



# FOOD SECURITY SECTOR WORKING GROUP



## MINUTES OF MEETING – 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016

**When:** 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2016

**Where:** Chamber of Commerce, Hamra

**Who:** 15 participants from MoA, MoSA, WFP, FAO, ACTED, UNRWA, WV, CCIABML, LSESD, DORCAS

### Meeting Minutes

**Link to the meeting presentation:** <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=12198>

The meeting was opened by MoA who introduced the agenda:

#### 1. Update on 2017-2020

- Strategy
- PIN and Targets
- Budget
- Appeal

#### 2. Next steps

#### 3. AOB

#### 1. Update on 2017-2020

The presentation covered the LCRP 2017-2020 Process, 2017-2020 LCRP APPROACH, Needs Analysis, Strategy outline, Stabilization definition within the FSS, Sector Results Framework and 2017 priorities, People in need, Targets and Budgets.

#### **LCRP 2017-2020 Process and approach**

MoA presented the LCRP Process and approach. The process started in August 2016. The sectors coordinators attended 4 multi-stakeholder workshops and two FSS workshops were held with partners to work on lesson learned, strategy and results framework with a Core group meeting to finalize strategy – targets – budgets. A Steering Committee meeting was held on 20<sup>th</sup> of October and a FSSWG meeting was held on 1<sup>st</sup> of December 2016.

A need based approach is used. VaSyR 2016, MoSA and NPTP inputs, UNRWA-AUB study and MoA strategy 2015-2019 informed the different cohort's needs.

#### **Needs Analysis and FSS Strategy Outline**

FAO gave a short briefing on the DisSyR, PRS and the Vulnerable Lebanese's identified needs.



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The coordinator highlighted that the vulnerable populations including Lebanese, displaced Syrians and Palestine Refugees from Syria (PRS), has seen their level of food security significantly worsened since 2013. Attention was also drawn to the geographical shift of the DisSyr from the north to the south compared to previous years.

Details on population cohort's Needs Analysis are available in the presentation used during the meeting. The Coordinator explained the sector strategy outline. The 3 key strategy outlines for the Food Security Sector are:

- A dual-track approach to respond within the current context designed to:
  - Continuing the provision of life-saving food assistance; and
  - Enhancing efforts to develop durable solutions through human capital and livelihood support to vulnerable displaced, host community members and other vulnerable population cohorts and with a special focus on children and youth.
  
- The first sector priority will continue to remain its humanitarian role to ensure availability and access to food for the most vulnerable through the provision of cash-based transfers or in-kind assistance to ensure that the basic food needs are met. The provision of humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable displaced Syrians and other vulnerable groups will remain the pre-requisite “sine qua non” as well as the enabler of stability in the country.
  
- With specific reference to the provision of direct assistance, several efforts have been made by the international community in Lebanon to establish a harmonized approach to the identification of the households eligible for assistance across different sectors but also looking at the utilization of a common system for the delivery of such assistance. As a result, since October 2016, WFP, UNHCR, UNICEF and LCC started distribution of the Common Card to approximately 185,000 Syrian refugee households in Lebanon. The e-cards can be used in any of the 480 WFP-contracted shops across the country and any of the thousands of ATMS in every corner of Lebanon, depending on the type of assistance loaded.

The humanitarian agencies are striving to provide all forms of cash assistance on this single, common card and maximize efficiency gains in the delivery of assistance to vulnerable households.



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### Stabilization Definition within the Food Security Sector

MoA emphasized that Based on the food security recognized definition, the FS sector considers the stabilization concept by the meeting dietary needs over time:

**“To be food secure, a population, household or individual must have access to adequate food at all times. They should not risk losing access to food as a consequence of sudden shocks (e.g. an economic or climatic crisis) or cyclical events (e.g. seasonal food insecurity). The concept of stability can therefore refer to both the availability and access dimensions of food security. “**

In addition MoA also highlighted that the 4 years plan will allow for the sector to expand its role to contribute to the stabilization of the country. For more information on How the FSS 4 years plan will allow for the sector to expand its role to contribute to the stabilization of the country

<http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=11827>

### Food Security Sector Framework

MoA presented the Food Security Sector Framework, highlighting that the overall sector aim is to reduced food insecurity for all in Lebanon and improved resilience of the agricultural sector. The 4 FSS outcomes are:

**Outcome 1 - FOOD AVAILABILITY:** Food availability is improved through in-kind food assistance and the development of sustainable food value chains.

**Outcome 2 - FOOD ACCESS:** Food accessibility is improved through cash based food assistance and agricultural livelihoods.

**Outcome 3 - FOOD UTILIZATION:** Food safety and nutrition practices are improved through the promotion of consumption of diversified and quality food.

**Outcome 4 - STABILIZATION:** Stabilization is promoted through enhanced information on food security, coordination of agriculture activities and support of national institutions.

In addition the members were also informed on the current sector priorities.

Food security situation sector priorities are:

- Continue the provision of direct and critical food assistance (through cash-based transfers for food and also in-kind assistance where appropriate) in support for highly vulnerable groups among the large population of displaced Syrians, Lebanese and PRS



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- Promote agricultural investment to improve agricultural opportunities for Lebanese small-scale farmers to protect their assets, stabilize their livelihood opportunities and enhance long term competitiveness; and at the same time, to create adequate job and livelihoods opportunities
- Support national and local food security systems, including social safety nets' capacity building and social protection to promote stabilization

### People in need, Targets and Budgets

FAO gave a brief update on Food Assistance and Agricultural livelihood's People in need, Targets and Budgets for the 3 population cohorts.

**DisSyr:** Based on VaSyr 2016

**Target:** 837,207

**PRS:** based on the UNRWA assessment

**PIN:** 31,502

**Target:** 31, 502

**Vulnerable Lebanese:** based on NPTP eligibility criteria

**PIN:** 105,849 individuals

**Target:** up to 60,000 individuals

Details on People in need, Targets and Budgets are available in the presentation used during the meeting.

## 2. Next steps

The meeting was concluded by highlighting the key remaining steps. The Strategy was submitted on the 31 of October to MoSA. The New draft strategy, New draft log frame, MoM and the meeting's presentation will be shared with Partners for additional comments. Deadline to submit final comments is Thursday COB.

Key remaining steps

7/11: strategy to be endorsed by steering committee

14/11: submission of strategy, appeal and budget to 3RP