

## Food Security and Nutrition Working Group

### Discussion Paper: FSNWG Activities, March 2009 – December 2009

#### Introduction

- Need to focus on few priority activities that we can realistically move forward.
- Process: discussion paper to be discussed at next FSNWG for inputs, and endorsement by the wider group.
- Planning process will define roles and resource requirements as well as timing. Using existing sub-working groups to move specific tasks forwards: Working group on Nutrition, IPC technical steering group, Market analysis Sub-working group, Horn of Africa Pastoralist Network, Thematic group on dry land farming.

#### Proposed Activities for Discussion

##### **1. Develop Links with Country Coordination Mechanisms (Food Security and Nutrition) through Information Management and Dissemination**

- Strategic importance of engaging with and supporting country level coordination mechanisms on food security and nutrition matters
- Compile and update country level and regional food security and nutrition information (assessments, surveys, country/regional livelihood zones etc)
- Develop a regional information repository (eventually website with an online resource centre to store and make available food security and nutrition information (assessments, surveys, standard methodology etc).
- As required, develop advocacy messages concerning response coverage relative to needs across the region, and appropriateness of responses particularly with regard to addressing underlying issues and chronic vulnerability

#### **Expected Outputs:**

- Regular information flow between national and regional levels; regular issue of regional outlooks/presentations
- Fully functional regional repository with links to national websites

##### **2. Integrated Phase Classification**

- Continue awareness raising, training and technical support programme for country level roll out of the IPC tool
- Continue the work of the regional IPC steering committee to guide the development of the IPC, in accordance with the needs of participating countries, and with links to a similar group at global level.
- Conduct regular regional food security and nutrition analyses using the IPC tool.
- Work with national teams to develop a strategy for disseminating IPC products at the sub-national and community level

#### **Expected Outputs:**

- Participating countries conducting food security and nutrition analyses using the IPC tool
- Steering committee established and actively developing the IPC tool with links to the national and global levels
- Regional food security and nutrition analyses taking place 4 times a year
- Advocacy strategies and messages developed and implemented, effectively influencing policy and decision makers in the donor/humanitarian community.
- IPC products disseminated at the sub-national and community levels

### **3. Market analysis**

- Monitoring of main regional markets
- Provide or support the provision of regular regional trade and markets information
- Analysis of impact of volatile food prices on vulnerable group
- Provide information on interventions that are markets-based and those that may impact the markets.
- Provide inputs for country and regional food security analysis

#### **Expected Outputs:**

- Strengthened and harmonized markets assessment and analysis tools in the region
- Improved coverage and understanding of the impact of movements in market supply, prices, and policies at a regional level;
- Increased monitoring and understanding of cross-border trade
- Advocacy and recommendations for actions

### **4. Pastoralist working group**

- Priorities to be defined

### **5. Agriculture thematic group**

- Regional coordination and development of a surveillance system for Cassava Diseases
- If possible extend the surveillance to other major plant diseases.
- Development of a joint programme for dry land farming practices in emergency and post emergency context. This will include in particular Animal traction, CA, Storage, Cereal transplanting, etc. dry land farming (Initial partners IIRR, COOPI, Greentree, FAO Somalia, and IUCN).

### **6. Coordination of Assessment and Harmonisation of Methodology**

- Through links with national food security coordination structures, regularly participate in existing joint assessment exercises,
- Strengthen the sharing of information between country teams regarding cross border concerns
- Ensure that information from joint assessments is collected, disseminated and used for food security and response options analysis.

#### **Outputs:**

- Assessments coordinated in terms of timing, information sharing

- Ensuring harmonised analyses of collected information allowing comparisons between countries, addressing cross border issues and fostering appropriate responses.

## **7. Response analysis and impact assessment**

- Working with national coordination mechanisms, develop capacity to plan and implement adequate and appropriate responses
- Monitor and map country-level response over needs (IPC) maps, and compile information at the regional level.
- In collaboration with key stakeholders, develop a common impact assessment framework, and work to apply it to evaluate food security and nutrition interventions within the region.

### **Outputs:**

- Food security and nutrition responses mapped at national and regional level and compared with IPC outputs
- Impact assessment framework developed and rolled out

## **8. Lesson Learning and best practices**

- In collaboration with national and regional stakeholders, Identify best practices that could be disseminated and scaled up
- mobilise resources to conduct the research

### **Outputs:**

- Best practices programme developed
- Resources mobilised and two (?) topics identified and disseminated