WFP/UNICEF Food and Nutrition Cluster

The experience from Pakistan and Lessons Learnt.

December 5th, 2005
Agenda

• Brief background to the Cluster

• Overview of the situation in Pakistan

• Objectives and ToRs of the Food and Nutrition Cluster

• Joint work achieved to-date

• Challenges and opportunities
Background

• During an Inter-Agency Standing Committee Working Group meeting in July 2005, a decision was taken that the various UN agencies would be assigned to lead nine “clusters” intended to fill gaps in international humanitarian response. Those agencies would be held accountable for the response in that cluster and would also be designated, in principle, as the “provider of last resort.”
Overview of the situation in Pakistan
Joint work achieved first month
OUTPUTS

• Wide participation
• Joint Objectives and ToRs
• Key performance indicators
• EFSA WFP/UNICEF with the participation of OXFAM
• Protocol for Therapeutic and Supplementary feeding WFP/UNICEF/MoH
• Nutrition Survey UNICEF/WFP/WHO/MoH
• Joint meetings/reports/sitreps/funding applications
• Food and Nutrition Cluster meetings replicated in three field locations Manshera, Muzzafarabad and Bagh
Attendees

UN-WFP, U.S Embassy, Focus Pakistan, DFID
IRC, Save the Children, Islamic Relief,
UNICEF, FAO, OXFAM, UNHCR, Russian Embassy,
Hil Pakistan, ARC, World Vision Afghanistan,
CRS, Relief International, GOAL, Action Contre La Faim,
Concern
Food and Nutrition Cluster

Objectives and ToRs

• To ensure an effective response to the disaster by co-coordinating all actors in the food and nutrition sector.
• To identify operational areas by agency and intervention type with the objective of highlighting possible duplication and gaps in assistance.
• To harmonise food aid interventions from all sources to ensure equitable distribution to the affected population.
• To apply international norms and standards (e.g. Sphere and UN policies on the promotion and protection of breastfeeding practices) to food and nutrition interventions.
• To identify nutritional risks and put in place early measures to prevent them, through identifying suitable agencies and partners to undertake nutritional surveillance, nutritional assessment and nutrition programs.
• Develop Strategies for short term and longer term response and rehabilitation
Cluster ToRs

- To facilitate the exchange of ideas, information and knowledge.
- To map capacities of agencies.
- To understand and map needs.
- To plan and coordinate the matching of needs to capacities, no duplication and gaps.
- Do the best you can on incomplete information and do not wait for all information to start activities.
- Pool common resources to achieve results.
- Development of standard harmonization of procedures.
- Take the necessary decision to facilitate delivery and refer strategic decisions to UNCT/Government as necessary.
### Draft Key Performance Indicators for Food and Nutrition Cluster

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<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Provided by</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
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| 1. Total food insecure population reached with general food rations/minimum requirement per project category (number of beneficiaries by age, sex):  
  - supplementary feeding programme  
  - emergency school feeding (WFP 100 gr. HEB, 50 gr Dates)  
  - camp feeding  
  - host family feeding  
  - hospital feeding  
  - general food distribution in crisis area (WFP 2025 Kkal)                                                                                                                                         | WFP (total): 1,000,000  
|                                                                                                                                                                                                            | ICRC: 150,000  
|                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Pakistan: 1,150,000  
|                                                                                                                                                                                                            | WFP (for WFP)  
|                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Monthly         |
| 2. Quantity of food distributed (by project category, commodity and time)                                                                                                                                  | WFP: average monthly requirement* (MT):  
  - Cereal: 12,375  
  - Pulses: 1,513  
  - Veg. Oil: 833  
| tbd                                                                                                                                          | UNICEF/WFP/W HO and MoH  
|                                                                                                                                                                                                            | After assessment |
| 4. Prevalence of under 5 malnutrition (baseline Nov/Dec 2005)                                                                                                                                            | (linked to baseline)                                                                                       | UNICEF  
|                                                                                                                                                                                                            | monthly         |
| 5. Number of children (6-59 months) who have received a Vitamin A supplement (linked to measles campaign)                                                                                               | tbd                                                                                                          | UNICEF  
|                                                                                                                                                                                                            | monthly         |
| 6. Number of pregnant and lactating women and child care takers who have received nutrition education through MCH workers                                                                              | tbd                                                                                                          | UNICEF  
|                                                                                                                                                                                                            | monthly         |
| 7. Wheat grain availability to the Earth Quake affectees                                                                                                                                                | FAO: 36,800 beneficiaries                                                                                   | FAO         |
| 8. Crop residue for feeding Livestock during summer 2006                                                                                                                                                | FAO: 16,000 beneficiaries                                                                                   | FAO         |

* figures prior to budget revision
Benefit

• The cluster approach enabled a delineation of responsibilities and tasks into smaller and more manageable sectors and areas, enabling Government departments, UN agencies, NGOs to remain focused on their areas of expertise.
• The clusters also provided a forum for accelerating information sharing and decision making, agencies to quickly identify needs, resource gaps and requirements. The overall result was a more rapid, coordinated and appropriate response.
Challanges

- Scarce agency presence and many meetings
- Multiple reporting demands for different entities
- New concept
- Lack of clear guidance
- Insufficient Govt presence
For example

- Cluster could be set up quickly—within 2-3 days of the disaster
- Quick scale up of response was possible
- Quicker implementation of elements of the UNICEF/WFP MoU
- The cluster approach could be applied flexibly in the field
WFPs Emergency Co-ordinators

- Heads of Cluster meetings were chaired/led by non-operational agencies which frequently failed to consider the operational demands of those agencies/staff involved in aid delivery. WFP, UNICEF, UNHCR and other agencies were required to maintain their own internal management meetings and meetings with contracted partners. These were convened between UN Country Team meetings, Cluster meetings, Heads of Cluster meetings, General Coordination meetings with donors/NGOs, etc. The end result was that critical management staff spent an average 5-6 hours per day in meetings at a critical time.
• need to see a clear definition of the "cluster approach" and how it distinguishes itself from the very practical "sectoral approach." We could not make the distinction ourselves and feel that the cluster approach represents no more than a new name for a common practice of identifying needs/gaps and organizing a coordinated response.
Final reflection

Flexibility
Flexibility

Food and Emergencies

- Food, Food Aid, Food Security, Feeding Programmes
- SFPs
- TFC
- School feeding
- Hospital Feeding
- Vulnerable Group Feeding
• www.un.org.pk
Causes of Malnutrition

Malnutrition

Inadequate Food Intake

Disease

Household Food Security

Social and Care Environment

Access to Health Care & the Health Environment

Formal & Informal Infrastructure

Political Ideology

Resources