

Food Security and Agriculture Working Group

FSA WG Monthly Meeting Minutes – 24 October, 2018



Chaired by: Ahmed Ekzayez (FAO) Isaac Macha (WFP).

Participants: Burak Guresinli (Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry), Rukas Ibrahim (WHH), Zakarya Al Motair (Qatar Charity), Mohammed Albasheer Aboullaban (Tekamul organization), Khaled Kabash (Shafak organization), Jamil AWAN (International Organization for Migration), Ozgur Koc (UN Women), Mehmet Sarit Ozkiler (IRW - Islamic Relief), Firas Amani (Al Resala Foundation), Muhannad Malandi (WATAN Foundation), Ahmad Al Khalil (Al Ameen for Humanitarian Support), Ezzat Hafez (UNHCR), Christopher Bender (UNHCR), Hanifi Kinaci (TRC), Yasser Ramadan (ACTED).

Agenda:

1. Welcome and review of action points from the previous meeting.
2. Introduction of Services advisor platform.
3. Discussion of the Q3 Dashboard for FSA sector.
4. 3RP update and next steps, including presenting the final version of FSA sector Logframe.
5. AOB

Summary of Action Points:

- ✓ Creating account for all FSA partners on the Services Advisor Platform by requesting the organizations to send their logo (in strip PNG format under 20 KB), full and alias name of organization and focal point contact information. **Deadline: 20th November.**
- ✓ SWG Coordinators to prepare and circulate to sector partners a Q3 Dashboard for FSA sector. **Deadline: 15th November.**
- ✓ SWG coordinators to share the final version of FSA sector strategy for 3RP 2019-2020. **Deadline: 23th November.**
- ✓ Ministry of Agriculture and forestry to prepare presentation about the national priority in Agriculture sector. **Deadline: 25th November.**
- ✓ Partners to share their responses to the participation in the Workshop on mainstreaming environment into refugee response. **Deadline: 15th November.**
- ✓ Tekamul organization to prepare presentation about their Agriculture activities for Syrian refugees in Turkey. **Deadline: Next FSA meeting.**

1. Introduction and welcome:

The meeting Co-chairs, FAO and WFP opened the meeting by welcoming all the participants and sharing a brief explanation of the agenda. This was followed by a brief tour de table.

2. Review of the action points of the previous meeting and partner updates:

FAO shared a brief update on action points from the previous meeting as follows:

- ✓ SWG chairs to share Updated FSA sector Narrative and Logframe to be shared by end of week; Status: **Done**
- ✓ FSA partners to share their inputs for FSA sector Narrative and Logframe (under 3RP 2019-2020) Status: **Done**.

3. Introduction of Services advisor platform.

WFP with support from UNHCR provided presentation about the Services advisor platform. The following points have been discussed:

- UNHCR opened the Services Advisor Platform to both refugees and service suppliers in order to overcome a problem of not being able to reach certain services regarding health, food, shelter and protection or even know which services are actually available throughout Turkey.
- The Services Advisor is a platform that allows users to view the services on the map and in the service directory, where they can filter by sector, area, names of the service provider and referral requirements. The tool is extremely useful particularly in the name of closing the gaps in services. The service providers are encouraged to update the tool regularly to ensure effective service mapping for relevant sectors and people in need.
- Services Advisor is available to refugees in 6 languages, English, Turkish, Kurdish, Pashtu, Arabic and Farsi. The user can select any of these languages through this language selector.
- Services Advisor is a very useful tool for making referrals between various humanitarian actors, in order to address the various needs in more efficient way.
- It is very important to register more service suppliers to the platform and to keep the services up to date.

ACTION POINTS:

- SWG coordinators with support from administrator of the platform (UNHCR) to help FSA partners in creating an account and access to register to the Services Advisor Platform.
- FSA partners can share their practical feedback in order to improve the Services Advisor Platform.

4. Update on 3RP process and next steps, including presenting the final version of FSA sector Logframe.

FAO shared an update of the 3RP First planning workshop, which was conducted on 9th October with the participation of various stakeholders, including representatives from various Ministries, Vice Presidency, DGMM, UN agencies, 3RP partners and donors. The key points that were discussed during that workshop are listed below:

- In the country planning workshop of the 3RP 2019-2020, the continued need for solidarity and more equitable responsibility in burden-sharing, as large numbers of refugees continue to be in need of protection in Turkey was underlined.

- The Government of Turkey has strong national capacity compared to other 3RP countries, thus, this was emphasized in the name of the national ownership and leadership for the 3RP plan.
- The Government's cooperation with international community in line with organizational expertise was pointed out to be significant in the integration of 3RP 2019-2020 into the national development plan.
- MoAF representative noted the positive collaboration between MoAF, UN agencies (FAO, and UNDP) and urged partners/donors to give agriculture the attention it deserves, as this is the key area for building resilience for both communities, Syrian Refugees and hosting community, Turkey.
- FSA sector may need to consider strengthening food-based approach to address nutrition issues, such as food and nutrition education, school gardening, etc.
- Support to municipalities is an important priority. Infrastructure is important but also recognition of the fact that they play a critical role in the identification of individuals with specific needs. Therefore, inter-sector collaboration around municipal support is critical.
- Poverty and employment issues were on the top of the agenda and discussion, also it was discussed potential plan for transition ESSN beneficiaries to more sustainable livelihood including agriculture livelihood.
- The basic needs sector is working with Livelihoods and Food Security sectors to define a mechanism of referring cash beneficiaries into livelihoods programmes to increase self-reliance.
- 40,000 work permits have been issued so far, and it was noted that more support and facilitation is needed for this process.
- It was noted that the strategy comprises three inter-linked components, namely:
 - **Self-reliant food security**, which will focus on preventing Syrian refugees from resorting to negative food-based coping strategies through support to the most vulnerable men, women, and children to supplement their food needs through small scale agriculture, short term employment, and food and nutrition education.
 - **Capacity development of farmers and small agricultural enterprises component**, which will support their technical capacities to improve their productivity and livelihoods. Activities include small agro-business development, entrepreneurship, climate-smart agriculture introduction of productivity-enhancing practices.
 - **Capacity development of national and sub-national partners**, which will enable them to implement activities in food and agricultural sector to support Syrians and vulnerable host communities affected by the crisis.

SWG coordinators further presented the targets and expected results of each component of the strategy.

ACTION POINTS:

- SWG coordinators to share the final version of FSA sector strategy for 3RP 2019-2020.

5. AOB

- A refresher training session on reporting to the FSA will be conducted.

Next meeting: 27th November.