**2.2 Inter-cluster Coordination**

**Day 2:  0945 – 1015 (30 minutes)**

**Session Purpose:**

This session outlines the critical link between nutrition cluster/sector work and other clusters/sectors. It also provides an overview of cross-cutting issues and how they link to inter-cluster possibilities.

**Learning Objectives:**

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

* Explain the role of the NCC and cluster partners in the formulation of an effective inter-cluster coordinated response
* Identify ways to proactively engage with and involve other clusters in operational work
* List the seven cross-cutting issues and link them to inter-cluster coordination possibilities.

**Outline of the session:**

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| **Topic** | **Time** | **Guidance note for facilitator** |
| Importance of cluster coordination | 5’ | Plenary discussion on the importance of inter-cluster coordination |
| Group Work: Inter-cluster Coordination | 15’ | Group work to discuss importance of inter-cluster coordination and suggested resources for improving inter-cluster communication |
| Cross-cutting Themes | 10’ | List the themes, linking them with the concept of inter-cluster coordination. |

**Session materials:**

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| **General** | | **HO=Handouts (1 per person) and**  **R =Resources (copy per instructions)** | **Electronic References** |
| * PowerPoint presentation * Flipcharts * Markers | * 2.2 HO Inter-cluster coordination * 2.2 HO Example 4 Clusters integration | | * Intercluster Matrix for Typhoon Pablo * 2007 Mainstreaming Environment into Hum.Resp * 2008 Cluster Guidance on Early Recovery * 2010 IASC HIV Guidelines * 2010-11 Early Recovery Inter-Cluster Action Plan * IASC 2011 Cluster Guidance in Gender Marker * 2011 Sphere Handbook English 2011 * Cross\_Cluster Matrix * 2013 IASC Centrality of Protection * 2015 Early Response Preparedness * 2015 HPC * 2017\_ACF\_WASH\_Nutrition\_Guidebook * 2018 Guidance on Protections Risks As.An for HRP * Inter-Cluster Matrices Health Nutrition * Operational guidance IFRR Yemen |

**Facilitator notes**:

**Inter-cluster Coordination (5 minutes)**

Open the session with a plenary discussion on the importance of inter-cluster coordination.

Introduce the Conceptual Framework for Malnutrition as an example of the importance of inter-sectoral response and how different sectors contribute to nutrition as an outcome. Some answers might include: WASH (management of sanitation at cholera treatment centres, hygiene promotion in the community and clean water supply (preparedness and response phases). Health responsibilities might include medication, laboratory testing, contact tracing and case management.

**Group Work: Inter-cluster Coordination (15 minutes)**

Show the slide with Group Work Questions. Have participants discuss the questions in groups for 10 minutes, before discussing their responses in plenary.

1. Why is inter-cluster coordination important to the sub-national cluster/sector?
2. What are some examples of how nutrition cluster/sector can better work with other clusters/sectors?

* WASH and Nutrition
* Health and Nutrition
* Food Security and Nutrition
* Protection and Nutrition

Show the slide on the Operational Guidance on Yemen IFRR programming as a useful example of defining links between nutrition, health, Food Security, WASH and protection.

Highlight the importance of AAP in inter-cluster coordination as a means to:

* To develop integrated approaches to programming based on affected people’s needs and priorities
* Also a forum to ensure a coordinated approach to communicating with affected people and acting on their feedback
* Helps to ensure protection and cross-cutting issues are regularly considered

**Cross-cutting issues (10 minutes)**

This part of the session describes the integration of cross-cutting issues in all components of the HPC, how this can be done in practice and the role of the NCC. The presentation highlights the importance of preparedness and early recovery, and how these issues can be articulated in the inter-cluster coordination mechanism.

It is important here to stress cross-cutting issues are not "optional" - many aid providers claim that the urgency of a response doesn't leave time to consider these issues. The facilitator needs to underline that people-centred approaches **require** us to consider these issues in order to ensure that we are generating results that meet people's needs and priorities holistically. It is also important to stress the inter-connectedness of these issues, such as gender and protection, and using AAP and the CHS as an umbrella helps us to keep this in mind when designing and implementing response. Use slide to review good practice tips.

Distribute handout: 2.2 HO Inter-Cluster Coordination.

**Questions and Answers (5 minutes)**

**Key Messages:**

Other clusters’ activities can operationally interlink with the work of the NC, particularly WASH, Food Security and Health – look for integration!

* Protection and cross-cutting issues, such as gender, age, disability, HIV/AIDS and Early Recovery should be looked at in every cluster
* Use inter-cluster mechanisms as an opportunity to regularly discuss how to engage with and respond to feedback from affected people