

Food Security in Humanitarian Assistance

5 – DAYS TRAINING

INTRODUCTION

Globally, more than 800 million people suffer from hunger. When an emergency strikes, ensuring access and availability of food is key to the Humanitarian response. That is why whether working (or willing to work) in natural or man-made crisis, Food Security specialists need to possess a unique set of skills and competencies to navigate the complexities and the challenges of assessing needs, designing, implementing, and evaluating a Food Security intervention within humanitarian action. From working a full-time dedicated Food Security specialist or simply being able to integrate Food Security in other interventions it is essential to ensure access and availability of food when responding to a Humanitarian crisis.

WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

This training is addressed to professionals with a food security background and/or with a basic to good understanding of Food Security programming in humanitarian action or in development settings who:

- Are working or planning to work in humanitarian and development contexts and have a special focus or interest in expanding their knowledge of Food security and livelihoods in humanitarian assistance;
- or are already working in Food security programming and are interested in deepening their understanding of Food Security programming as well as learning about the most recent international tools and standards and applying their knowledge with a group of peers in different contexts;
- and demonstrate commitment to complete the 5-day, face-to-face training course and to actively participate in hands-on individual and group works in a creative and stimulating environment.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Understand the complexities of designing, implementing, and monitoring a Food Security intervention in humanitarian action, as well as its fundamental concepts and frameworks;
- Understand how to plan a market-based response when planning food security intervention
- Integrate the key Food Security Humanitarian standards and learn about resilience-building practices and transition to early recovery phases
- Plan Food Security intervention and strengthening linkages with other sectors (e.g. nutrition, WASH)
- Apply and be familiar with the most recent practices, approaches and technical resources to build an impactful Food Security intervention.

METHODOLOGY

The training grounds itself in the adult learning approach, based on experiential learning, knowledge and experience sharing, co-creation and reflective analysis, with participants playing an active role throughout. The course consists of five days of face-to-face training that will include cases studies, group exercises, presentations, as well as networking opportunities in and outside the class. The course offers exposure to the most recent resources and innovations in the subject area and seeks to inspire participants to step out of their comfort zones and experiment, all in a safe and stimulating environment. Participants attending all the modules will be granted a certificate by HumCap.

COURSE CONTENT

MODULE 1. Understanding FOOD SECURITY; concepts and frameworks

This module will provide an overview of Food Security fundamentals in humanitarian assistance, presenting and discussing key core concepts and definitions. After getting an understanding of food insecurity worldwide, the module will focus on the food security framework and key food security-related concepts (e.g. access, utilization, availability and stability). The module will also provide definitions of key issues such as livelihoods, livelihood zones, vulnerability, coping strategies, household, all central to food security programming.

MODULE 2. Food Security in the humanitarian architecture

This module will briefly describe the humanitarian architecture to enable participants understanding and getting oriented among the different coordination mechanisms (e.g. cluster system) and becoming familiar with the collective international community accountability to tackle food insecurity in emergencies and more in general in humanitarian response.

MODULE 3: Food Security response framework and Cash Based- Response

This module will provide an overview of the most widely recognized response frameworks when planning a response. A focus will be made on Cash -Based response (CBR) decisional framework which is the most utilized during emergencies. An introduction will be made on CBR in food security programming and on other key tools and resources.

MODULE 4. Quality standards in Food Security response

This module will give an overview of the key International reference Standards on Food Security. A general introduction will be made on Quality and Accountability Standards (CHS) and on Minimum Early Recovery Standards (MERS) and additionally, more specific focus will be devoted to Sphere Handbook (sector specific session) and to Livestock in Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS. Other key resources and knowledge sharing platforms / communities of practitioners will be introduced.

Module 5. Assessing Food Insecurity

This module will explain key concepts for setting up a Food Security assessment. It will provide an overview of which referenced information can be utilized for secondary data collection and will help the participants to gain a more comprehensive knowledge of pre-existing tools (e.g. Framework: MIRA I and II; market analysis: EMMA/MIFIRA; Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA), and Livelihood Recovery Assessment (LRA); Seeds Security Assessment, HEA etc). At the end of the session, participants will be provided with a set of resources to be used for the fore above mentioned different assessment purposes.

MODULE 6. FOOD SECURITY programming

After having familiarized with key issues on FS assessments, the participants will understand how to design an emergency /development response based on the findings of the assessment. A practical session will help defining a logical framework of a FS intervention and selecting the right objectives and indicators. some institutional donors reference standards (Global FS Cluster, ECHO USAID -OFDA, etc) will also be presented and described during this module.

MODULE 7. Integrating programming

This module will focus on how to integrated food security interventions – both for emergency response and development – into broader programming taking into consideration implications of food security for the more general concept of nutrition security and also looking at the benefits of a functioning water system and proper sanitation (WASH) for both food and nutrition security.

MODULE 7. Quality Monitoring and Evaluation in Food Security programs

In this module, participants will become familiar with the general concepts of monitoring and evaluation within the humanitarian context and their more specific implications for FS; participants will learn how to set up an effective and efficient monitoring system, both for FS alone and for FS integrated programming. Participants will also explore

options on how to conduct mid-term and final evaluations of FS projects and/or programs

MODULE 9: Risk Mitigation and Resilience-building practices in Food Security

An overview will be provided on how to include mitigation measures useful to reduce vulnerability of the population affected by crises, particularly in recurrent crises (man-made or areas exposed to natural disasters). Cases studies on resilience-building practices will be presented and discussed.