Nutrition Cluster Information Management Training

Terminology Exercise Definitions

**Caseloads:** The Humanitarian Profile (sub-dataset of the Common Operational Dataset - CODs) provides a broad structure for categorising caseloads. Below categorisation provides more detailed guidance:

* **Affected people** include all those whose lives have been affected in some way by the crisis. Not all affected people are in need of humanitarian assistance. This figure is often the first available after a sudden onset emergency but says little about the number of people in need for humanitarian aid.
* **People in need** include those affected people who require humanitarian assistance in some form. People in need represent a sub-group of affected people and may differ from sector to sector. The ‘need’ perspective also includes the diversified need from different groups of people, women and men, based on their age and sex, physical and mental ability and identity, social-economic background, risks of violence and vulnerabilities etc. Establishing this figure across sectors often requires a method and collaborative analytical process (see cross-sectoral figures for more detail).

**“in need” = caseload**

* **People targeted** include all people the cluster system is trying to assist. This will likely be a sub-group of people in need, as there are many actors providing assistance that do not participate in the cluster system (affected communities, national authorities, Red Cross/Red Crescent movement, and NGOs). The targeted people can be prioritized within the affected population and the vulnerable groups e.g. pregnant and lactating mothers, children and infants based on their nutritional and live-saving requirements.
* **People reached\*** include those who have received some form of assistance from a cluster member. This figure says nothing about how long and how well this assistance covers the needs of the beneficiary. A more meaningful picture provides the estimate of people covered (pls. see below).
* **People covered\*** indicates the number of people whose needs, defined by a humanitarian standard such as Sphere, have been met. E.g. there is a significant difference between the two statements: 1,000 people received water (people reached), or 1,000 people received enough water to cover their needs (15 litres per day) for the next two weeks.

\*The definitions are as suggested by GNC, but it should be recognised that they are not globally agreed and may be used inconsistently between organisations and contexts.