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Food Security Newsletter

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Upcoming Events:

- *FSC/WG Online Evaluation Survey Findings*
- *Lessons Learned and Best Practices Exercise by gFSC for Pakistan*
- *National and provincial FS WG meetings*

Humanitarian Strategic Plan (HSP) 2017 Updates

Food Security Cluster has managed to reach out 1,718,511 individuals through WFP, FAO, CARE International and Japan Emergency NGO, responding and contributing to the food Security Cluster strategic objectives.

WFP provided relief food assistance to 573,042 beneficiaries by distributing 50,248MT of food through 23 humanitarian hubs (13 and 10 in KP and FATA respectively), to the IDPs, that remain displaced and returnee families that have returned and receiving their six-month return assistance inside their areas of origin (FATA). The assistance was provided through 07 Cooperating partners (CERD, LHO, CHEF, CRDO, PAWT, MUJAZ and SRSP) in the 07 Districts of KP and 05 FATA Agencies. In addition, WFP is supporting

176,654 returnees' individuals through cash for work (CFW), food for work (FFW), conditional cash grants (CCGs), Unconditional Cash Grants (UCG), and disaster risk reduction programming with the aim to rehabilitate their means of livelihoods infrastructure.

FAO assisted 32,088 beneficiaries through provision of chopping machines, poultry packages, seed silos and vegetable production units in the reporting period. Around 200 chopping machines were distributed to local farmers and installed at communal places in SWA and Khyber Agency. This activity benefited 2000 local farmers for the availability of livestock fodder.

Furthermore, FAO distributed 1875 poultry packages among the vulnerable women HHs in SWA and Khyber. This activity will contribute to fulfill their nutritional needs and surplus production will be sold in market for income generation. A total of 600 seed silos were distributed among the progress farmers in SWA and Khyber to store the seeds and grains for the next sowing season. In addition to this, 750 vegetable production units were established in SWA and Khyber on commercial basis to promote



Khyber - Vegetable Production Unit by FAO

the horticulture activities in the FATA. CARE International assisted 2,340 vulnerable Temporarily Displaced Persons (TDPs) families (14,976 men, women, boys and girls) through cash transfer interventions. This support will continue for TDPs in North Waziristan Agency (NWA) targeting 650 HHs under the project funded by ECHO and 600 HH under Global Affairs Canada (GAC) funded project. Furthermore, seeds and agriculture tools are planned to be distributed among 300 families in NWA. JEN distributed 58 Cows, 2250 bags of Livestock Feed, 750 De-wormers, 6 Livestock First Aid Kits, 4 artificial Insemination Container, and 04 trainings to FATA livestock department staff and 06 JEN beneficiaries trained.



Khyber - Seed silos distribution by FAO

Integrated Context Analyses (ICA)

National launching ceremony of “Integrated Context Analysis on Vulnerability to Food Insecurity & Natural Hazards” Report 2017 was held on 17th October 2017 at National Disaster Management Authority, Ground Zero Auditorium, Prime Minister’s Office, Constitution Avenue, Islamabad.

ICA is a WFP corporate programme design tool, used in over 20 countries around the globe. It provides empirical evidence to support strategic planning of four broad programmatic themes: Safety Net, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Early Warning and Disaster Preparedness.

ICA in Pakistan is implemented during January - October 2017 under the leadership of NDMA involving relevant line departments, ministries, technical institutions, WFP and FAO. ICA for Pakistan aims to categorize districts based on recurrence of vulnerability to food insecurity, natural hazards and relevant contextual factors. It provides information for effective programming of medium and long-term food security interventions related to resilience building and disaster risk reduction. ICA also provides relevant products and advocacy materials for capacity building and future replications or updates.

Applying spatial techniques on long-term existing datasets for establishing trends, ICA studies two core dimensions (*vulnerability to food insecurity and natural hazards*), five core lenses (*land slide, Glacial Lake Outburst Flood - GLOF, earthquake, soil erosion, land degradation*) and two contextual factors (*dominant land cover, population density*). National long-term data is used for most indicators, including the multi-dimensional Poverty Index (MPI) data (2004 – 2015) as a proxy for vulnerability to food security of four provinces, food security prevalence rate of three in-depth assessments (2014-



2017) for FATA Agencies, natural hazard index data from NDMA and PDM of more than 60 past years. For soil erosion, land degradation, dominant land cover and population density, Pakistan components of the latest global datasets are used.

Based on combined level of recurrence of two core dimensions, ICA classifies 123 districts of four provinces and 7 Agencies of FATA into nine different ICA Areas which are further condensed into five ICA Categories. Each of the core lenses is overlaid on top of the ICA Areas/Categories to help refine these broad recommendations and support the design of specific interventions at the district and community level.

Due to lack of food security or MPI data, ICA categorization is not performed for Frontier Regions (FR) of FATA, Gilgit Baltistan, and Azad Jammu and Kashmir (A/J&K) regions. However, ICA results on

natural hazards, core lenses and contextual factors data are still very useful to inform the programming of disaster risk reduction and resilience building related strategies for these regions.

The ICA supports strategic geographic positioning of four main programmatic recommendations (themes), a) Safety Nets - Predictable long term assistance that lets beneficiaries plan and take risks to improve long term outcomes, b) Disaster Risk Reduction - Efforts to reduce (climate related) risk, c) Early Warning - Early warning systems use science to anticipate shocks, and communicate information that triggers preparedness and d) Disaster Preparedness - it includes standard operating procedures and related capabilities to respond to warnings and reduce risk in the short term, or ready emergency response.

Launch of Pre-Crisis Market Analysis (PCMA) and Situation Response Analysis and Framework (SRAF) Reports With Findings of IPC Analysis and Livelihood and Food Security Assessment (LFSA)

The National Food Security Working Group (FSWG), co-led by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP), launched the Pre-Crisis Market Analysis (PCMA) and Situation and Response Analysis Framework (SRAF) reports, and presented findings of the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) of Food Insecurity analyses (*Chronic and Acute Food Insecurity and Acute Malnutrition*), and Livelihood and Food Security Assessment (LFSA), in Karachi on August 30, 2017.

During the event, two reports on PCMA



Karachi - Participants during discussion on FSWG way Forward

(*Goat Market and Wheat Flour Market*) and a report based on SRAF workshop were launched. The PCMA exercise was conducted in December 2016 in three drought prone districts namely Jamshoro, Tharparkar and Umerkot. Staff of FSWG member organizations participated in the analysis, which comprised of a training workshop on PCMA and an assessment



Karachi - DG Bureau of Statistics during his remarks

of market actors and households. The preliminary findings of the analysis were shared earlier this year.

Another initiative of SRAF workshop was organized by the FSWG in the second week of May 2017 and also focused on Jamshoro, Tharparkar and Umerkot districts in Sindh. The SRAF focused on drought and floods, recurring phenomenon in Sindh. Drought is a main hazard experienced by communities in the three districts, whereas flood is mainly a crisis in Jamshoro. The SRAF report lists several response options/interventions to address both the natural hazards.

In addition to launch of PCMA and SRAF reports, findings of IPC analyses and LFSA were also presented.

Recently, three IPC analyses; chronic food insecurity, acute food insecurity and acute malnutrition have been conducted for 18, 4 and 3 districts in Sindh respectively. The

acute food insecurity and acute malnutrition analyses mainly benefitted from the LFSA conducted in the targeted districts in April and May 2017.

The event was attended by the representatives of Sindh Bureau of Statistics (BoS), Provincial Nutrition Cell and Nutrition Support Programme (NSP), Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA), Planning & Development Department, Livestock Department, ECHO, WFP, UNICEF, OCHA and international/local Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) working on food insecurity and nutrition. The participants found the analyses very



Karachi - Participants during the Launch of PCMA and SRAF

relevant for the province as Sindh has a high prevalence of malnutrition and food insecurity. The senior Government officials, in their key remarks, appreciated the efforts of Food Security Working Group in conducting these very useful analyses on very important issues faced by the communities and households in Sindh province.

IPC Acute Malnutrition in Sindh

IPC Acute Malnutrition (AMN) is a set of protocols to classify areas based on the prevalence of acute malnutrition, identify major contributing factors to acute malnutrition, and provide actionable knowledge by consolidating wide-

ranging evidence on acute malnutrition and contributing factors.

The outcome indicator for IPC AMN is: GAM by WHZ (*Weight for Height*) or GAM by Mid Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) of children age 6-59 months.

Recently, FAO and WFP conducted the training and analysis workshop on IPC AMN for three districts in Sindh: Jamshoro, Umerkot and Tharparkar. Experts and analysts on nutrition, health and food security from Pakistan with the support

| Phase Name and Description | PHASE 1 Acceptable | PHASE 2 Alert | PHASE 3 Serious | PHASE 4 Critical | PHASE 5 Extreme critical |
|----------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| | Less than 5% of children are acutely malnourished by GAM by WHZ measure or Less than 6% of children are acutely malnourished by GAM by MUAC measure | Even with any humanitarian assistance, about 5-10% of children are acutely malnourished by GAM by WHZ measure or about 6-11% of children are acutely malnourished by GAM by MUAC measure. | Even with any humanitarian assistance, about 10-15% of children are acutely malnourished by GAM by WHZ measure or about 6-11% of children are acutely malnourished by GAM by MUAC measure. | Even with any humanitarian assistance, 15-30% of children are acutely malnourished by GAM by WHZ measure or 11-17% of children are acutely malnourished by GAM by MUAC measure, showing conditions for excess mortality ³ . | Even with any humanitarian assistance, >30% of children are acutely malnourished by GAM by WHZ measure or >17% of children are acutely malnourished by GAM by MUAC measure, showing conditions for widespread death ³ . |

from IPC Global (Rome) and Regional (Bangkok) team carried out the analysis. The experts were representatives of Federal Government (Ministry of Planning, Development & Reform, Ministry of National Food Security & Research, Pakistan Agriculture Research Centre); Sindh Government (Planning & Development Department, Provincial Nutrition Cell/ Nutrition Support Programme, Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA), Bureau of Statistics, and Livestock Department); UN organizations (FAO, WFP, UNICEF, WHO); and International/Local NGOs (Concern Worldwide, WHH, ACF and TRDP).

This was a pilot exercise based on fresh evidence from Livelihoods and Food Security Assessment (LFSA) conducted in April/May 2017 in the targeted districts by the Food Security Working Group. The outcome indicator (GAM based on MUAC) was taken from LFSA, whereas evidence on contributing factors was collected from Smart nutrition surveys conducted by UNICEF and partners, Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) 2014, and Pakistan Social and Living Standard Measurement (PSLM) conducted in 2014-15. The training and analysis workshop was conducted in Karachi from July 10-15, 2017 with the support of European Union under INFORMED Programme. The training and analysis workshop also contributed towards enhancing the technical capacity of the workshop participants.

Key Findings of IPC Acute Malnutrition

Based on the IPC AMN analysis, as per

standard IPC methodology and thresholds, all three districts (Jamshoro, Umerkot and Tharparkar) of Sindh Province have been classified as being in phase 4, (Critical phase) according to the IPC AMN scale during April – June 2017, which is lean/post-harvest period in majority of the areas of these districts. Jamshoro and Tharparkar districts are on “borderline” with the phase 5 of IPC AMN, which is the “Extreme Critical” Phase, where nearly 1 in 5 children are acutely malnourished.

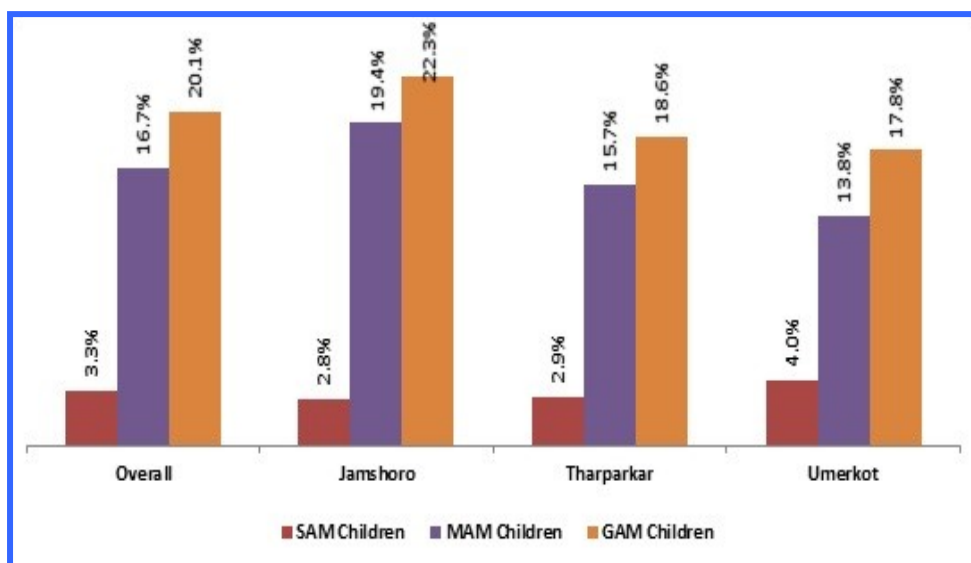
According to the IPC AMN projection analysis, the situation was projected to remain same in Jamshoro and Umerkot districts, while some improvements were expected in Tharparkar District during the monsoon season (July-September 2017). However, the improvement expected was at a small scale and unlikely to change the phase classification for the district – i.e. the district would

likely continue to remain in the same Critical phase during the monsoon season.

Contributing Factors for Acute Malnutrition

Major contributing factors to acute malnutrition identified are, a) - Very poor quality of food intake by children (*most likely resulting from very high acute food insecurity in the areas*), b) - Relatively high prevalence of diseases (*particularly diarrhoea*), c) - Poor sanitation system; and d) - Poor feeding practices (*e.g. very low level of exclusive breastfeeding*).

Several structural issues especially human, physical, and financial capitals were also identified as major factors contributing to acute malnutrition in these areas. While the immediate response must focus on treating children with acute malnutrition, it is also vital to address the major contributing factors address acute malnutrition.



Recommendations and Next Steps for Analysis and Decision Making

- Treatment of all acutely malnourished children, identified across the districts, should be **high priority**.
- Availability and access to treatment programmes should be ensured while the on-going treatment programmes should also be scaled up.
- While immediate attention must focus on the **treatment** of existing cases of

acute malnutrition, attention should also be focussed on addressing other factors identified as major contributing factors to acute malnutrition to **prevent** acute malnutrition in the future.

- The prevention efforts should focus on improving the quality of food consumed by children, treatment and prevention of childhood illness, addressing poor sanitation situation, and promoting appropriate feeding practices.

- This analysis is not only helpful in determining the extent of the acute malnutrition problem in these districts but also help identify the major contributing factors to acute malnutrition so that appropriate response to tackle acute malnutrition can be planned.
- Furthermore, it would be highly useful to carry out similar analyses in the other districts of Sindh province, where acute malnutrition levels are high.

Cash Transfer Programming (CTP) Training



Islamabad - Mr. Etienne delivering presentation

Four days training on Cash Transfer Programming was held at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Representation in Islamabad on 29 September 2017.

The training provided participants with

knowledge and expertise to design and implement programmes using cash transfers and vouchers.

Mr. Juvanon du Vachat Etienne, Resilience Expert TC at FAO headquarters conducted the training.

Overall 24 participants from government, FATA Development Management Authority, national and international NGOs and UN agencies attended the training sessions including trainees from FAO Afghanistan.

The sessions built on FAO's standard training on principles of cash transfer programming, voucher schemes and input trade fairs and cash for work. Market analysis/assessment; risk management, monitoring and evaluation and linkages between cash transfer programming and social protection were other important areas covered during the four days of training.



Islamabad - Group photo of training participants in FAO Office

Ms. Mina Dowlatchahi, FAO Representative awarded certificates to the participants on the final day of training to acknowledge their participation.



Food Security Newsletter



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

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Strengthening Humanitarian Response for Availability, Accessibility and Utilization of Food.

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