



Food Security Working Group - Minutes of the Meeting

Date	30 March 2021	Time	3.30pm- 4.30pm
Purpose of the meeting	Food Security Meeting 1/2021		
Chair	WFP, Mohammad Ismail		
Participating organizations	WFP, UNHCR, TUA, PRM. US Embassy, Action Against Hunger, ICRC, SWEDO		

Agenda:

- WFP Programmatic Changes 2021
- Food Assistance Mapping Exercise
- Food Security activities during Ramadan – participants share upcoming activities
- AOB

Introduction:	<p>Introduction and welcoming of participants.</p> <p>At the beginning of Syrian crisis, the FS working group was more active to coordinate ad-hoc humanitarian activities and supporting the set up of regular programming. The frequency of FS meetings was decreased and is now done ad hoc. From now, FSWG meetings will be held regularly.</p>
WFP Programmatic Changes 2021	<p>WFP has developed a new re-targeting model that is based on recent FSOM (food security outcome monitoring data) to reflect most updated information on vulnerability. This was already supposed to happen during the first half of 2020 but had to be postponed due to the Covid-19 situation in Jordan. WFP has now completed and validated the model.</p> <p>WFP is experiencing severe funding shortfalls that are impacting WFP's ability to sustain the food assistance to over 500,000 beneficiaries every month. This has been extensively communicated to donors in bilateral and multilateral meetings since January. On short notice, WFP was able to mobilise enough funds to sustain its program at the current level for April and May. However, WFP does not have the resources to do so also for June onwards. Therefore, WFP might be forced to significantly reduce the number beneficiaries it supports from June onwards. This would force WFP to enact its prioritization in addition to the re-targeting model, in order to, at least, support the most vulnerable people for some time. This prioritization will focus on continuing the assistance for all refugees living in camps and the most vulnerable people in host communities. This dire situation is of high concern to WFP and the organization is in close contact with UNHCR and donors about the situation.</p> <p>WFP will be informing the beneficiaries ahead of time through the appropriate channels once the funding situation for June becomes clear. WFP wants to alert also other food security actors about this situation through this meeting.</p> <p>In this context, the mapping of food assistance becomes important, as this might help other actors to understand the overall situation in the sector and might give</p>



	<p>indications which other actors beneficiaries could approach to access food assistance. (see next agenda point).</p> <p>Questions and comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Q: regarding developing new targeting module, how many beneficiaries and vulnerable people will be served if not 500,000? - A: The number of vulnerable people in Jordan overall has not changed much, as all food security indicators over the last couple of months highlight. However, WFP can only assist those most vulnerable people based on funding available. - Q: Are there any changes in the assistance package? - A: It is important to maintain the level of assistance depending on vulnerability groups. The assistance must make an impact for the people to help address their food needs. - Q: What kind of assistance is available? - A: Cash assistance in urban and electronic food vouchers in camps. - Q: In the past, lack of funding created problems amongst beneficiaries when they were notified, what are the expectations on beneficiaries' reactions? - A: WFP is aware of the sensitivity of the issue. Messages will be as clear as possible. All communication activities are closed aligned and coordinated with UNHCR. - Q: Does WFP plan to do assessments in the coming months? - A: WFP is very concerned about potential cuts in beneficiaries' numbers and is currently working on a baseline study to be able to document the consequences of the cuts for the refugees in host communities.
<p>Food Assistance Mapping Exercise</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restart the FS mapping: Map all assistances in Jordan to better understand which organizations are working where. - FS members were asked to fill out the mapping sheet that was shared before. Ramayana will re-send the sheet to be filled out. - FS co-chairs would like to invite all actors to join and share the programs in the mapping tool. Members are welcome to invite relevant organizations.
<p>Food Security activities during Ramadan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participants were asked to share their upcoming activities.
<p>AOB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IACU: ActivityInfo tool will be ready soon and members will be notified in order to report their data. Reporting will be used to create FS dashboards and to monitor funding gaps. - FS Chairs: WFP is working on the FS strategy with Ministry of Agriculture and many partner organisations. WFP will share the current draft of the document by April 6th and invites partners to share their comments on the draft. Members can focus on their areas of concern. - Q: Does the national food security strategy include refugees? - A: It does, but it is comprehensive and addresses different aspects and multidimensional nature of FS.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Q: PRM is not a donor but would like to suggest that Food for Peace is a WFP donor and might be interested to support the FS strategy. PRM is interested to receive more food security sector information.- A: WFP will follow up invite also FFP/BHA to the future meetings (done). <p>The next FSWG meeting will be held by the end of April. The frequency of FSWG meetings will be also discussed then.</p>
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