiek (ISWA), Zakarya Al Motair (Qatar charity), Zin Mohammad (WHH)

Agenda:

1. Welcome and review of action points from the previous meeting
2. Review of the results of coordination performance survey
3. FSA 3RP Orientation Presentation
4. Revision of FSA WG ToRs
5. Update on FSA partner reporting on Activityinfo 2018
6. AOB (Partner updates; Brief update on results of Nutrition and FS workshop; Announcement for an ad hoc meeting on 9th April)

Summary of Action Points

- ✓ SWG Coordinators to share the latest version of the FSA Indicators guidance with members for their feedback. **Deadline: 30 March 2018.**
- ✓ After reflection of all the feedback, chairs to SWG coordinators to share the final version of the FSA Indicators guidance with IM WG to publish in the Inter-Agency Information Portal. **Deadline: 7 April 2018.**
- ✓ Chairs to initiate the formulation of the sectoral message (two-pager) to donors. **Deadline: First draft to be prepared by the next meeting.**
- ✓ SWG chairs to consider the results of the Coordination Performance Survey and develop actions focusing on the possible areas for the improvement. **Deadline: Mid of 2018.**
- ✓ SWG chairs to share the 3RP Orientation Presentation with partners. **Deadline: 30 March.**
- ✓ SWG chairs to share the draft version of the FSA WG ToR with partners. **Deadline: 30 March.**
- ✓ Partners to review and share their feedback regarding the new draft of the FSA WG ToR. **Deadline: 5 April.**
- ✓ After reflection of relevant feedback from the partners, the SWG chairs will submit the latest version of the ToR with STF to request the official endorsement. **Deadline: 10 April.**
- ✓ Partners to reach out to sector IM to request additional support in reporting to AI. **Deadline: Ongoing.**
- ✓ SWG chairs to invite the senior management from partner organizations to the ad hoc meeting in April. **Deadline: 30 March.**

1. Welcome and review of the action points from the previous meeting

- Following the welcoming and a short tour de table the agenda of the meeting was endorsed.
- Chairs reviewed the action points from the last meeting as per below:
 - SWG Coordinators to invite IS WG coordinator to present the results of the Coordination Performance Survey in the next FSA WG meeting. **Status: Completed**
 - FAO to finalize the remaining part of the guidance on FSA Sector Indicators. **Status: Completed.**
 - SWG chairs to share the draft version of the FSA Indicators guidance with members for their feedback. **Status: The last version of the Guidance will be shared for the final review of members and then submitted to the IM WG.**
 - SWG chairs to share the presentation on Minimum Guidelines for Agricultural and LH Programming with partners. **Status: Completed**
 - FSA WG co-chairs to start communication with relevant donor and/or governmental institutions/agencies to invite them to periodical sectoral meetings. **Status: Ongoing. Chairs informed partners that a meeting with MoFAL is planned on April. The chairs will also work on preparation of the joint sectoral message to donors involving all members.**

Action points:

- SWG Coordinators to share the latest version of the FSA Indicators guidance with members for their feedback. **Deadline: 30 March 2018.**
- After reflection of all the feedback, chairs to SWG coordinators to share the final version of the FSA Indicators guidance with IM WG to publish in the Inter-Agency Information Portal. **Deadline: 7 April 2018.**
- Chairs to initiate the formulation of the sectoral message (two-pager) to donors. **Deadline: First draft to be prepared by the next meeting.**

2. Review of the results of coordination performance survey

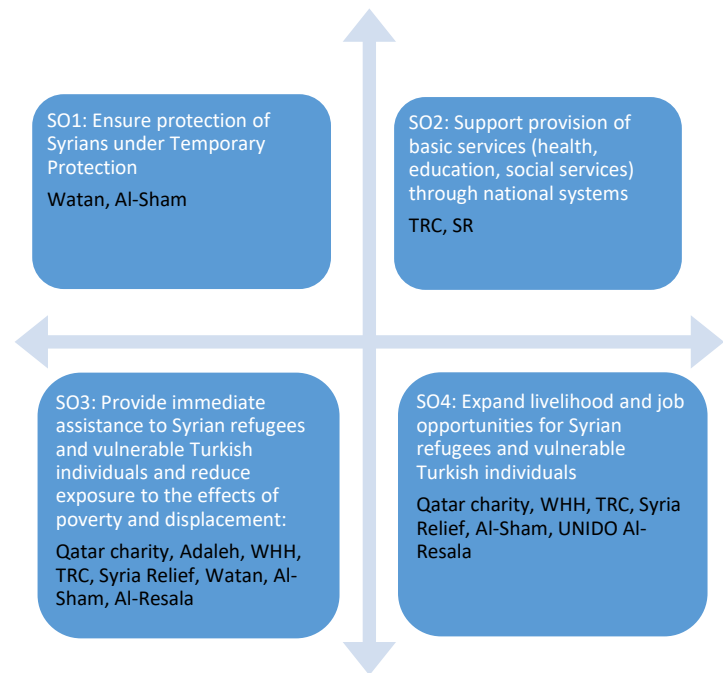
- As an action point from the previous FSA WG meeting, chairs invited the SET ISWG coordinator Chris Bender to present the results of the Coordination Performance Survey. The survey was carried out on behalf of the Inter Sector Working Group in southeast Turkey and was a follow up on a similar survey that was carried out one year ago at the end of 2016. All answers, comments and feedback provided by survey respondents address only southeast level coordination, covering the period January-December 2017. The responses were collected in January 2018.
- Following the overall review of the current Inter-sectoral coordination structure in Southeast Turkey, the chair of ISWG presented the results of the coordination performance survey. 31 responses were collected which is 12 responses short of the replies in 2016. The composition of the responding agencies differs significantly compared to the baseline from 2016 with a 40% reduction in responding INGOs. The numbers of national NGOs decreased in line with the overall reduction in responses and the number of responding UN agencies remained stable. The sector membership of the survey respondents changed significantly from 2016 to 2017.
- In total four responses were obtained from the FSA WG members. While in general, members agree that the sector has adequate ToRs, sectoral strategy, work-plan and SOPs; at the same time they indicate that the sector needs to develop the plans for capacity building, Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) and the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) frameworks. CWG chairs agreed that these findings adequately reflect the current stage of sectoral activities. For more details, please refer to the attached presentation.

Action point:

- SWG chairs to consider the results of the Coordination Performance Survey and develop actions focusing on the possible areas for the improvement. **Deadline: Mid of 2018.**

3. FSA 3RP Orientation Presentation

- The 3RP Turkey Chapter for 2018-19 was officially launched in Ankara on 19 March. In order to enhance the better understanding of the 3RP appeal and discuss with the partners their possible role within this framework, the ISWG chair also delivered the presentation on the 3RP orientation. The main focus was given to the impact of FSA sector in the overall 3RP strategic objectives.
- Following the introduction to the planning assumptions, population planning figures, the strategic objectives, the FSA sectoral response and budget requirements, chairs initiated a tour de table for partners to describe their plans and activities for 2018 considering their relation to one or more strategic objectives. The aim of this exercise was to enable partners to better position their activities within the overall 3RP strategy. The summary of the responses is provided in the below photo:



- In line with expectations, most of the activities planned by members within the FSA sector will contribute to the last two country strategic objectives, linked to the provision of the immediate assistance, and creation of livelihoods and job opportunities.
- Participants indicated that in the recent conversations, the relevant governmental institutions stressed that the short-term refugee related projects are more in favour compared to mid- and long-terms programmes. This may have an influence on planning of programmes within the resilience component of the 3RP. Chairs explained that in the 3RP launch ceremony the representatives of the relevant governmental institutions and agencies (including the MoFA and AFAD) underlined the importance of the reaching of targets foreseen under the 3RP appeal. Therefore, the information received from the local authorities may not sometimes fully reflect the policy at the national level.

Action point:

- SWG chairs to share the 3RP Orientation Presentation with partners. **Deadline: 30 March.**
- SWG chairs to share the final version of the 3RP 2018-19 with partners. **Deadline: 30 March.**

4. Revision of FSA WG ToRs

- Considering the changes in operational environment and sector strategic objectives, partners agreed to review and reflect them in the FSA WG Terms of Reference (ToR). The current version of the ToRs was endorsed in March 2017.
- Sector coordinators prepared the draft version of the updated ToR, and summarized the proposed amendments and changes as follows:
 - ✓ The Background and the Evolving Turkish Context chapters are updated considering new statistics and other relevant changes since 2016.
 - ✓ Sectoral objectives are amended according to 3RP FSA chapter for 2018.
 - ✓ The revision period of ToR changed from 6 to 12 months.
 - ✓ The change of the technical advisor is reflected.
 - ✓ Periodicity of meetings changed to be on monthly basis.
 - ✓ Change in period of sectoral dashboards to quarterly basis.
- Partners agreed to review the updated version of the FSA WG ToR and share their possible feedback. SWG chairs will then submit the latest version of the document to the STF for official endorsement.

Action points:

- SWG chairs to share the draft version of the FSA WG ToR with partners. **Deadline: 30 March.**
- Partners to review and share their feedback regarding the new draft of the FSA WG ToR. **Deadline: 5 April.**
- After reflection of relevant feedback from the partners, the SWG chairs will submit the latest version of the ToR with STF to request the official endorsement. **Deadline: 10 April.**

5. Update on FSA partner reporting on Activityinfo 2018

- The sector IM provided an update on the status of the partner's reporting in Activity Info. It was pointed out that the partners' engagement in this process remains in the low level, having only two partners reported for the first two months of 2018.
- The importance of the timely reporting was underlined and IM offered several options for partners to facilitate this process, which includes:
 - a. Partners may submit their reporting figures to sector IM (Isaac Macha), who will reflect them in AI, until the partner will enhance its own capacity to fulfil this task.
 - b. IM will continue to provide bilateral sessions for partners on reporting through AI.

Action point:

- Partners to reach out to sector IM to request additional support in reporting to AI. **Deadline: Ongoing.**

6. AOB

• **Partner updates**

Watan indicated that provision of support for about 150 vulnerable families in remote rural areas of Sanliurfa who don't meet the ESSN criteria will stop in coming month. SWG chairs encouraged partners to communicate with Watan for the possible ways of continuing support for these families.

- **Brief update on results of Nutrition and FS workshop**

The Introduction to Nutrition Concepts and FS Indicators workshop was conducted by WFP in coordination with FSA WG, Nutrition Cluster and UNHCR on 27-28 February in Gaziantep and Sanliurfa for the members of FSA sector and the Southeast Case Management Groups. The workshop is a response to the outcomes of the results of capacity building needs assessment in FSA sector carried out in the last quarter of 2017. In total, 39 representatives of 21 I/NGOs and UN agencies operating in Southeast Turkey attended the workshop.

- **Announcement for an ad hoc meeting on 9th April**

SWG Chairs announced about the plans to call for an ad hoc meeting inviting the senior management of the WG members on 9th of April. The aim of the meeting, among others, will be discussion of the sectoral strategic priorities, including the communication with donor and governmental counterparts. It is expected that the senior staff from the FAO HQ will attend the meeting. More details will be provided in the invitation letter.

Action point:

- SWG chairs to invite the senior management from partner organizations to the ad hoc meeting in April.
Deadline: 30 March.

Next meeting: 9 April 2018