



Afghanistan ES/NFI Cluster Meeting

Summary Notes of ES/NFI Meeting – Monday, September 13, 2021

Time: 10:00 – 11:00 AM

Venue: Online

PARTICIPANTS

Partners	Representative
International NGOs	ACTED, ADRA, AFGHANAID, AKAH, CWW, DRC, IMC, IRC, IRW, NCA, NRC, PIN, REACH, SCI, WHH
National NGOs	CAHPO, CORDAID, ORD,
UN organizations	IOM, UNHCR, WFP
National authority	
Donors	USAID
Others	ACBAR, CVWG

AGENDA

1. Updates from the National Cluster
 - AHF 3rd Reserve Allocation
 - Flash Appeal
 - Cash-Based Interventions
 - Logistics and Warehousing
2. Updates on Responses and Gaps
3. ES/NFI Rapid Assessment Mechanism (REACH)
4. AOBs

1 Updates from the National Cluster

- **AHF 3rd Reserve Allocation:** The Cluster Co-Coordinator updated as the review of the concept notes; on-going revision of 11 projects by SRC/TRC; the budget ceiling has been revised and updated from 3 Million USD to 5.67 Million USD, and partners will be updated as the process moves on.
- **Flash Appeal:** The Cluster Co-coordinator updated ESNFI Cluster Flash Appeal includes 35 Million USD covering the period from September to December 2021. Out of 35 Million USD; 23.3 Million USD is already reflected in the HRP and 11.7 Million USD is the new funding requirement for the cluster. The total targeted beneficiaries include 0.9 Million people where 0.6 Million beneficiaries are already reflected in the HRP and 0.3 Million beneficiaries are the additional beneficiaries. The total of 35 Million USD includes winterization assistance along with emergency & transitional shelter, shelter repairs & upgrades, household items, and rental subsidies. Deputy Coordinator added the comment and feedback on the proposals were received from the partners and reviewed by the clusters/AHF; those partners who provided their inputs will soon receive the feedback from the cluster/AHF and also encouraged all partners to send their feedback on the proposals. He also updated that flash appeal will be launched soon and requested partners to consider the climate situation and activities to be proposed; breaking down of funding and activities (2021 and 2022) would help report to Report Hub.
- **Cash-Based Interventions:** The Cluster Co-Coordinator highlighted the issues reported by the regional coordination team in terms of cash, services provided by the bank, and financial service providers since the suspension of bank and financial service providers. Deputy Coordinator updated that most of the regional

coordination team reported that the new development and banking system restrictions have restricted cash assistance activities. DRC updated that it was not possible to resume the cash distribution and trying to use Hawala as a medium for cash-based intervention. CORDAID updated the issues of bank closure and was not able to resume CBI. IRC updated that some cash-based interventions were operated through the Kabul-based service provider in Herat province. NRC raised the issues of procurement from neighboring countries and also the functionality of international and national airports.

- **Logistics and Warehousing:** The Cluster Co-Coordinator highlighted the Logistics Working Group updates as the group is importing critical life-saving supplies such as medicine through bridging flights to Kandahar and Mazar; domestic flights have been resumed in Mazar. NRC updated as importing emergency shelter and NFIs, WASH items from Pakistan and highlighted the challenges on importing process including shipping by suppliers; stocking at the warehouse; shipping to all across the country. DRC updated as procurement of shelter and NFIs and highlighted the challenges as the rising renting cost of warehouses. IOM updated that UNHCR imported the supplies from Pakistan to Afghanistan. Partners have received information on logistic cluster support to the humanitarian partners in providing warehouse spaces in case they need it. Partners also requested to have more discussion with the logistics cluster on means of support they can provide to facilitate the in-kind assistance and logistical issues.

Action Point:

ESNFI Cluster to coordinate with Logistics Working Group for in-country warehouse facilities; humanitarian air bridge facilities (national and international)

Presentation on ES/NFI Cluster Meeting

2 Updates on Responses and Gaps

- The Cluster Co-Coordinator briefly highlighted “Weekly Snapshot” progress from 5-11 September 2021 regarding ESNFI Cluster needs, responses, and gaps across the country. He updated as 31,722 families (204,675 individuals) are in overall need of emergency shelter and NFIs; 9,713 families (54,206 individuals) already responded so far with emergency shelter and NFIs, and 22,009 families (150,469 individuals) remained as a gap for ESNFI assistance.
- The Cluster Co-coordinator also requested to all partners to inform to ESNFI cluster coordination team to fill the gaps so far recorded from the assessment conducted so far.
- NRC updated that all operation has been suspended due to the restrictions on female staffs’ engagement, and resources are in the pipeline that will be available until unless the restriction is cleared.
- IOM updated as the activities have been resumed in 19 provinces, currently engaged in re-assessment of the reported gaps in Bagdis, Mazar-e-Sharif, Sar-e-Pul, Kabul, Parwan, Kapisa, Kunduz; also planning to distribute NFIs to pending caseloads in Nangarhar and Kunar; a total of 10,000 families identified as a gap in five regions including Kabul; NFIs has been distributed to 474 families in Kabul; planning to assist 1,400 families in Lal Wa Sarjangal in Ghor province; also reported as a gap of total 2,300 families required ESNFI assistance in Ghazni; also reported 300 families as a gap for ESNFI assistance in Paktya province which was previously committed by IRC.
- IMC updated Western Region as assessment completed in Badghis with the total need required for 6,020 families; out of which UNICEF has committed to support 380 families with NFIs; IOM has committed to support 1,734 families with NFIs, UNHCR has committed to assist 2,000 families for ESNFI assistance, and the total 1,906 families remained as a gap; Herat, Farah and Ghor Provinces assessment caseloads have been assisted; also highlights the reasons for the suspension of assessments by OCHA due to the restrictions on female staffs engagement.
- The Cluster Co-Coordinator highlighted that female staff issues are not seen all across the country but only in some regions.
- IRC updated gaps in Paktya and Khost provinces due to cash restriction issues; the agency is planning to distribute cash-based interventions in Paktya, Khost, and Kabul provinces.
- DRC updated the similar issues of restrictions on female staffs’ engagement;
- CWW updated NE Region as the issues of bank closure, restrictions on female staffs’ engagement, most of the agencies did not resume their operation; and most of the agencies do not have NFIs stock in the warehouses.

Action Points

ESNFI Cluster to coordinate with Access Working Group to discuss on a common approach on ground working rules for female staffs engagement

3 ES/NFI Rapid Assessment Mechanism - REACH

- Ari/REACH presented the draft ESNFI Cluster Rapid Assessment Mechanism tools, methodology, and SOPs. The general objective of the RAM is to provide key needs information for the cluster to immediately implement a response following a major shock identified by the national ESNFI Cluster as in need of a response; RAM mechanism includes research design, partner training, alert raised, data collection, data analysis, and factsheet production; RAM roles and responsibilities includes the tasks, responsible and outputs by coordination, tools, training, data collection, data analysis, and product production; RAM sampling includes Key Informant Interviews and Household tools by tool type, sampling, number of interviews, number of questions, interview selection and timeframe; RAM SOPs includes training, alert, data collection, data analysis, and factsheet production with steps, task and timeframe; and projected timeframe for training to Provincial Focal Points.

Presentation on draft ESNFI Cluster Rapid Assessment Mechanisms (RAM)

4 AOBs

- Deputy Coordinator stated that TWiG (both subgroups 1 and 2) will be active till the end of the year. He also requested technical working group members to feel free to arrange the meetings and discussion considering the new developments and market prices changes, review of the cluster standard packages, and equivalent cash amount which are very important that TWiGs can take action on them.

ESNFI Cluster Coordination

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