

# Food Security and Agriculture Working Group

## FSA WG Monthly Meeting Minutes



22 February 2018

Gaziantep

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

**Hosted by:** WFP and FAO

**Participants:** Abdulmelik Elravi (Al-Sham), Akuila Findikliyan (SR), Anas Alsamar (Adaleh), Apolonia Morhaim (WFP), Asad Farooq Mehdi (Qatar Charity), Asuman Baba (UNHCR), Chris Bender (UNHCR), Dima Alkhalaf (Share), Filiz Hösükoğlu (UNDP), Firas Amani (Al-Resala), Hanifi Kinaci (TRC), Maan Al-Sheikh (Shafak), Maisa Ahmed (UNDP), Mustafa Kemal Üsküplüoğlu (Yuva), Nouran Al Hosein (Al-Resala), Osama Hafez (SOW), Rajendra Aryal (FAO), Rawaa Alshummari (Al-Resala), Rukas Ibrahim (WHH), Subhi Kord Arabo (Chamber of Com), Zin Mohammad (WHH).

### Agenda:

1. Welcome and review of action points from previous meeting
2. Guidance on FSA sector indicators for 2018
3. Presentation on Minimum Guidelines for Agricultural and Livelihood Programming
4. Presentation on current FSA activities of Al-Resala Organization
5. AOB (Announcement of the results of the nomination for sectoral technical advisor; invitation of donors and government to sector meetings)

### Summary of Action Points

- ✓ SWG Coordinators to invite IS WG coordinator to present the results of the Coordination Performance Survey in the next FSA WG meeting. **Deadline: 10 March 2018.**
- ✓ FAO to finalize the remaining part of the guidance on FSA Sector Indicators. **Deadline: 5 March.**
- ✓ SWG chairs to share the draft version of the FSA Indicators guidance with members for their feedback. **Deadline: 8 March.**
- ✓ Partners to provide feedback on the FSA Indicators guidance before the next FSA WG meeting. **Deadline: 14 March.**
- ✓ SWG chairs to share the presentation on Minimum Guidelines for Agricultural and LH Programming with partners. **Deadline: 5 March.**
- ✓ FSA WG co-chairs to start communication with relevant donor and/or governmental institutions/agencies to invite them to periodical sectoral meetings. **Deadline: Ongoing.**

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

- Chairs welcomed participants and expressed their gratefulness to the members of SET LH WG, who also attended the meeting. This was followed by a short tour de table.
  - The action points from the last meeting were reviewed as follows:
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- SWG Coordinators to circulate the last version of sectoral work-plan for 2018. Status: **Completed.**
  - Al-Resala to briefly present their on-going projects in Turkey in the next FSA WG meeting. Status: **Completed.**
  - Partners to inform chairs and sector IM about their assessment plans in 2018 and/or recently conducted assessments. Status: **On-going. No feedback is received to date. Partners are asked to update chairs if there is any relevant update.**
  - Each partner to appoint contact person/focal point for ActivityInfo reports in 2018 and share his/her contacts with Sector IM. Status: **Completed.**
  - Sector IM to arrange training on ActivityInfo for FSA WG members. Status: **Completed. The training was delivered on 15 February.**
  - Sector IM to prepare a short guidance for partners describing sectoral activities and output indicators in 2018 to report through ActivityInfo. Status: **Completed and shared with members.**
  - FSA WG co-chairs to circulate call for nomination for sector Technical Advisor in 2018. Deadline: 26 January 2018. Status: **Completed. Results are announced under AOB.**
  - Members to provide feedback on the Coordination Performance Survey. Status: **Completed. Chairs will check with IS WG coordinator on possibility to present the results in the next FSA WG meeting.**
  - WFP to keep FSA WG members updated regarding up-coming workshop on Introduction to Nutrition Concepts and Food Security Indicators. Status: **Completed. The workshop will take place on 26 February in Gaziantep and 27 February in Sanliurfa.**
- SWG Coordinators announced that for reporting on Activity Info for January 2018 the deadline is 28 of February. For the coming months, the deadline will be the first ten days of each following month. Partners are always welcome to contact sector IM in case they need any technical assistance and support.

**Action point:**

- SWG Coordinators to invite IS WG coordinator to present the results of the Coordination Performance Survey in the next FSA WG meeting. **Deadline: 10 March 2018.**

**2. Guidance on FSA sector indicators for 2018**

- WFP and FAO presented the draft version of the Guidance for FSA sector indicators under 3RP for 2018. The objective of the guidance is to provide partners with relevant information about each FSA indicator to facilitate the reporting process. It was highlighted that the template used for the guidance is recommended by IM WG for all the sectors and includes the information about the objective, indicators, target figures, definition of the indicator and specific terminology related to it. It also provides instructions on how the indicator should be reported to ActivityInfo.
- The guidance tables are ready for indicators under Objectives 1 and 3, and FAO is currently working on finalizing the part under Objective 2. It was agreed that the draft, once completed, will be shared with all SWG members for their feedback.

**Action points:**

- FAO to finalize the remaining part of the guidance on FSA Sector Indicators. **Deadline: 5 March.**
- SWG chairs to share the draft version of the guidance with members for their feedback. **Deadline: 8 March.**
- Partners to provide feedback on the FSA Indicators guidance before the next FSA WG meeting. **Deadline: 14 March.**

### 3. Presentation on Minimum Guidelines for Agricultural and Livelihood Programming

- FAO presented the first part of the Minimum Guidelines for Agricultural and Livelihoods (LH) programming. The guidelines are intended to provide strong justification for recommending certain livelihood protection and structural agricultural interventions in this context. The guidelines help to ensure that vulnerable communities in Turkey (Refugees, Host community) receive an equitable, minimum level of service from FSA sector members..
- The guidelines consists of five main sections, namely: crop agriculture interventions; off-season crop production; livestock interventions; vocational training and cash interventions. The presentation covered the main cycles of the programming for crop agriculture interventions, including needs assessment, provision of seeds, land preparation, tool provision, rehabilitation of crop production infrastructure and distribution of fertilizer. For more detailed information, please refer to the attached presentation.
- Partners were interested in identification of the market source when considering distribution of different types of the seeds. It was decided to include alternatives, where applicable, for both locally available and imported seeds.

#### **Action point:**

- SWG chairs to share the presentation with partners. **Deadline: 5 March.**

### 4. Presentation on current FSA activities of Al-Resala Foundation

- Al-Resala presented their FSA related activities in Turkey. The organization started its activities in Syria in 2013, and is currently implementing projects in rural areas of North Aleppo, Azaz, some areas of Homs and Hama and Idlep. Al-Resala is registered in Turkey since June 2015 and runs its projects mainly in Kilis. The scope of activities in Turkey includes a range of agricultural, LH and food assistance projects such as: production of olive oil; support of refugee woman by provision of trainings on cooking, handcrafts and social activities; sewing workshop activities; language courses; food processing and preservation activities. Additionally, Al Resala provides food assistance through ready to eat meals, food packs and vouchers; and support to families with orphans.
- SWG chairs highlighted that these activities should be reported through Activity Info in order to ensure better coordination with other partners and encouraged Al-Resala to contact sector IM in case if they need any support on this.
- Also the importance of considering the nutrition values of the food when providing in-kind food assistance was highlighted. NGOs, who need any assistance on this, may also contact FSA sector coordinators.
- Partners were also interested whether the beneficiaries who participate in LH projects are entitled to national social insurance schemes. Al-Resala explained that normally these projects are short-term and targeted to improve basic skills. Participant also asked about the beneficiary targeting criteria for different projects. Al-Rasala replied that they mostly target based on vulnerability criteria and try to involve new beneficiaries for each program.

### 5. A.O.B.

- **Announcement of the results of the nomination for sectoral technical advisor**
  - In the previous meeting chairs announced the call for nomination for FSA WG technical advisor based on the request from STF to appoint an NGO to represent the sector in STF meetings. The call for nominations was circulated among all partners via email and based on received

nominations, WHH was selected to fulfil this role for 2018. WHH appointed Mr Rukas Ibrahim for this role.

- **Invitation to donors and government partners to sector meetings**

- SWG Chairs proposed to members the probability of engaging donors and government partners in sectoral activities, especially, inviting them to sector meetings. Overall, partners agreed that their participation would have a positive impact in strengthening the dialogue among all FSA WG stakeholders. This was further supported by chairs and members of SET LH WG who also attended the meeting.
- Mr. Rajendra Aryal (FAO Rome), based on his experience from Global Food Security Cluster, also advised that the practice of including representatives from donor and governmental agencies usually has a positive impact on sector/cluster coordination outcomes.
- It was agreed that partners may also share their opinion on this topic bilaterally with SWG chairs. Meanwhile, chairs will start conversations with relevant donors and/or governmental institutions/agencies on this matter.

**Action points:**

- FSA WG co-chairs to start communication with relevant donor and/or governmental institutions/agencies to invite them to periodical sectoral meetings. **Deadline: Ongoing.**

**Next meeting: 21 March 2018**