



World Food Programme

PAKISTAN

Monthly Operational and Monitoring Report AJK Rural Support Program

Province: AJK

Month: September, 2013

PRRO-200250

WFP AJK At a Glance: September, 2013

Target Districts	Muzaffarabad, Huttian, Neelum & Haveli
Humanitarian Hubs	
Camps	
Other Distribution Points	77
Cooperating Partners	
Staff (International : National)	

HIGHLIGHTS

- Screening process has been conducted with a total of 45697 cases during the reporting month including 6918 Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLWs) and 38779 children in four targeted districts.
- Thus accumulatively, the total number of screening reached to 77381 including 16788 PLWs and 60593 children in four targeted districts.
- During the month, a total of 13516 malnourished cases identified including 8851 MAM children and 4665 PLWs in all four targeted districts.
- Hence, out of total screened cases, 6492 PLWs and 13238 children were found malnourished which indicates a ratio of 38% PLWs and 21% children 6-59 years of age exist in the state of malnutrition which is even higher than the figure given in the National Nutrition Survey 2011.
- During the reporting period, a caseload of 7754 malnourished cases including 3156 PLWs and 4598 MAM children along with their siblings with a food comprises of 54.279 MT was distributed in four targeted districts. Wherein 135 PLWs and 225 MAMs were those who received food in their second round.
- Another important activity in the field during the reporting month remained, orientation and awareness raising sessions with the community at large. 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 100 sessions were conducted in four districts including 20 sessions in district Huttian, 30 in Muzaffarabad, 25 in Neelum and again 25 in district Haveli.

Situation Overview

Field reports continuously show that there is an alarming ratio of malnourished children and their mothers exists in the target areas. As of end of September, 2013, a total of 77381 Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW) and children have been examined for their nutritional status including 16788 PLWs and 60593 children in four targeted districts. Out of total screened cases, 6492 PLWs and 13238 children were found malnourished which indicates a ratio of 38% PLWs and 21% children 6-59 years of age exist in the state of malnutrition which is even higher than the figure given in the National Nutrition Survey 2011. This is also important to mention that the figure above has been taken through door to door visit in all the four targeted districts. So far at around 70 areas of all the four targeted districts, the screening process has been completed. 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 Nutrition Program (CNP) 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

The table below elaborates the progress achieved during the month of September, 2013:

District	Beneficiaries			Food (MT)			Remarks
	Planned	Achieved	% achievement	Planned	Distributed	% achievement	
Muzaffarabad	3330	3152	94.6	23.056	21.334	92.5	
Neelum	1294	1366	105	9.041	9.637	106	
Huttian	1874	2006	107	13.132	13.872	105.6	
Havali	1576	1260	80	11.045	8.672	78.5	

Operational Issues

By and large, all the operational matters in respect to execution of field activities have quite been smooth during the month of September,2013. AJKRSP has been successful to undertake well in time all operational arrangements regarding food handling and transportation and arrangement of vehicles in the field.

MONITORING FINDINGS

AJKRSP follows a participatory monitoring mechanism to track the project performance and smooth execution of project activities. This includes active engagement of 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 September, 2013:

- There is a higher ratio of malnourished children and their mothers exist in the target area. Resultantly, observed louder voice in the field in the favor of type of the activities like Community Nutrition Program.
- In around 90% cases, the beneficiaries who had received food in August,2013 have observed a substantial improvement as their MOAC has improved average .2 to .3
- The project activities have seen greater level of accessibility and support from the target community.
- The ratio of female malnourished children remained higher than the mail. 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.
- Although, at the early stage after the first distribution, the target beneficiaries were not very much familiar with the usage and benefits of the food, but later on with gradually scaling up the awareness and promotional activities in the fields, now situation have observed becoming comparatively quiet better as earlier.
- 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: [September, 2013]

District	Total Beneficiaries		Total Food Requirement (MT)
	Nutrition	Total	
	MAM	PLW	

PRRO 200250				
Muzaffarabad	4091	3241	7332	46.998
Huttian	2220	1586	3806	23.185
Neelum	2886	2010	4896	31.637
Havali	1476	734	2210	12.544
Total	10673	7571	18244	114.364

Summary of District Wise CNP Initiative (SFP/OTPs) September-2013

District	Planned SFPs	Functional SFPs	Planned OTPs	Functional OTPs
Muzaffarabad	35	19	-	-
Neelum	24	6	-	-
Huttian	12	7	-	-
Havali	7	7	-	-

SUCCESS STORY and pictures