



SOUTH and NABATIEH FOOD SECURITY SECTOR WORKING GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING – 24th May 2016

When: 24^h May 2016

Where: Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture - Saida

Who: 25 participants from MoA, MoSA, WFP, FAO, World Vision, AVSI, UNDP, ACF, PU-AMI, INTERSOS, ACTED, ISLAMIC RELIEF, ISWA, Solider, DCA,

Meeting Minutes

Link to the meeting presentation: <http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/download.php?id=11074>

Introduction

- The meeting was opened by Nadine Abdelkhalek, the MoA National Food Security Sector Coordinator, that introduced the Food Security Sector team, the main objective of this first meeting and the agenda as per below:
 1. The Coordination Structures -LCRP, Food Security Sector , and the Ministry of Agriculture
 2. Context - Food Security Situation, Syrian Refugees (VaSyr 2015), Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA 2015), Lebanese (FSLA 2015), Agriculture Sector, MoA Services
 3. 2016 LCRP (Planning- Achievements)

1. LCRP structure 2016

- The concept of the LCRP as well as the main strategic objectives were explained to the partners participants
- The structure of the food security sector was also explained as well as the working groups currently established.
- The MoA structure at national and regional level was also presented for partners to refer to the regional focal points that will be supporting coordination tasks at field level.
- Details of the presentation are available in the above link

2. The context:

- VaSyr 2015 data specific to the South and Nabatieh were given to partners highlighting some specific issues related to the two regions.
- An overall presentation of the FS situation of all the population cohorts was given to contextualize the role of the sector.



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- The results of the agriculture census conducted in 2010 were presented. The census covered different topics such as agriculture and livestock production.
- Regional MoA offices presented an overview of the different services available at field level. These services include: monitoring visits and registration of particular categories of farmers, monitoring of the use of pesticides or agricultural practices and processing to ensure that rules and regulations are followed. Regional offices also offer a regular capacity building component for the farmers.
- As a follow up to this meeting the regional offices will support coordination of agricultural activities falling under the Food security sector portfolio at field level.
- During the presentation, some of the challenges that the regional centers are currently facing were identified such as getting accurate information on farmers, as the majority of them are small farmers, that often practice farming activities as a secondary activity of the HH.
- Other challenges presented were related to the different phases of the value chain such pre-harvest practices as some of the crops produced are considered old varieties and therefore it is difficult to find markets for them, the misuse or overuse of pesticides, the harvest practices (tools used), and the post-harvest practices (such as refrigerated storage and packaging, and marketing of products).
- Details of the presentation are available in the above link

3. LCRP plans and achievements 2016

- Planning figures of the LCRP specifically for South and Nabatieh were presented. The Planned activities under the 4 outcomes of the LCRP plan to provide food assistance, promote sustainable agriculture/livestock production, enhance farmers market linkages, reduce food waste and losses, control of trans boundary animal and pest diseases, support to agricultural institutions for agricultural livelihoods, enhance access to agricultural assets, support agriculture employment, support good nutritional practices and promote food safety measure. Sector achievements to date under each of the outcomes were also presented.
- Partners were kindly invited to report all food security activities (if they are still not doing it) in the FS specific part of ActivityInfo in order for the sector to be able to capture all on going or planned activities.
- With the upcoming Ramadan and in order to ensure a better coordination it was mentioned that the Food Security sector is coming up with a reporting system that could allow to track the ad hoc food distributions that may occur. Discussions are ongoing with MoSA and the form will be soon shared with all partners.

4. Next Steps:

- A discussion was held regarding the next steps of the field level coordination of the Food Security sector. As mentioned in the opening of the meeting, this meeting is the first one held at field level and



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therefore the aim was to exchange information on relative stakeholders and enforce the coordination of partners working in Food Security with the Ministry of Agriculture offices and centers.

- It was proposed to hold either quarterly or biyearly meetings at field level (one at the beginning of the year and one for the LCRP drafting during the second half of the year) or ad hoc meetings based on partners' requests.
- Please find below the sector contacts for South and Nabatieh:

Food Security Sector Focal point South:	Food Security Sector Focal point Nabatieh:
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