



United Nations
Children's Fund

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
UN WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME (WFP), PAKISTAN
AND
THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN FUND (UNICEF), PAKISTAN**

**REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMUNITY-BASED
MANAGEMENT OF ACUTE MALNUTRITION (CMAM) INITIATIVE IN THE FLOOD
AFFECTED AREAS OF PAKISTAN
AND
FLOOD-AFFECTED NUTRITION SURVEYS (FANS) AND
FLOOD RECOVERY ASSESSMENT (FRA)**

1. Preamble

Pakistan is a country vulnerable to natural disasters; with a history of drought, earthquakes, floods and landslides. By the end of July 2010, heavy monsoon rains led to flash and river flooding across many areas of the country; causing significant loss of life, destruction of homes and livelihoods, and resulted in displacement. This crisis is reported to be the worst floods in the country since 1929, and with flooding still occurring in Sindh, the situation keeps on evolving by the day as more people become affected by the floods. Already affected by high malnutrition prevalence of 13 percent wasting, 37 percent stunting and 38 percent underweight among the under five population, the current situation is alarming and raises great concern about the survival, well-being and development of children.

WFP and UNICEF, with the common commitment of reducing under-nutrition and improving maternal and child health, are committed to support the Government of Pakistan to effectively achieve the MDGs. This collaboration is part of the survival strategy which is being coordinated by the Humanitarian Coordinator. In the last few years collaboration between the two agencies has significantly been enhanced in emergency preparedness and response (EPR) plans and through reiterated commitments for the continued collaboration in logistics as stipulated under the Global Memorandum of Understanding (MoU July 2005). WFP and UNICEF have agreed to work in collaboration in the flood affected provinces of the country. This collaboration is done in tandem with the emergency appeal coordinated by the Humanitarian Coordinator.

Both agencies are also members of the joint survival strategy (Clusters: Health, Nutrition, WASH and Food) that emerged as a result of a need to develop a more integrated and effective response in the flood affected areas. The strategy focuses on the essential and life-saving activities from each of the clusters and the coordination between them. WFP have agreed to work in collaboration in flood affected areas to implement Community-based management of acute

malnutrition (CMAM) in commonly identified districts in Sindh, Punjab, Balochistan and KPK Provinces.

2. Scope

This country level MOU provides the framework for UNICEF and WFP cooperation in the implementation of joint and complementary targeted supplementary feeding in selected geographic areas.

UNICEF and WFP will work in close collaboration with the National and Provincial Ministries of National and Provincial Ministries of Health, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA), as well as other partners at the national and sub-national levels in implementing the CMAM activities.

3. The purpose of the MOU:

This agreement establishes and defines the co-operation between UNICEF and WFP in the implementation of the community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) in the flood affected districts; as well as the flood-affected nutrition surveys (FANS) and flood recovery assessment (FRA) that will take place in the flood-affected areas. The parties will be conducting targeted supplementary and therapeutic feeding using funds provided by WFP and UNICEF. This agreement shall define: (a) the modalities for the CMAM initiative; (b) the modalities for the flood-affected nutrition surveys (FANS) and flood recovery assessment (FRA); (c) the respective obligations of the parties; (d) the payment and logistics obligations of WFP and UNICEF; (e) such other analogous conditions for the execution of this agreement.

The aim of this agreement is to improve the nutritional status of the most vulnerable group of children between 6 to 59 months of age and pregnant and lactating women through the provision of appropriate ready to use foods and fortified blended foods.

4. The target population:

The health and nutrition interventions supported by UNICEF and WFP will aim to provide access to the CMAM initiative services in the flood affected districts. The target groups for the support will be children under five and pregnant and lactating women (PLW). The estimated number of beneficiaries, which only include acutely malnourished children and pregnant and lactating women in the selected flood-affected districts is 180,000 moderately malnourished children, 75,600 severely malnourished children and 50,400 pregnant and lactating women.

The support to the PLW and the children under five will be provided at the community level through the primary health care system, Lady Health Workers network and various NGO's.

5. Support provided through the CMAM initiative:

Children with moderate acute malnutrition will be referred to supplementary feeding centres (SFP) and children with severe acute malnutrition through out-patient therapeutic programme (OTP). Children with medical complications and/or bilateral oedema will be referred to stabilization centres or therapeutic feeding centres attached to District Hospital for treatment.

Through active, routine screening of communities, malnourished children and pregnant and lactating women will be identified by MUAC cut-offs. Mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) will be used as an admission criterion (MUAC < 11.5 cm OTP, MUAC 11.6-12.4 cm SFP). Children who reach the discharge criteria will exit the SFP (MUAC > 12.5 or 3 months on the programme) while pregnant and lactating women will until delivery and for first six months of lactation. Children admitted to the OTP based on MUAC will be discharged after two months. The moderately malnourished children between 6 to 59 months will be provided with Supplementary Plumpy (2.76 kg/month) or fortified blended foods and severely malnourished children without complications will be receiving Plumpy Nuts (RUTF) according to their weight and F75 for inpatient care. Pregnant and lactating women will be provided with fortified blended food/WSB (5 kg/month) and vegetable oil (2.25 kg/month). The standard CMAM medical services will be provided to children and women in addition to health, nutrition and hygiene education and promotion of infant and young child feeding practices.

In the initial phase of the emergency response both agencies agree there will be some flexibility in the delivery of the CMAM program in order to achieve rapid scale-up and coverage of the life-saving activities. For instance, simple reporting will be established at the beginning of the program. Formal, detailed reporting will be established by the second month of operation. This will not affect the quality of services provided by the implementing partners.

Responsibilities of Agencies:

UNICEF and WFP will coordinate the selection of implementing partners; provision of training on the protocol and facilitate monitoring in the field.

The CMAM initiative will be conducted in accordance with a standard targeting methodology and using standardized messages (IEC materials) and standard monitoring of common and individual implementing partners.

All responsibilities are subject to the availability of funding.

WFP shall:

- In the identified provinces/districts WFP will provide Supplementary Plumpy and/or FBF required for the SFP for children under five and pregnant and lactating women in the flood affected districts. Quantities have been estimated based on the expected caseloads.
- Provide support and training to implementing partners on targeted supplementary feeding program activities as necessary
- Closely monitor the quality, quantity and distribution of the SFP commodities and the implementation of the programme. Conduct specific post-distribution monitoring related to Supplementary Plumpy
- Provide a general ration to caretakers of malnourished children who are being treated in inpatient facilities

UNICEF shall:

- Set up the CMAM initiative in all the targeted flood affected districts and be responsible for screening, identifying and referral of malnourished children and women.

- Provide technical support, training and required materials for screening and commodities for severely malnourished children (therapeutic foods, medicines, MUAC tapes, weighing scales, micronutrients supplements, de-worming tablets).
- Closely monitor the quality of CMAM activities of the different partners and in the different provinces.

6. Reporting:

UNICEF shall:

- Provide lists of children referred to treatment for moderate malnutrition and share information on the status and number of children assisted under the OTP.
- Provide estimates of the number of beneficiaries and monthly food requirements as necessary.
- Share information on CMAM program performance
- Share initiatives planned for external dissemination of program results

WFP shall:

- Share information on commodities distributed by month and beneficiary numbers.
- Share information on targeted supplementary feeding performance indicators
- Share plans for external dissemination of CMAM program results

7. Collaboration to Conduct the Flood-affected Nutrition Surveys (FANS) and Flood Recovery Assessment (FRA)

UNICEF and WFP will coordinate to conduct parallel assessments on nutritional status of children 6-59 months and food security in the flood-affected areas.

Responsibilities of Agencies:

WFP shall:

- Collaborate with UNICEF, CDC and ACF-CA by sharing the VAM population lists that were used in the previous VAM assessments.
- Jointly define the sampling universe and stratification in which to collect data for the FRA
- Draft the food consumption module that will be included in the FANS
- Develop the data entry mask component for the food consumption module for FANS
- Receive the initial raw data from the FANS to include and perform cleaning and preliminary analysis on the FANS food consumption data
- Perform additional regression and correlational analysis between the FANS data and FRA data (i.e. nutritional status and household level food security, morbidity, sanitation and hygiene data and food consumption).

UNICEF shall:

- Collaborate with WFP, CDC and ACF-CA by jointly define the sampling universe and stratification in which to collect data for the FANS
- Review food security questions that will be included in the FRA

- Provide the initial raw data from the FANS to include and perform cleaning and preliminary analysis on the FANS food consumption data
- Collaborate to perform additional regression and correlational analysis between the FANS data and FRA data (i.e. nutritional status and household level food security, morbidity, sanitation and hygiene data and food consumption).

8. Logistics:

UNICEF and WFP will request logistics support from the logistics cluster and other partners working in the affected provinces. Also WFP will coordinate with UNHAS to have helicopter and flight support if/when necessary.

9. Coordination:

UNICEF and WFP will make sure that their respective staff and staff of NGOs, MOA, MOH, NDMA and other partners participate in the programme implementation and that regular exchanges of information on the progress of the implementation is maintained with major stakeholders through the coordination structure.

10. Public Information and Advocacy:

UNICEF and WFP will each acknowledge the role of the other to both the media and the general public in order to ensure the common goal of donor and host Government support. Both agencies will ensure any reporting and/or media reports are released in accordance and agreements with the findings and that a common approach is used to informing the government of Pakistan, donors and other stakeholders. At the field level there should be adequate visibility and acknowledgment of each agency.

11. Commencement, Duration and Termination of Agreement:

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) shall commence on the 27 September 2010 and remain in force until 31 July 2011. Both Parties may amend the MoU only through mutual written consent. The Agreement may be terminated, by either Party, thirty (30) days after the date of receipt of a written notice of termination.

For UN WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

For UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN FUND

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Title: WFP Representative

Title: UNICEF Deputy Representative

Signature: 

Signature: 

Date: 12/10/10

Date: 18/10/10