Inter-Cluster Food Security & Nutrition Activities

Global Partners Meeting
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Joint Initiatives: Guidance Checklist for Good Coordination and Programming between Food Security and Nutrition Clusters

Guidance Checklist for Good Coordination and Programming between Food Security and Nutrition Clusters

The purpose of this checklist is to provide some tips on how to promote better joint food security and nutrition programming at country level. The guiding questions below will assist Coordinators during the different phases of the Humanitarian Programme Cycle and will encourage planning joint responses taking into account the four pillars of food security (availability, accessibility, utilization and stability) and the nutrition causal framework.

Humanitarian Programme Cycle	
Preparedness (including capacity development)	-What efforts have been taken to build capacity and increase technical expertise in food security and nutrition? -Have you or your cluster partners conducted joint trainings, for example technical trainings on food security and nutrition or on cluster approach? -What has been done to ensure a common understanding of the causes of malnutrition and vulnerability criteria? -What has been done to involve the Government and national institutions in promoting nutrition-sensitive food security programming? -Has nutrition information been integrated into food security early warning systems?
Data Collection & Information Management	-Do you hold regular meetings with both clusters? -Do you attend each other's cluster meetings? -Do you jointly collect information that is disaggregated by different needs?
Needs Assessment & Analysis	-Do you plan or conduct joint assessments, analysis and mapping of 3/4Ws activities? -What efforts are made to conduct joint analyses? -Do you exchange ideas and communicate with other country clusters on tools and guidance and joint assessments?
Strategic Planning	-Do you feed into each other's Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and Strategic Response Plan (SRP)? -Do you rely on technical experts in both food security and nutrition to provide guidance on the planning phase? (Note: For Nutrition Cluster, technical expertise is provided by the cluster coordinator, technical working groups and the cluster partners.)
Response Implementation	-Do you advocate for joint food security and nutrition interventions? -What is done to ensure that cash-based responses also promote good nutrition?
Resource Mobilization & Advocacy	-Do you produce joint funding proposals? -Do you advocate to donors for an integrated approach to food security and nutrition?
Monitoring & Evaluation	-Do you encourage partners to do joint monitoring of food security and nutrition responses? -Do you believe national and sub-national working groups on food security and nutrition are helpful in providing guidance and improving the monitoring quality?
Four Pillars of Food Security	
Availability	-What has been done to advocate for the production of nutrient-dense foods?
Access	-What has been done to ensure better access to nutritious foods for different population groups?
Utilization	-What has been done to improve the nutrition effect of food consumption through education and other measures?
Stability	-What has been done to mitigate exposure to shocks and seasonal food insecurity? -What can be done to better manage natural resources?
Addressing Malnutrition through the lenses of the Causal Analysis Framework	
Immediate causes	-Has the response addressed all the manifestation of under-nutrition? -Have the problems of inadequate food intake and diseases been adequately addressed or advocated for to be addressed?
Underlying causes	-Are the issues of food security (availability, access, utilization and stability) above been systematically advocated or addressed for by the clusters? -Is social and caring environment being addressed by the programmes? -Is access to health care and health environment, including access to safe drinking water and sanitation, being systemically advocated for by the cluster?
Basic causes	-Are issues of formal and informal infrastructure that have implications for food security and nutrition being addressed or advocated for? -Are there discussion and advocacy around political and resource issues including discussions around humanitarian access?
Accountability to Affected Population (AAP)	
Joint approach to AAP	-Do partners have a joint approach to AAP – common commitments, frameworks and feedback mechanism – when population could provide feedback not only about food security and livelihoods interventions but on nutrition too?

Joint Initiatives between the two clusters: AAP