

**Food Security Sector Working Group
26 February 2014, WFP Jordan - Amman**

Chair: WFP

Participation: FAO, UNOPS, IOCC, SCI, USAID, ECHO, ACTED, UNHCR

| STATUS | ACTION POINTS |
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| <p>1. <u>RRP6 indicators and dashboard</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A list of all the Food Security indicators was circulated to the group with a request for feedback on which indicators FSSWG members would like to see on the dashboard. After suggestions were received, the following five indicators were selected and will be displayed on the January dashboard: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> # of Syrian households headed by WGBM with acceptable food consumption score (85% of targeted population) # of Syrian WGBM receiving welcome meals, dry rations and/or food vouchers in camps and transit centres (including value/metric tonnage of dry rations, value/number of food vouchers distributed and number of planned distributions achieved) # of Syrian WGBM receiving food vouchers or other forms of food assistance in urban and rural areas including vulnerable Syrian refugees awaiting UNHCR registration appointment (including value/number of food vouchers distributed and number of planned distributions achieved) # of Syrian girls and boys receiving school snacks in camp schools (including metric tonnage of school snacks distributed and number of planned distributions achieved) # of moderately malnourished girls and boys under the age of five and pregnant and lactating women receiving SuperCereal Plus (including number of planned distributions achieved) Indicators can rotate, so as to reflect activities which are not carried out throughout the entire year. Indicators can also be merged, and doing so will provide broader coverage of activities rather than only reflecting specific interventions. It is also important to note that indicators are not the only place an organisation's activities can be reflected on the dashboard; there is the text in both the Highlights and Needs Analysis sections where activities can be reported on. This, in turn, requires reporting. The RRP6 planning database ("SyrRefRespRRP6") in ActivityInfo is different from the RPP6 Monitoring database ("RRP6-Monitor"). Trainings on the RRP6 Monitor were provided by | <p>FSSWG members to provide feedback and inputs to the indicators for the Dashboard</p> |

UNHCR in early February, and a step-by-step manual is also available. Figures reported on the dashboard are extracted from ActivityInfo inputs. Organisations need to create different sites for each of their activities in different locations, and then report monthly. Once the site is created, it is just a matter of inputting the figures on a monthly basis.

Other items arising from this discussion

- FAO coordinates closely with the Ministry of Agriculture, and welcome queries from any NGOs planning agricultural activities
- WFP Emergency Operation school feeding programme is only for schools in camps; the WFP Jordan country office will roll-out a school feeding programme for schools outside of camp soon

Re-circulate step-by-step guide to using the RRP6 Monitor database

2. Vulnerability criteria

- The Steering Committee has so far met three times and will meet again on 6 March.
- A technical workshop with broad cross-sectoral participation was held on 5 February. A list of indicators was drawn up and then further refined by a small group of members from the Steering Committee.
- After undergoing a sector-level review, the list will be finalized by the Steering Committee.

List of indicators grouped thematically will be circulated to the FSSWG for comments, before the inter-sector review, where the correlation will be analysed

3. CFSME update

- The Comprehensive Food Monitoring Exercise (CFSME) carried out by WFP in cooperation with REACH and ACTED also included input from UNHCR and UNICEF. The main objective of the exercise was to assess vulnerabilities and the food security situation of the Syrian refugee population in Jordan.
- Data collection started in December 2013 and ended in January 2014, covering all 12 governorates in Jordan, as well as Za'atari camp. Analysis is currently underway and the final report should be ready in around one month. The respondents were registered Syrian refugees in host communities, and Za'atari camp.
- Tools and methodology: secondary data analysis following household surveys (7100 surveys households in host communities, and 746 in Za'atari Camp).
- One objective of the analysis is to identify correlations between different indicators. If it is found, for example, that households with high food consumption scores are also households

with higher income and who have better access to WASH facilities, perhaps the latter could be used as a proxy indicator, rather than inquiring directly about income.

- In the interest of transparency, the data set will be shared with anyone who is interested in the humanitarian community; once the report is published, the data set will be released.
- Where a significant difference is found between respondents in the camp and those in host communities that will be included in the data analysis.
- Some initial findings from the preliminary data included a high percentage of respondents reporting strongly relying on food vouchers (nearly 70 percent), as well as borrowing from friends and family within the past seven days as a coping strategy (over 50 percent).

Questions/comments arising from the presentation

- Those refugees reporting borrowing as a coping mechanism borrowed from both Jordanians and Syrians. The social networking among Syrian refugees was found to be high and borrowing is quite the norm culturally.
- Although many NGOs provide cash assistance to refugees, less than 10 percent of respondents reported “Cash from aid organizations” as the main source of income. One possible explanation for this is that vouchers are distributed on a regular basis as opposed to cash assistance which is less regular, and for this reason may be seen as a more reliable source of support. WFP will present the other second and third most important source of income in the following report.
- Are there trends which can be identified from the data? One way to look at it is to see how refugees’ conditions have changed over time, since their arrival.
- Interagency targeting is planned to start during the second quarter of the year. It has already started in Lebanon, with a significant reduction to numbers of beneficiaries assisted based on needs and vulnerabilities.
- While WFP only assists registered Syrian refugees, some NGOs provide food assistance to unregistered refugees.
- Is it possible to look at the linkage between the level of vulnerability, and those borrowing from their families/friends? Yes, it is possible to look at those who borrowed, and compare with those who did not report borrowing.
- Questions about expenditure were asked in the survey, and the biggest reported expenditure on average was rent.
- Once the data analysis finishes, one possible visual aid is to plot vulnerability on a color-coded map, to easily identify which areas have the highest level of vulnerable households.

Circulate Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees (Lebanon)

4. Workplan 2014

- At the January meeting, one of the items briefly discussed was the development of a FSSWG workplan for 2014. A preliminary draft was presented to the group for revision (additions, deletions, amendments, etc.)

Circulate the Workplan to FSSWG for feedback**5. Tented settlements**

- The Tented Settlements Task Force, led by Volker Schimmel of UNHCR (schimmel@unhcr.org), meets every two weeks; the last meeting was on 23 February.
- 80 tented settlements have been identified by UNHCR, UNICEF and REACH. The total figure of people living in the settlements is not available, as there are several settlements for which figures have not been reported. These figures will be finalized very soon.
- Among the refugees living in these settlements, an estimated 97 percent are receiving food vouchers, but this figure is yet to be verified.
- Data collection terms of reference for each sector will be developed.

6. AOB

- [Syria Regional Refugee Response](#), the inter-agency portal managed by UNHCR, is an information-sharing space for any organisation working on the response. The [Food Security page](#) contains the minutes of the meetings, monthly dashboards, a calendar of meetings, and related reports. Organisations who would like to see their reports uploaded can forward them to maasri@unhcr.org
- A campaign with key messages on GBV and Child Protection will start early next month. Comments on the key messages can be sent to farah.elzubi@wfp.org (Farah is the SGBV mainstreaming focal point for the Food Security Sector)

Circulate the key messages