The Nigeria Food Security Sector (FSS) is chaired by the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources and works closely with the President’s Committee on the Northeast Initiative (PCNI), the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), and the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA).

Nigeria Food Security Sector partners work closely to coordinate activities that provide food and agricultural livelihood assistance to populations deemed food insecure in Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe states, as determined by the Cadre Harmonise. The Cadre Harmonise technical team comprises the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, National Bureau of Statistics, CILSS, FAO, FEWS NET, and WFP.

In 2017, the Food Security Sector counts among its members PCNI; NEMA; SEMA; Adamawa, Borno, and Yobe Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, and Agricultural Development Programs (ADP); more than 20 Nigerian NGOs, four UN agencies, and more than 20 international NGOs.

The Food Security Sector has supported the establishment of the Safe Access to Fuel and Energy (SAFE) Working Group and developed several technical tools, including:

The Harmonization Guide, which outlines the standard in-kind food basket to be used by partners, as well as a calculator to determine the value of cash or voucher based programming.

Targeting Guidance, which will be finalized during November 2017, to take into account challenges implementing agencies are facing in targeting, build from lessons learned and best practices, as well as work to developed a harmonized approach across the sector. Additionally, the Targeting Guidance offers concrete Nigeria specific guidance on incorporating protection into targeting.

On a monthly basis, the Sector develops the 5W, which is used in the development of Sector products and is available here: https://public.tableau.com/profile/ng.food.security.sector#!/vizhome/shared/S4CCXRC39.

The Sector develops the Food Security Sector Dashboard, the Partner Presence Map (State, LGA, Ward), the Gap Analysis, and the Cash Dashboard on a monthly basis. The Sector also consolidates partner plans by quarter in the Quarterly Intervention Matrix. This is used in updating the Gap Analysis and to identify and alert partners to areas with food insecurity and unmet needs. All Sector products are available at www.fscluster.org/Nigeria.

The Food Security Sector Dashboard provides a snapshot of the the Sector’s work for the preceding month, including total reach by state and objective, and the level of funding currently received by partners.

The Partner Presence Map allows Sector partners to quickly identify organizations working in a particular area to improve coordination among actors. By reviewing partner presence, partners planning interventions in an area know with which partners to engage with to prevent duplication of efforts.

The Gap Analysis identifies areas with food insecurity and the actual reach versus the planned reach. This allows the Sector and partners to identify gaps in assistance that should be covered.

As cash programming increases in the northeast response, partners requested that the Food Security Sector develop a Cash Dashboard to better understand where cash programming was being implemented, to compare against where cash programming had been determined as feasible. The Food Security Sector works closely with the Cash Working Group to coordinate cash programming efforts.

The Quarterly Planning Matrix is a consolidation of partner plans that facilitates better planning among partners, prevention of duplicative efforts, and assists in identifying gaps in coverage and where partners need to intervene going forward.

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Food Security Sector partners reached over 2.2 million beneficiaries with food assistance, either in-kind or through cash or voucher programming. The number of beneficiaries reached with food assistance is not cumulative, but is calculated on a monthly basis.

As markets rebound in parts of the northeast, Food Security Sector partners continue to assess the feasibility and appropriateness of in-kind and cash and voucher programming. In areas where markets are functioning, partners are using cash and vouchers to meet the needs of households. By using cash and vouchers, there is also the added benefit of contributing to rebuilding, revitalizing, and strengthening local economies and benefiting the host community by generating demand for goods.

Since January 2017, Food Security Sector partners have reached over 2 million beneficiaries with agricultural assistance and support, with an emphasis on supporting communities during the Rainy Season, as well as Dry Season activities, which are ongoing.

Agricultural support is calculated as a cumulative figure, with each month being added to the previous month. Agricultural interventions have included support to obtain agricultural inputs, livestock and fishing interventions, pest management, seed multiplication, and training on agricultural best practices.

Agricultural interventions were primarily in-kind, although cash and vouchers have also been used by partners to facilitate access to inputs or protect assets.

**Collaboration with the Nutrition Sector**

The Food Security Sector and the Nutrition Sector have increased collaboration over the course of 2017, including initiating the process of developing joint Food Security and Nutrition products to illustrate where joint programming exists and identify opportunities for joint programming going forward. The Nigeria Food Security Sector and Nutrition Sector joined colleagues from other countries at a joint meeting in Rome in May 2017 that resulted in a Call for Action endorsed by agencies working in both humanitarian Nutrition and Food Security programming. This Call for Action identifies several steps that should be taken to improve collaboration between Nutrition and Food Security sectors in promoting joint programming and integrated responses that are based on vulnerability and composite indicators, addressing all the factors that contribute to increased malnutrition, disease, and mortality within humanitarian contexts.

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