

**Food Security Sector Working Group
21 October, WFP Jordan - Amman**

Chair: WFP, JHCO

Participation: ACTED, Caritas Germany, Collateral Repair Project, FAO, FPSC, Medair, SCI

STATUS	ACTION POINTS
<p>1. JRP/3RP Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A workshop will be conducted at the Dead Sea from 26–28 October for JRP Task Force members, where they will be looking at reviewing and agreeing on proposed Objectives, Outputs and Indicators, indicative budgets, and preparing some of the related written documents. Following the workshop, drafting of the documents and consultations will continue; by 16 November, documents should be finalized, and then validated by 24 November. Endorsement and launch of JRP will take place on 15 December. • Ideally, the JRP should feed into the 3RP; there are still some negotiations/discussions regarding how we can feed into the different timelines. • The Livelihoods and Food Security Taskforce is led by the Ministry of Labour and includes WFP as the UN agency Secretariat; Save the Children International as the INGO representative; JOHUD as the national NGO representative; and other donor representatives and UN agencies. • Prior to the Dead Sea Workshop, Taskforce members need to finalize the draft objectives, outputs and indicators, which will be circulated on Wednesday 22 October after 1:00 pm. The Taskforce will meet again on Thursday at 8:30 am and an updated version may be circulated afterwards. • For the refugee side, ActivityInfo will continue to be used as the online tool to upload projects and report data. Trainings were conducted on 19 and 20 October for new users. Once the system has opened, an email will be circulated with the deadline date of 30 October. • For the JRP, only projects that are partially funded or not funded at all should be included. Funded projects should not be submitted. The JRP will not present individual agency's budgets. • Proposed refugee objectives were presented at the last FSSWG meeting. In order to make sure objectives and outputs being presented cover what partners are planning to do next year, they will be circulated again. • For Output 2.1 (Nutritional support and education provided to Syrian refugee and Jordanian vulnerable households), under Objective 2 (Promote the consumption of safe, nutritious and diversified food for Syrian refugee populations and Jordanian vulnerable host community), WFP will double-check with Health Sector to ensure it does not overlap with any of their objectives. 	<p>Needs Assessment Review (NAR) to be circulated.</p> <p>If your organisation did not participate in the ActivityInfo trainings and you would like to be trained, please contact Yara (maasri@unhcr.org).</p> <p>Draft Objectives, Outputs and Indicators (Refugee and Resilience) to be circulated.</p> <p>JRP Project Summary Sheets to be circulated, and resilience partners to complete them.</p> <p>Refugee partners to enter information into ActivityInfo. once the database is open</p> <p>WFP, UNHCR and MEDAIR to check reporting of MAM treatment.</p>

- Last year, treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) was reported under the Food Security Sector; WFP did supplementary feeding for MAM cases and targeted age-appropriate feeding in and outside camps, but will not be doing it next year.

- Assistance in camps comes under Objective 1 (Support access to and availability of food for vulnerable Syrian refugee and Jordanian host community households). For planning and reporting in ActivityInfo, camp locations can be selected so the data is separated between in and out-of-camps settings.

WFP to talk to UNHCR/Cash Sector Working Group regarding unconditional cash assistance which may also be used for food.

UNHCR to check how budget for VAF should be captured across sectors.

2. Vulnerability Assessment Framework (VAF) Updates

- Inter-agency initiative to collect information and determine vulnerability at household level. Earlier this year, indicators were agreed upon by the different working groups. Related questions were added to the UNHCR Home Visits form, and as part of that process, over 13,000 households have been interviewed.
- Modeling has been done by the World Bank for a welfare index or poverty index, which is being refined by UNHCR.
- Different agencies will use the VAF for different purposes such as advocacy, prioritization, assessments, and other purposes.
- The referrals process is being finalized.
- The appeals system for the WFP targeting is a trial of the appeals system for the VAF.
- A communications specialist has been recruited to assist with mass communication to beneficiaries.
- On Sunday 19 October a workshop was held for different sectors to come up with indices for sector-specific vulnerabilities. A decision tree is under development by each sector.
- For Food Security, it utilizes standard indices.
 - Feedback on the current decision tree:
 - Food Consumption Score (FCS), expenditure and livelihood coping strategies/asset depletion seem to overlap. Poverty can be one element that doesn't allow for these other things. Consolidated Approach for Reporting Indicators of Food Security (CARI) is very WFP-specific; why not use a normal standard?
 - What is the food poverty line and who is determining it? There is national guidance on the poverty line.
 - What is the acceptable FCS being used here? Poor, borderline and acceptable can differ in different contexts.

WFP to pass on feedback from today's meeting to the technical team, and to obtain specifications on the rules.

- Next steps: decision trees to be submitted for feedback to the working groups, finalized and submitted to the VAF team, and a second workshop to be held after 2 November for validation by all sectors.

Circulate the updated version of tree for feedback.

3. Targeting Updates

- In October, WFP reduced its caseload by roughly 7%.
- There is an appeals form available in both English and Arabic. Beneficiaries can submit them through UNHCR help desks (also attended by some WFP staff), or through partner organisations.
- Some appeals have already been received and will be looked at in the first meeting of the appeals review committee on Wednesday 22 October.
 - Review panel consists of members from: the VAF team; VAF steering committee (including one INGO and one donor); WFP; UNHCR (including a staff member from the Health Unit, as some appeals are based on medical conditions); and a WFP cooperating partner.
- Appeals form has to be submitted in person, to minimize risk of exploitation of the system. Forms can be obtained and submitted at help desks (UNHCR and WFP CP). In exceptional cases where beneficiaries cannot get to a site, they can contact the WFP hotline.
- WFP participated in the “Syrian Hour” radio show last week to discuss targeting.
- Reduction of caseload is different from possible reduced voucher value due to the lack of funding (the latter having been initially announced for October, but funding was then secured).
 - For November, there is no plan to do another reduction in caseload.
- Partners hearing rumors of money being asked for re-inclusion, for appeals forms, tension in certain areas, possible security situations, please provide WFP with any details available.
- Partners working in areas where people have limited access to WFP or UNHCR field staff, particularly in southern regions, who have been targeted, and who know of vulnerable households who might need to be re-included, can get in touch with WFP, as some referrals from partners in this context will be accepted.
- Partners should also encourage any households they work with who are not in need of food assistance to undertake self-targeting and ask to be removed from the WFP distribution list. They can contact WFP at the following number: 079 777 8841 – 079 777 8851.
- For targeting, posters and printed material were not used, as only 7% of the population was targeted and such material could have created unnecessary confusion for the larger number of people not targeted. An SMS was sent to the targeted households.
 - There are FAQs available in English which can be provided to partner organisations on request.

Anyone with information related to targeting rumors/tension, to contact Nicole directly (nicole.carn@wfp.org).

<p>4. Gender Marker Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Gender Marker (GM), which covers both gender and age, is particularly important at this time, during the planning/3RP/JRP phase of the year.• GM was successfully applied to RRP6.• Reasons to use the GM include accountability, efficient targeting, and response to donor demands – for ECHO proposals, for example, it is mandatory.• It is very important to ensure gender analysis, preferably resulting from consultations with women, girls, boys and men, and including their distinct needs, is incorporated throughout the needs, activities and outcomes sections of projects. A project which does this should receive a GM code of 2A, meaning it contributes significantly to gender equality.	<p>Gender Marker presentation to be circulated.</p>
<p>5. AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If anyone is planning on doing any winterization activities or food voucher activities related to winterization, please contact UNHCR (Angeliki Panagoulia, panagoul@unhcr.org) as soon as possible.• Anyone not on the mailing list, or to add other people from your organisation to the mailing list, please contact Yara (maasri@unhcr.org).	