Background and Rationale

In 2018, Ethiopia faced a significant spike in conflict-induced displacement. Even though drought-related relief food needs have decreased due to the overall good seasonal rains received during the year; the relief food requirement is still significantly high due to new needs resulting from increasing conflict-induced displacement and IDP returnees. The forecast of the occurrence of the drought have already been projected to leave the pastoral and Agro-Pastoral communities vulnerable moreover; many communities affected by drought in recent years have also yet to recover and, having exhausted their coping capacity, they still remain highly vulnerable to shocks. In total, 3.1 million households require humanitarian livelihood assistance in 2019.

The Agriculture sector is supporting approximately 1.4 million food insecure households in Ethiopia, comprising of 0.1 million displaced households and 5.3 million people who were negatively impacted by previous drought years.

IM Training Objectives

- Understanding cluster IM System and Information requirement: The role of information management at the country level is to build on existing relevant information systems in place in-country and support the Government’s efforts to coordinate and harmonize IM activities of all humanitarian partners, this involves; collection of partner 5Ws activity details (who, what, where for Whom and when), management and analysis, and the dissemination of products to inform effective food security programming (avoiding gaps and overlaps) and communication to stakeholders of food security operations.

- An in-depth HNO/HRP process at regional levels: The humanitarian community has shifted to an evidence-based needs analysis which include triangulation of various information through the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). Providing an in-depth HNO/HRP process will help to decentralize the exercise at regional level to improve evidence-based decision making for proper strategic planning.
IM TRAINING REPORT JULY 2019

The training plan is done in consultation with the regional DRM-ATF co-chairs to provide in-depth information required such as; numbers of participants, training venues and number of days required. The trainings shall be facilitated by two Agriculture sector Information Management Officers who will have to travel to the regional training venues (locations).

Achievements

- Training provision to all the regions as planned, this training has capacitated partners to have the basic of the humanitarian program cycle in the onset of an emergency. Understanding all the five HPC elements that ranges from; Needs assessment and analysis, Humanitarian strategic response planning, Resource mobilization, Implementation and monitoring, Operational review and evaluation.

- These five elements are coordinated in a seamless manner, with one-step logically building on the previous and leading to the next. Successful implementation of the humanitarian programme cycle is dependent on effective emergency preparedness, effective coordination with national/local authorities and humanitarian actors, and information management.

- The information management training has provided the opportunity for the cluster secretariat to identify and know the partners and what activities they implement. Successfully provided guidance and direction for partners as 3ws exercise were conducted to ensure partners do not duplicate response to the beneficiaries within the same geographical locations.

Training activities in the different regions

Somali: There were 12 partners consisting of 3 from the government Bureau and 10 from NGO partners (NRC, VSF-S, GIZ, DC, IR, OXFAM, OWDA, ACPA and SCI).

SNNPR: There were 10 partners consisting of 5 from the Government Bureaus and 5 from NGO partners (GOAL, PIN, PIE and SCI).

Afar: There were 14 partners consisting of 4 from the Government Bureaus and 10 from NGO partners (DPFSCO, GIZ-SDR, VSF-G, ADRA, EEECMY, DRSLP, FARM-Africa, and SRV).
Agriculture Sector – ATF

IM TRAINING REPORT JULY 2019

Tigray: There were 9 partners consisting of 3 from the Government Bureaus, 2 from UN organization (WFP) and 4 from NGO partners (Helvetas, TSFP, TRMSC and Ecc-SDCO).

Oromia: There were 10 partners consisting of 5 from the Government Bureaus and 5 from NGO partners (SoS Sahel Ethiopia, Mercy Corps, DCA, CARE and TROCAIRE).

Amhara: There were 7 partners consisting of 5 from the government and 2 from NGO partners (ARARI and FH).

Key challenges identified

Development oriented partners: most partners across all the six regions are more knowledgeable with the developmental project management despite of the increasing humanitarian needs triggered by climatic and conflict displacements including the protracted drought in mostly Somali, Afar and Oromia. There is therefore a response planning and implementation of humanitarian activities designed to address the impacts of these shocks by partners on ground.

Inadequate commitment from partners at field level (Lack of leadership): This mostly in some regions like SNNPR and Afar where the Cluster structures are not so strong in terms of cluster lead agency providing more capacities on ground to strengthen and give the cluster a level of leadership required for a successful coordination at regional level.

Communication gaps between federal and regional Partners: Many activities within the humanitarian partners happens at the federal level. However, it is worth mentioning that there is inadequate communication between partners at the federal and their regional colleagues. This has therefore presented a clear knowledge gap of the developments happening at the federal levels in relation to the regional partners.

Payment of per diem: It’s clearly been presented by the government colleagues about their ignorance in the DSA/ per diem rules and eligibility. Moreover, if there are exceptions, we need to communicate clearly on the policies around Per Diem paid to government staff involve in future engagements.

DRM-ATF in hotspot areas: Partners have raised about the activation of the ATFs in the hotspot areas especially the west Guji and East and West Haraghe. The absence of coordination structure in these areas hindered access to information especially for planning.
Agriculture Sector – ATF

IM TRAINING REPORT JULY 2019

Action points

- Decentralization of the Information Management tool to capture partners’ data from the regional levels. This was an arrangement to capture data from the regions and validate with what we receive at federal levels to produce information management products (Dashboard, Gap analysis and Partners operational presence) at regional levels to facilitate decision making and planning at regional level.

- Constant sharing of information (bridging the communication gap) between the federal and Regional agriculture cluster (ATF). The flow of communication is key for focus coordination mechanism at all levels.

- It has been agreed by partners that the Information management officers support the regional clusters remotely and should be available where a field visit is required to provide an urgent support to partners.

Recommendation

As part of strengthening our ATF, to help in improving evidence-based decision at sub-regional levels DRM-ATF activation in hot spot areas of West Guji and East/West Haraghea as well as strengthening the already existing sub-regional coordination forums to improve information/data sharing and hence focus targeting and successful implementation of the humanitarian Program cycle (HPC).
## TRAINING ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Morning</th>
<th>HPC OVERVIEW</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Understanding the Humanitarian Program cycle</td>
<td>1. Briefly explaining the humanitarian architecture in Ethiopia. 2. Highlighting in detail the HPC importance in a crisis situation (natural disasters i.e. drought, floods, Disease outbreak &amp; Drought, conflict induced displacement)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Humanitarian needs overview (HNO)</td>
<td>1. In details going through the process step by step involved in identifying needs and categorizing the level of needs using the different levels of vulnerabilities (income groups) using the food security approach through the four pillars (availability, accessibility, stability and Utilization). 2. Identification of indicators to determine the different levels of severity of needs in the Agriculture cluster. 3. Setting of Cluster objectives aligning to the inter-cluster objectives. 4. Importance and relevance of the timeline 5. Composition of the HNO document</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Humanitarian Response plan (HRP) / Strategic Response Plan (SRP)</td>
<td>1. Drawing gap analysis using the levels of severity, response information, and availability of funding as well as access to determine the HHs to be assisted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Monitoring and Evaluation</td>
<td>Information management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prepared by
Espico Iga Denis Marko &
Hudad Ibrahima Barry
### INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Afternoon</th>
<th>INFORMATION MANAGEMENT</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Information Management - Roles and priorities</td>
<td>Understanding the concept of information management contextually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Linkages of IM with the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) and Humanitarian Program Cycle (HPC)</td>
<td>How IM is built within the humanitarian program cycle (HPC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>IM monitoring tool use for Agriculture. The Clusters’ 5Ws (Who, What, Where, For Whom and When) into detail.</td>
<td>5Ws monitoring tool session in detail including the demo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Information Management Products (5Ws outputs)</td>
<td>IM products using inputs from partners (Dashboards, gap analysis, operational presence, Newsletter, flash updates, etc). All these products are used for advocacy on behalf of the affected population.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Reporting timeline</td>
<td>Partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Lessons learnt from 2018</td>
<td>To help improve the IM system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>5Ws practical session</td>
<td>Demo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>