

FOOD SECURITY SECTOR – Palestine

June 10th, 2021 - Minutes of Meeting – West Bank & Gaza Strip

Date & venue: June 10th, 10:00-12:00, ZOOM

Facilitators: Hosni Barakat, Anas Musallam

Agenda:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Last escalation – damages, assessments, and responses 2. 5Ws platform 3. 2021 HF 3rd reserve paper 4. Partners Corner 5. AoB
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Meeting started welcoming the participants and presenting the agenda items by Hosni Barakat and sending greeting to people of Gaza especially that this is the first FSS meeting after the aggression of May 2021 on Gaza Strip.

1. Last Escalation in Gaza – damages, assessments, and responses

- **Damages:**

- Since the first day of cessation of fire, the MoA field staff went to the field to assess damages hit different sectors of the agriculture; in cultivated lands (open lands and greenhouse, livestock farms and fishery). During the escalations, the MoA in Gaza set an online registration system where affected farmers can inform the damages they had, then this will be followed by the MoA field teams for assessing damages on the ground.
- The damage assessment process is still ongoing by different field teams in all Gaza governorates. And the figures announced by the MoA is not final yet.
- FAO is supporting the MoA to use satellite imaging for agricultural lands prior and post the aggression to map them and reach the most accurate information about the damages. This will cover damages in cultivated open lands, greenhouses, water wells, and livestock and poultry farms, ... etc. FAO is also supporting breeders with fodders to maintain their folks surviving and productive.
- The MoA representative mentioned that there are sincere efforts are being done on the highest level in the government to provide assistance to affected farmers and breeders, and this assistance cannot be considered as compensation at any meaning. Meeting were held with representative of the European Union and six Europe and with representatives and donors in the West Bank.

- The MoA representative stressed on the opportunity to re-think of the cropping patterns and give a focus on planting cash crops for exportation in addition to cultivating the important crops for the local consumption.
 - Discussions and coordination with local and international organizations is crucial and will lead to real and successful intervention to serve the different agricultural sectors.
- **Assessments:**
 - There are many assessments done or to be carried out on different levels either sectoral or multisectoral assessments.
 - The MoA is the main source of damages assessment in the agriculture and supported by FAO. WFP is also carrying out an Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) with the coordination with MoSD, MoA and FSS.
 - 11 FSS partners shared 21 assessments that would cover East Jerusalem, West Bank and Gaza Strip. Most of these assessments are needs assessment, while few are vulnerability or impact assessments, and a brief of each assessment was presented to the participants.
- **Responses:**
 - During the last escalations, more than 100 thousand of people were displaced from their homes to UNRWA designated shelters, to other places, and with hosting families.
 - Over the two weeks of hostilities, WFP supported nearly 300,000 people in need in Gaza through emergency e-voucher assistance and in-kind food assistance.
 - WFP and UNRWA continue to jointly provide the remaining 300 IDPs (*numbers decreased down to 247 IDPs few days after the meeting*) in emergency shelters with daily ready-to-eat food items such as bread and tuna.
 - Many FSS partners were prepared (as part of the FSS Contingency Plan) to provide food and cash assistance. Food and cash assistance (including multi-purpose cash assistance 'MPCA') was provided to affected people in close coordination with the FSS and the Ministry of Social Development (MoSD). The provision of assistance is still ongoing.
 - FAO secured \$610K to provide urgent fodder assistance to affected breeders. Another \$1M is earmarked for the same purpose through the Humanitarian Fund.
 - Many partners as well as the MoA stressed to give focus on assisting farmers' families who lost their head of the household in the last aggression, and now they are with no source of income nor the bread winner is alive.
 - It was strongly recommended in the meeting by the MoA and other participants to provide the assistance to farmers through cash scheme; this is faster to respond and gives the farmers free to choose the quality of inputs he needs, and it also supports the market to recover from the negative impact of the escalations.

2. 5Ws online system

- FSS team has been working with the global Food Security Cluster (gFSC) and the OCHA Information Management team to develop an online 5Ws system.
- The new 5Ws online system is almost in place and ready to be used; and the system was designed to be easy and friendly user.

- A brief online presentation was done to participants to show the main elements of the system. However, FSS team will arrange with the OCHA IM staff to conduct a dedicated session for FSS partners on how to use the new 5WS online system.
- FSS team will -soon- ask few partners to pilot the new system in order to put in place replacing the old excel sheet that has been previously being used.

3. 2021 HF 3rd Reserve Allocation

- On May 27th, 2021 the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC), Mrs. Lynn Hastings launched the Flash Appeal seeking for emergency fund of \$95M for the coming three months for Gaza to provide humanitarian assistance after the last escalations of May 2021.
- The HC has launched the third Reserve Allocation (RA) through the Humanitarian Fund (HF) with \$18M.
 - From the HF's **\$18 million** to be disbursed, **\$6.35 million** will be directly and strategically channeled through six UN agencies with the capacity to rapidly respond to the most urgent of needs under different sectors. Those are FAO, WFP, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, and WHO.
 - The remaining amount of **\$11.65 million** will be available for NGO applications only.
- Overall, oPt HF 3rd Reserve Allocation will cover **19%** of the Flash Appeal requirements.
- From the HF's **\$18 million** to be disbursed, **\$6 million** will be allocated for the Food Security Sector covering **33%** of the reserve allocation.
- The main objective of the FSS in the Flash appeal and the 3rd RA are:
 - Objective (1): Providing emergency and recovery food assistance, including cash, electronic voucher, and in-kind commodities.
 - Objective (2): Restoring productive capacities and livelihoods of small-scale herders, farmers, and fishers.

4. Partners Corner

- Ariane Lignier from AAH confirmed her willingness as FSS advocacy FP in West Bank to continue working to strengthen mechanisms for the collection and reporting of evidence-based facts, including data and information on incidents and trends, (in coordination with concerned UN agencies) leading to the production of communication and advocacy products targeting specific and general public.
- As communicated while ago, the FSS leading agencies and FSS partners agreed to have advocacy focal points who can support the FSS team and FSS partners to enhance the role of the Food Security Sector (FSS) in advocacy throughout the humanitarian response and all main FSS activities.
- The advocacy focal points in West Bank and Gaza Strip, in coordination with the FSS team, will lead the work of the FSS with sector partners on strengthening advocacy focus in the sector response.
- FSS partners are invited to support the FSS advocacy FPs in identifying, collating and disseminating good practices and lessons learned on advocacy messaging in humanitarian response.

5. AoB

- Nothing to report

List of Participants:

As shown on the Zoom

N°	Name	Organization
1.	Hosni Barakat	FSS
2.	Anas Musallam	FSS
3.	Hiba Nusseibeh	FAO
4.	Liali Jaraei	FAO
5.	Laura Turner	WFP
6.	Hasan Al-Ashqar	MoA
7.	Khaled Jaber	MoA
8.	Mahmoud Fatafta	MoA
9.	Khitam Hamayel	MoA
10.	Mohammed Siyam	MoA
11.	Reem Isleem	MoSD
12.	Olivia Falkowitz	AAH
13.	Ariane Lignier	AAH
14.	Ashraf Ali	AAH
15.	Hani Al-Farra	AAH
16.	Rania Khayyat	ACAD
17.	Nael Al-Omour	Al-Fukhary Association
18.	Tareq Al-Omour	Al-Fukhary Association
19.	Abdallah Al-Farra	Al-Nakheel Assoc.
20.	Tareq Al-Jourani	BAYADER
21.	Ibrahim Taha	BLDA
22.	Luca Sangallai	CWG
23.	Jan Van Zoelen	CWG
24.	Abed Yasin	ESDC
25.	Raed Hanania	GC - CHF
26.	Ahmed Sourani	GUPAP
27.	Ala'a Abu Jyyab	GUPAP
28.	Salah Tayeh	GVC-We World
29.	Hanadi Mubarak	MAAN
30.	Ghada Al-Aryan	MC
31.	Ala'a Ghalayeeni	NDC
32.	Munther AdelHadi	NDC
33.	Nisreen Al-Madhoun	OCHA
34.	Najla Shawa	Oxfam
35.	Waseem Ashour	Oxfam
36.	Nida'a Abu Al-Atta	PARC
37.	Tamador Akel	PARC

38.	Lina Saad	PARC
39.	Reyadh Junaineh	PHG
40.	Mahmoud Hamada	PNGO
41.	Abboud Al-Sharif	PUI
42.	Hazem Al-Madhoun	PUI
43.	Xavier Grosset	PUI
44.	Maha Al-Masri	RWDS
45.	Huda Al-Awadi	TdH
46.	Khitam Abu Hamad	TdH
47.	Basheer Al-Ankah	UAWC
48.	Moayyad Bsharat	UAWC
49.	Ghadeer Taha	MoSD
50.	Lubna Bandak Matar	WV
51.	Amer Khader	Xxxxxxxxxxx

END