



World Food Programme

PAKISTAN

Monthly Operational and Monitoring Report AJK Rural Support Program

Province: AJK
Month: April, 2014
PRRO-200250

WFP AJK At a Glance: April, 2014

Target Districts	Muzaffarabad, Hattian, Neelum & Havali
Humanitarian Hubs	
Camps	
Other Distribution Points	54
Cooperating Partners	AJKRSP
Staff (International : National)	

HIGHLIGHTS

- Screening process continued in four districts and during month of March 12000 children and PLWs was examined.
- A total of 135000 cases have been screened so far in which 43000 PLWs and 92000 children were examined.
- Out of total cases examined, 15870 PLWs and 26000 children found malnourished.
- During reporting month a total of 1310 MAM children including 706 newly registered have been distributed food where as number of siblings reduced to 433.
- Hence, a total of 3.636 MT food distributed during the month of April 2014.
- The formation of support groups has also progressed. A total of 226 support groups including 40 newly formed during reporting month have been involved in dialogues and sessions with communities.
- Similarly, general orientation and awareness raising of the community at large remained another important activity during the reporting month in all targeted districts. These sessions were organized with community activists, community elders, beneficiaries including women and children. The basic purpose was to make aware the community about project objectives, existing issues in their areas related to malnutrition and their causes, promoting healthy nutrition practices to prevent the trend of malnourishment in their respective communities. In this connection a total of 226 sessions were conducted in four districts including 45 sessions in district Huttian, 80 in Muzaffarabad, 55 in Neelum and again 46 in district Havali.
- In targeted districts, meetings were conducted with district health department in which progress was shared.

Situation Overview

As of April, 2014, a total of 135000 Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW) and children have been examined for their nutritional status including 43000 PLWs and 92000 children in four targeted districts. Out of total screened cases, 15870 PLWs and 26000 children were found malnourished which indicates a higher ratio of malnutrition in targeted areas. Similarly, during April, 2014, after having treatment, a total of 2140 children have been discharged from the program. In which 1999 MAM have cured while the rest remained non-recovered which indicate 96% of cure rate as of end of March, 2014. At probing the reasons for non-recovered cases, it has been noted that in most of these cases, beneficiaries did not use the food properly while a few were those who were suffered with certain medical complications.

This is also important to mention that the screening figures above have been achieved through door to door visit in all the four targeted districts. Yet, around 80% areas of all the four targeted districts, has been covered under screening process. The rest of the area will be covered in coming months. In this backdrop, the situation above evidently illustrate that the young children and women are among the most vulnerable groups from nutritional point of view in AJK and moreover under-nutrition is one of the main causes of death among infants and young children in the targeted areas. The observations from the field also depict that among the under-nourished children who could survive have always been with comparatively less competence to learn and gain education which eventually harms their productivity at adulthood, thus effect performance at all stages of their life.

Therefore, Community Based Management of Malnutrition (CMAM) project which well directs all its focus at mother and young children certainly provides a window of opportunity to get them out of the vicious circle of malnutrition. Provision of nutritious food along with education and awareness to promote healthy nutritional practices are the prime activities are focused under the project those are truly proved to be helpful for children and their mothers in the target areas to prevent and cure themselves from malnutrition.

Progress Updates

Progress for the month of April is given in the table below:

District	Beneficiaries			Food (MT)			Remarks
	Planned	Achieved	% achievement	Planned	Distributed	% achievement	
Muzaffarabad	1100	493	45	8.895	0.920	10	
Neelum	750	51	7	7.163	0.153	2	
Huttian	700	413	59	5.703	1.239	22	
Havali	830	353	43	5.914	1.324	22	
TOTAL	3380	1310	39	27.674	3.636	14	

Operational Issues

Around 30 sites remained close in terms of food distribution due to delay in supply of PLWs food, however field staff continuously carried out other field activities in these areas.

Deduction of HEB from food package is resulting in misusing of food as siblings those are not provided with HEB share wawamum/achamum. Although field staff of AJKRSP is counseling caretakers to ensure proper utilization of food.

Stationary is not sufficient at SFP sites. Screening register, registration register, ration cards are especially require on immediate basis. Meanwhile AJKRSP is managing stationary by using photocopies.

MONITORING FINDINGS

AJKRSP consistently involves community networks, community elders and the beneficiaries to regularly oversee and monitor the field activities. In addition to this, the combined field visits of AJKRSP monitoring staff along with representatives from health departments are facilitated on frequent basis so as to seek in time technical guidance and strengthen the process of cross verification and confirmation of achievements .For this purpose, a series of review meetings are also organized at BHUs,district and national level to get regular feedback from all stakeholders so that in case of any deviation, the timely corrective measures could be taken to keep the project on track.

Following are the key findings have been observed during the month of March, 2014:

- The planned targets of the month could not be achieved due to non availability of PLWs food as major case load from April to June consists of PLWs.
- Due to harsh weather particularly in snow covered areas, children have commonly been observed suffering from diseases like cold and fever which can affect their health status in the weeks to come.
- While calculating the cure rate of those beneficiaries who received their last month food, we found out that the average cure rate remained 97%.
- Similarly, at inquiring the reasons for non-cure, it was found out that the most number was of those who were suffering from medical complication, and then those who did not took the food regularly.
- There is a higher ratio of malnourished children and their mothers exist in the target area. Therefore, observed louder voice in the field in the favor of type of the activities like Community Nutrition Program.
- The ratio of MAM children found higher in the field while the proportion of SAM children remained low in the targeted area. So far only 1055 SAM children found out of total screened cases in the four targeted districts.
- The project activities have seen greater level of accessibility and support from the target community.
- The ratio of female malnourished children is higher than the male. This is mainly due to existing of a general traditionally discriminative caring attitude toward female children.
- In the target area, community generally feels comfortable with female staff members to carry out the measurement activities particularly in the case of PLWs.
- The strategy to access the target groups through the support of existing community networks remained very instrumental and effective.
- The beneficiaries who received food during the reporting month expressed higher level of satisfaction to the distribution process, particularly, to the way the distribution of food is organized close to their village at BHUs.

OPERATIONAL PLAN: [April, 2014]

District	Total Beneficiaries		Total	Total Food Requirement (MT)
	Nutrition			
	MAM	PLW		
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Muzaffarabad	300	1550	1850	15.25
Hattian	275	550	825	10.51
Neelum	225	1100	1325	8.45
Havali	250	580	830	8.206
Total	1050	3780	4830	42.416

Summary of District Wise CNP Initiative (SFP/OTPs) April, 2014

District	Planned SFPs	Functional SFPs	Planned OTPs	Functional OTPs
Muzaffarabad	33	30	-	-
Neelum	23	04	-	-
Huttian	12	10	-	-
Havali	10	10	-	-

Case Studies/Pictures

