



Food Security Sector Steering Committee Meeting LCRP Strategy-Targets-Budgets

01/11/2016

Venue: Chamber of Commerce, HAMRA



AGENDA



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1. Update on 2017-2020
 - Strategy
 - PiN and Targets
 - Budget
 - Appeal
 2. Next steps
 3. AOB

LCRP 2017-2020 PROCESS:



- 4 LCRP multi-stakeholders workshops held
- 2 FSS workshops held with partners to work on lesson learned, strategy and results framework
- Core group meeting to finalize strategy – targets - budgets
- Steering Committee meeting held on 20th October
- FS WG meeting today



2017-2020 LCRP APPROACH:

- Needs based approach – VaSyr 2016/ MoSa and NPTP inputs
- MoA census 2010
- MoA strategy 2015-2019
- New timeframe (4 years planning)
- STABILIZATION concept

NEEDS ANALYSIS



- During the past five years, the cumulative effects of the protracted Syrian crisis have severely impacted food security in Lebanon.
- Vulnerable populations including Lebanese, displaced Syrians and Palestine Refugees from Syria (PRS), has seen their level of food security significantly worsened since 2013.

DISPLACED SYRIANS:

- 93 percent of Syrian refugees present some level of food insecurity.
- Of these 36 percent presents severe or moderate level of food insecurity.
- Mildly food insecure households fell into moderate food insecurity due to protracted economic vulnerability and constrains - they have more debts, less income opportunities and they have to cope on a daily basis to face lack of food or money to buy food
- The Distribution of the most food insecure households (moderate and severe) changed in the past year: districts with more higher food insecurity are increasing in the south, north and eastern districts



PRS:

- 94.5 percent of PRS total population are food insecure (63.2 percent severely food insecure and 31.3 percent moderately food insecure).
- This reflects an increase of food insecurity by 3.5 percent from the vulnerability assessment conducted in 2014.
- Notwithstanding reduced numbers, PRS vulnerabilities as a result of protracted displacement are not anticipated to improve, and there is a concern that the uncertainty PRS face as a result of their lack of legal status and limited access to employment opportunities may result in further high risk migrations.



VULNERABLE LEBANESE:

- After November 2014, when the food voucher component of NPTP was introduced, the Social Development Centers (SDCs) affiliated with the MoSA witnessed a huge increase in the number of applications to the NPTP programme as the food voucher was well received by the host community.
- New applications were assessed and number of individuals eligible to receive the NPTP assistance increased to 105,849.
- Based on the FSLA 2015, 10% of Lebanese households are vulnerable to food insecurity
- Total farming community is 170,000, of which 70.2% are small scale farmers (less than 10du)
- In 2015, 73% of Lebanese household's whose income is from agriculture reported need for support
- The sector is characterized by its informal nature, with 75% not registered with the National Social Security System (NSSF)
- Highest poverty rates are reported within those employed in the agriculture sector (40% are considered poor)
- The agriculture labour market employs mainly Syrians (75%) and only 7.5% Lebanese

Strategy outline 1 of 2:



Key aspect - ***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 women, children and youth.

Strategy outline 2 of 3:



- 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.

Strategy outline 2 of 3:



- 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.



Define STABILIZATION within the FSS:

- ✓ at sector level (FS stabilization)
- ✓ at National level on how LCRP contributes to the overall aim of supporting social stability within Lebanon.

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. “



The 4 years plan will allow for the sector to expand its role to contribute to the stabilization of the country

HOW? By taking into consideration all food security aspects according to the standard four pillars: availability, access, utilization and stabilization.

- Income generating activities to enhance food access;
- Support the agricultural labour market;
- Support sustainable food production and marketing;
- Support to agriculture value chains;
- Promote agriculture investment;
- Enhance Lebanese social safety net systems and social protection to farmers;
- Support national institutions and other actors capacity in the field of food security;
- Mainstream gender equality in all the above

Key approach will be through the whole food value chain to increase productivity, food safety, quality, linkages and competitiveness of the Lebanese agricultural products from plant or animal origin in support of the agricultural sector and farming communities.



SECTOR RESULTS FRAMEWORK

OVERLAP ALL SECTOR AIM:

Reduced food insecurity for all in Lebanon and improved resilience of the agricultural sector

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

- In kind food assistance is provided to the most vulnerable through distribution of food parcels, community kitchens and school feeding
- Lebanese small-scale and family-farming production and the adoption of climate-smart technologies are enhanced through the promotion of sustainable agricultural and livestock production, water use efficiency and conservation, and energy saving farming practices.
- Marketing of small-scale and family farms is improved through the promotion of food transformation and preservation, the creation and reinforcement of linkages between small-scale producers and local markets, the distribution of unsold/un-marketed quality food from producer/retailer to local markets and market based diversification/contract farming
- Food wastage and losses is reduced by improving post-harvest management and working on valorization of organic waste and least valued products (e.g. composting, awareness).
- Trans-boundary animal and plant diseases are controlled through support to the monitoring and early warning systems for plants and animal diseases awareness, capacity building and interventions to control the spread of transboundary diseases during emergencies.

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

- Highly vulnerable populations, including displaced Syrians, PRS and vulnerable Lebanese have direct access to food through cash-based transfers for food such as e-cards and food vouchers
- Agricultural institutions to improve agriculture sector livelihoods, targeting farmers associations, agricultural cooperatives, markets and government institutions are supported
- Private investment in agriculture are supported through financial and technical support (e.g. land reclamantion, irrigation/water management), and promotion of innovative credit/loan schemes for Lebanese, and/or agricultural inputs such as seeds, livestock and equipment when more appropriate are provided.
- Agricultural labour market (in compliance with Lebanese labour laws) is strengthened by first, supporting the most vulnerable individuals in accessing agricultural seasonal labour, casual labour while rehabilitating agricultural infrastructure and communal assets through supporting the Lebanese small-scale agriculture businesses and second, improving the employability of individuals in agriculture through improved technical education programmes and trainings in agriculture and support for enrollments in agricultural technical schools.

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

- Nutrition-related behavior and practices as well as food diversity for households vulnerable to food insecurity specifically targeting female-headed households and households with pregnant and lactating women and children under 5 is improved , through the promotion of small scale production of diversified nutritious food for vulnerable households through trainings, awareness and behavior change interventions, school, backyard and roof micro-gardens and promotion of food preservation/transformation technologies at the household level.
- Food safety measures and policies towards a balanced, safe and nutritious diet are enhanced by assisting the Government in improving the food inspection and safety measures, promoting Integrated Pest Management and Good Agriculture Practices and Standards, conducting value chains in regard to food safety and promote policies supporting the local production of high value nutritious foods
- The targeting of the most vulnerable groups under this output is a recommendation from the sector to partners implementing these activities. The Micro-Garden working group of the sector will be coordinating these activities with the partners and reports back to the FS sector.

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

- Data on food security are collected and analyzed. Information to monitor and report on the situation of food security in Lebanon is disseminated for preparedness and long-term stabilization, including assessments with specific focus on vulnerable farmers and agricultural livelihoods
- Programme lessons learned based on evaluations from FS projects are disseminated
- Coordination, monitoring and provision of technical support to agricultural interventions
- Support of national institutions and other actors involved in food security on safety nets, contingency planning, disaster and crisis management, monitoring, analysis and information management is enhanced
- Integration of social protection system for farmers is supported
- Private sector involvement in food security related activities is promoted, built and enhanced.

2017 Sector Priorities



Based on the current food security situation sector priorities will be:

1. 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
2. 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
3. Support national and local food security systems, including social safety nets' capacity building and social protection to promote stabilization

FOOD ASSISTANCE - People in Need and Targets



DISPLACED SYRIANS:

People in need (PIN) :

93% of the HHs (this reflects all the HHs presenting some level of food insecurity based on the VASyR2016 results)

Targets:

the sector will target 837,207 displaced Syrians classified as severely and moderately food insecure by the VASyR2016 results, to be assisted through improved availability (in-kind food) and access (cash-based transfers for food).

- Food insecure households will be identified for assistance based on a ranking that will no longer require household visits.
- Ranking variables are mostly demographic with a strong statistical correlation with latest VASyR results on food security, and relate to households' characteristics, including but not limited to: arrival date, household size, gender, education level, presence of members with disabilities, and age. The ranking methodology will be regularly updated.
- New inclusions will be based on the ranking in combination with a referral mechanism to minimize formula error through the analysis of food security outcome indicators at HH level.

FOOD ASSISTANCE - People in Need and Targets



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

Budget Calculation (not final)

Type of Assistance	Unit cost	Comments
In kind- food Assistance	38\$	The high unit costs for in kind assistance allows the necessary flexibility for the sector to reflect and accommodate the increased needs during winter and Ramadan.
Cash based food assistance	32\$	The budgets for Cash Based Transfers reflects the upper ceiling of projected sector requirements. These are therefore not a direct reflection of the actual amounts that partners - for example WFP or UNWRA - will appeal for under LCRP 2016 but rather the combined upper ceiling of projected requirements under each modality based on an average per capita cost which allows the sector a flexible budget.

FOOD ASSISTAN	Displaced Syrians	Vulnerable Lebanese	PRS	Beneficiaries	Budget*
Cash based	797,207	60,001	31,502	888,710	344.9 m
In kind	40,000	11,000		51,000	28.2 m
TOTAL	837,207	71,001	31,502	939,710	373.2 m

* Includes a 10m contingency quote

Agricultural Livelihoods - People in Need and Targets



PiN: 73% self-reported in need for assistance (tools, equipment, material, inputs, training etc based on FSLA 2015)

Background on SSF:

- 70.2% of total farming community (118,865 farmers)
- 18% of agricultural land
- 80% of land cultivated is irrigated by flooding
- 51% do not have social security

Targets: the sector will be targeting only vulnerable small-scale farmers (less than 10 du) impacted by the Syria crisis (73% * 118,865 = **86,711 farmers during the period of 4 years***)

The sector will be targeting all in need with different types of activities depending on partners identification.

Budget Calculation



The budgets were mainly calculated based on the MoA strategy budget requirements over the period of 2015-2019 when applicable

ANNEX 2: REQUIRED INVESTMENT BUDGET

Courses of action and components	In Billions of LBP
1. Improve food safety and quality of locally produced and imported products	5.50
1.1 Provision of safe and quality food from domestic production	4.24
1.2 Provision of safe and quality food from imports	1.15
1.3 Contribution to the formulation of a food safety policy	0.11
2. Increase productivity and competitiveness of the Lebanese agricultural products	246.16
2.1 Improving the value chains and increasing the value-added for products of plant origin	11.62
2.2 Improving the value chains and increasing the value-added for products of animal origin	11.62
2.3 Strengthening the phytosanitary measures	11.62
2.4 Strengthening the animal health measures	11.62
2.5 Increasing agricultural exports	11.62
2.6 Enhancing internal marketing channels	11.62
2.7 Developing national plans for the conservation and management of genetic resources	11.62
2.8 Improving legal status of farmers and farmers organizations	11.62
2.9 Providing support to small-scale farmers and producers to engage in agriculture-related investments	11.62
3. Improve the good governance and sustainable use of natural resources	21.95
3.1 Strengthening good management and sustainable use of natural resources	17.19
3.2 Promoting sustainable investment and management of natural resources	3.71
3.3 Improving the management of medicinal and aromatic plants	1.04
3.4 Supporting investment in the fisheries & aquaculture sector	37.70
3.5 Modernizing the irrigation system in Lebanon and promoting water and energy in agriculture	38.54
4. Strengthening agricultural extension and education	0.00
4.1 Development of a pluralistic extension system	0.00
4.2 Activation of the official technical agricultural education	0.00
5. Strengthening agricultural research and laboratories	21.95
5.1 Developing and strengthening capacities of LARI laboratories	17.19
5.2 Enhancing agricultural scientific research	3.71
5.3 Improving the conservation of biodiversity and genetic resources	1.04
6. Development of the cooperative sector and mutual funds	37.70
6.1 Improving and strengthening the General Directorate of Cooperatives capacities	38.54
6.2 Evaluating the status of cooperatives and mutual funds	0.00
6.3 Re-activating the Cooperative Credit Union and the General National Union of Cooperative Associations	0.01
6.4 Supporting and activating the mutual fund for the insurance of agricultural sector against natural disasters	0.15
7. Development of the Ministry of Agriculture capacities	8.87
7.1 Updating the organizational structure and reinforcing the role of MoA including General Directorate of Cooperatives and LARI, and updating the existing legislations and regulations governing the agricultural sector and MoA	8.15
7.2 Developing MoA capacities in negotiation skills	0.24
7.3 Fostering partnerships with various stakeholders from the private and public sectors	0.48
7.4 Strengthening MoA capacities in disaster and crises management	0.00
8. Responding to climate change impacts	0.05
8.1 Facing the challenges posed by the climate change	0.05
TOTAL	496.69

Budget Calculation



Type of Assistance	Target	Budget for 2017 (NOT FINAL)
<u>Outcome 1</u> – FOOD AVAILABILITY (excluding in-kind food assistance)	86,700*	46.7 M
<u>Outcome 2</u> – FOOD ACCESS (excluding cash based food assistance)	86,700*	71.8 M
<u>Outcome 3</u> – Food UTILIZATION	35,000	7.9 M
<u>Outcome 4</u> – FOOD STABILIZATION		7.5 M

Total Food Security Sector budget = 507.5 M

* Target for four years, with prioritization done at output level. Numbers available in the sector logframe

Appeal Overview

- Partners' appeal submitted last week
- Total 28 partners (to be updated)
- New Partners will go through a capacity assessment (deadline Nov 4)

ACF
ACTED
CCP JAPAN
CLMC
CONCERN
Dorcas
DRC
FAO
HelpAge
Himaya Dae Aataa (HDA)
Intersos
IOCC
IF
Makassed
Mercy Corps
Mercy-USA
MOSAIC
MSD
PU-AMI
QRCS
RI
SDAid
SHEILD
SIF
Solidarités
UNRWA
URDA
WFP





NEXT STEPS?

- 31/10: submitted strategy to MoSA
- 7/11: strategy to be endorsed by steering committee
- 14/11: submission of strategy, appeal and budget to 3RP



THANK YOU



AOB