

15th Food Sector Meeting Minutes

14 May 2013, WFP Jordan – Amman

Participation: WFP, IR Worldwide, SC-I, HRF, IOCC, WV, ADRA, HelpAge and Handicap International, MedAir, NICOOD.

Agenda:

1. Partner Updates
2. JAM
3. RRP5
4. ERF
5. Nutrition
6. Gender Sector Review
7. UNHCR 3W's Web Portal: Food Sector
8. AOB

STATUS	ACTION POINTS
<p>1. <u>Food Sector member Updates</u></p> <p><u>WFP:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding is an overarching issue for all agencies • Recently, more refugees have been quoting “security” along with “lack of food” as one of the main reasons for leaving Syria. WFP will monitor the situation and update the Food Sector members. • In April, WFP reached 155,219 beneficiaries with vouchers living in the host community, KAP and Cyber City, 126,312 beneficiaries with dry rations in Za’tari camp along with 5,444 students in Za’tari camp schools • Current voucher distribution will finish by 15 May • WFP will partner with MasterCard for the E-voucher programme and a pilot is planned for June. The partnership with MasterCard allows for a type of unified assistance which means that WFP voucher support can be redeemed in shops in return of commodities and rent through withdrawing cash from an ATM. • Protection: WFP working with the communities and Save the Children to minimize food collection of minors, who are often present at the food and bread distribution points. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) have been developed for food distributions. The SOPs also consider vulnerable families with disabilities/difficulties to collect food, and an alternate can be formalized for food collection. Save the Children continues to provide transportation to vulnerable families. <p><u>IOCC:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distributes one-off food packages to minimum family size 5 for 3 months reaching 1,000 families (5,000 beneficiaries in total) in one distribution for unregistered Syrians in the southern parts of Jordan • The activity is coordinated with JHCO 	<p>WFP to provide feedback on reasons for leaving Syria at next meeting</p> <p>WFP to share SOPs</p>

- Delivery of food parcels to the JHCO warehouse has commenced – distributions will begin in June 2013

Save the Children:

- Facing several cases of unregistered refugees – also at times attending to the voucher distribution points asking for vouchers (mainly in Irbid and northern governorates)
- Food distribution cycle will finish on 15 May
- Voucher 74,000 caseload for this cycle (number dramatically increased)
- Time is causing frustration among the Syrian refugees who are afraid they will not be able to use their vouchers. Social mobilization efforts are being done to improve the situation.
- SC-I staff calling 200 beneficiaries end up receiving around 1,500 refugees waiting to receive their vouchers and this causes over-crowdedness at the centers as well
- Tension with host community is increasing
- SC-I also doing cash assistance project funded by ECHO and was done for winterization and now will also include NFI's (70% refugees and 30% Jordanians)
- Another cash assistance project which will be funded by CIDA is to eliminate child labour (50%/50%)
- In both projects, only reaching unregistered refugees

WV:

- Conducting in WASH in Araq

HRF:

- Voucher Caseload for this month: 22,000 beneficiaries
- Caseload increasing dramatically each month due to new additions
- Distribution cycle will end by 15 May
- Working in 2 separate projects to reach unregistered refugees
- Covering the cost of birth deliveries for unregistered women
- Another project with unregistered refugees who did not complete high school, HRF provides vocational training to build their skills and secure a career

IR Worldwide:

- May cycle, voucher target was 93,000 beneficiaries (dramatically increasing numbers)
- Hired a helpdesk officer dedicated for identifying the needs and complaints of the refugees
- Cash for rent project launched last week reach both registered and nonregistered refugees in Irbid and Ramtha
- Help desk officer information is used to link to other projects
- NFI project/hygiene kit in Irbid and Ramtha
- Top needs for refugees is NFI, cash for rent and just cash in general

SC-I to share the names and contacts of unregistered refugees in need for food assistance with IOCC (and JHCO for coordination purposes)

Create task force from the food sector regarding standard referral practices. WFP to consult senior protection capacities and revert.

IR Worldwide to share the summary of information gathered from the help desk officer and share with WFP and HelpAge/Handicap International

- Each beneficiary given a voucher is asked to provide information on whether they have children and if they go to school or not and then this information is linked with SC-I and UNICEF
- Next week will conduct training for field staff to be able to respond to beneficiaries appropriately due to the pressure and tense working environment they are working in
- Will participate in the JAM
- Disabled and pregnant women have priority in the distribution process
- Starting next week, there will be a full time volunteer tasked to identify vulnerable groups and assist them during the distribution process
- By June, there will be 11 retailers with 21 branches of shops

NICOOD:

- Timing was a main issue along with lack of resources behind not submitting proposal for ERF

ADRA:

- Cash for rent assistance projects currently conducted in the North of Jordan
- Observation: when visiting beneficiaries, one family complained that the prices of items in the voucher programme shops is slightly more expensive than other shops (could be an individual case)
- It was cleared by our partners that we conduct monthly market assessments to ensure partnering shops keep market prices

UN WOMEN:

- Gender in humanitarian action training will take place from 5-6 and 11-12 June 2013 with a goal to have 2 representatives from each sector.
- The objective is to support the inception of a gender focal point network in Jordan and to equip participants so as to conduct a follow-up training within their respective sectors on gender analysis, programming and monitoring within their sectors (probably after Ramadan)
- Gender Sector review: agencies who responded showed that they are quite conversant with gender dynamics and also have policy frameworks on how to work towards gender equality. Some agencies were advising that vulnerability criteria takes precedence over gender analysis and dynamics.
- Propose to use this programming in the food sector GenCap workshop

HelpAge/Handicap International:

- Looking at the extremely vulnerable families (Age, disability, injury and chronic disease)
- With food, one issue is older people not wanting to collect their food because “what’s the use of getting food I cannot chew”
- Another problem is transportation
- Working with different agencies participating in trainings on age, disability and related issues
- WFP proposed to have a session in the GenCap training on age and

IR Worldwide has a meeting on Thursday and invited Suzan - HelpAge/Handicap

WFP to set a meeting with Suzan to take part in the GFD

<p>disabilities – 3 hour session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WFP invited interested people to join field visits to food distribution sites <p>MedAir:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have screened 1,436 children under 5 and PLW's for the Month of April 16 cases of children identified with MAM 490 PLW's screened and 5 were found to be at risk Cash assistance for rent in urban communities is also conducted in the Northern Governorates 	
<p>2. JAM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JAM training dates confirmed for 15-16 May 2013 Overall process will take about 6-8 days of training and field work with broad participation from the food sector members Preliminary results will be available by the early of June JAM is a milestone for the food sector as it allows for improved targeting of the assistance 	<p>Send further information on the JAM to interested organizations</p>
<p>3. RRP5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deadline for launch in Geneva has been pushed back to 7 June 2013 Prioritization exercise informally conducted Food sector was a very easy prioritization exercise The draft consolidated months ago has been reduced and the ultimate goal is to reach a level where we have a clear concise document Strategy has not changed except on the preventative nutritional programme WFP will look at ways to improve the weaning food and the school feeding in Za'atari camp and which will be launched on a nation-wide level in Jordan too Prevent malnourished children under 5 and PLW 	<p>WFP to share draft with members</p>
<p>4. ERF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The food sector only attracted one proposal for the ERF. The food sector enquired the members as to the background for the lack of support, given that there is an overall funding crisis. The members observations and feedback were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time between when the ERF was launched and the deadline was too short. Didn't allow for time to consult properly with HQ and prepare and submit quality proposal. For the food sector, it was not very attractive given the 250,000 limit available, as it would have to be a one-off food/voucher package for one or up to three months, which is difficult to manage in terms of staffing, recruitment etc. with only modest reach of beneficiaries. Propose to OCHA to conduct a proposal writing workshop The partners responded to the question of: "What would make partners and NGO's come forward and submit proposals?" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher donation frame (more than 250,000USD) 	<p>The food sector will raise the ERF observations with OCHA/ERF secretariat</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Longer lead-time (3-4 weeks deadline from launch) 	
<p>5. <u>Nutrition</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In line with the Nutrition Survey, WFP plans to introduce a targeted nutrition programme for malnourished children under five years of age and pregnant and nursing mothers. • The launch of the nutrition programme is awaiting the written endorsement from MoH. WFP continues to follow up with UNHCR and the Nutrition sector working group. 	<p>WFP will circulate call for proposals for partnerships on Nutrition programme once Government approval is obtained</p>
<p>6. <u>UNHCR 3W's Web Portal: Food Sector</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WFP is preparing to submit the 3W's template on behalf of the food sector to UNHCR for inclusion in its web portal • Members requested to have a look at the template and identify any additional areas they are currently covering 	<p>Recirculate the template with members</p>
<p>7. <u>AOB</u> Ramadan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For Ramadan (expected on 7 July 2013) food sector will encourage UNHCR to include dates in the complimentary food packages • Next meeting: TBC (following coordination with the Nutrition Working Group meetings' schedule) 	<p>WFP to coordinate with UNHCR regarding complementary food and Ramadan</p> <p>Date TBC</p>