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ALIM 9
ENV 662
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COAFR 251
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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
On:	9 September 2021
To:	Working Party on Humanitarian Aid and Food Aid (COHAFA)
Subject:	The main food crises, climate changes and gender
	- presentation by ACF

Following the informal COHAFA videoconference of 9 September, delegations will find in Annex presentation made by ACF⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾.

¹ Action contre le faim, identification number in the EU Transparency Register: 272646820681-30.

² This document contains a presentation by an external stakeholder and the views expressed therein are solely those of the third party it originates from. This document cannot be regarded as stating an official position of the Council. It does not reflect the views of the Council or of its members.



COHAFA MEETING
SEPTEMBER 2021

The food crisis in the Sahel region



KEY FIGURES :

 **28.7M**
people in need

Of Humanitarian assistance

Food security



14.0M
food insecure people
at Phase 3+

In Need of urgent Food
assistance

Source: OCHA; Cadre Harmonisé

Nutrition



1.6M
severely
malnourished children

CONTINUOUS DEGRADATION OF THE FOOD SECURITY AND HUMANITARIAN SITUATION FOR THE PAST 3 YEARS

CURRENT DRIVERS OF THE FOOD AND NUTRITION CRISIS IN THE SAHEL

- **CONFLICTS AND INSECURITY:**

Massive displacement of population: 5.3 million displaced (IDPs and refugees)

Restriction and difficulties to access basic social services (health centers, water and sanitation infrastructure)

Erosion of livelihoods

Complexification of humanitarian response

- **ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION AND CLIMATE CHANGE:**

Threat for **rural livelihoods** and **local food production**

Increase of the frequency of climate extremes in a region where agriculture and breeding systems are **dependant on rain patterns and rain distribution**

Pressure on **forest resources, soil mismanagement and urbanisation** → lost of crops and livestock

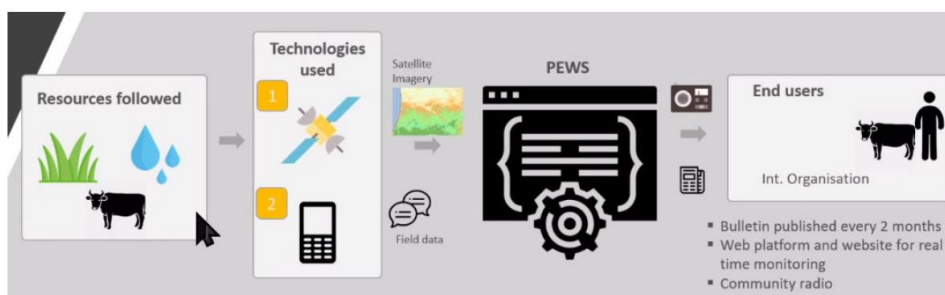
- **ECONOMIC IMPACT OF COVID-19:**

Impact on **people and animal mobility** as well as **trade flows**

BEST TOOLS/ PRACTICES / PROJECTS (1)

- **MONITORING AND SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS**

1) PEWS : A **Pastoral Early Warning System** to anticipate on shortage of key resources and improve the response capacity to food and nutrition insecurity especially in pastoral and agro-pastoral livelihoods regions in the Sahel.



The link with the website: sigsahel.info

BEST TOOLS/ PRACTICES / PROJECTS (2)

- **MONITORING AND SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS:**

2) PROACT: An initiative to Support the existing mechanisms for the **Prevention and Management of food and nutrition crises in West Africa and the Sahel.**

- **Funded by the EU**
- **A consortium of international NGO** working with civil society organisations (CSOs)
- 11 countries in Western Africa, including the G5 countries and Nigeria
- **Objectives**
 - Direct involvement of **CSOs in the governance** of the Food and Nutrition Crisis prevention systems.
 - Improvement in **Food Security information systems transparency and governance**,
 - Contributions from non-governmental stakeholders into analysis, design and implementation of the response.

BEST TOOLS/ PRACTICES / PROJECTS (2)

- **THE RESPONSE TO CURRENT SITUATION**

1) PROGRESS (Resilience and Social Cohesion Programm)

- Funded by the EU Trust Fund and led by ACF – 4 years initiative
- Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger
- A gradation approach linking humanitarian and development actions with a focus on conflict sensitivity and prevention

2) RESILAC

- Funded by the EU and AFD and led by ACF -
- Niger, Chad, Nigeria and Cameroun
- Sustainably improve agricultural production systems impacted by the crisis and climate change through the promotion of agro-ecological techniques and practices adapted to these contexts

LESSON LEARNT FROM THE 2021 LEAN SEASON

- Difficulties to mobilise resources to respond at scale to humanitarian needs and ensure linkages with development programming
- Necessity to maintain a robust surveillance system with adapted tools to anticipate on the coming lean season
- Need for flexible funding for the response (including logistic costs) to guarantee an adequate spatial and temporal delivery of the assistance for growing numbers of population in needs

NIGERIA

- Worrying reduction of humanitarian access & worsening trends of increasing insecurity
- Protection of humanitarian space and personnel
- Hotspot for food insecurity and specificity of the situation in secured towns

RECOMMENDATIONS

- ENSURE THAT BASIC NEEDS OF SAHELIAN PEOPLE ARE MET
- PRESERVE AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR HUMANITARIAN ACCESS
- INCLUDE THE ERADICATION OF HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION IN THE 2021-2027 MIPs AND IN GLOBAL CHALLENGES PROGRAMMING
- IMPROVE THE TRIPLE NEXUS APPROACH BY FOCUSING PRIMARILY ON SOCIAL COHESION, PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS, POLITICAL RECONCILIATION AND BETTER GOVERNANCE



Thank you

