Data Sharing for HDP Coherence: Practical Case Studies

April 3, 2024

Questions from the Q&A

1. Dashboards are great - but their weakness is ensuring regular use. Can you share more about how you implemented those data "deep dives" in the field to support effective data use (question for Cara or others to answer)?	Panelists' responses
CAT: organization of in-person debriefing sessions that are usually divided into three parts: presentation of the key findings, Q&A section to clarify or deep dive in preferred topics, and development of action points for at least part of the key information provided.	Karolina Sklebena, Mercy Corps - DRC
MIRA and other HDP data sources built into quarterly and annual reviews as part of RFSA CLA planning; also data were shared to IPC representatives through CRS's participation in the Southern Food Security Cluster in Madagascar to contextualize and triangulate data on MIRA and projects IPC were making. At a field level, specific data were discussed especially results of GMP monitoring to assess MAM and SAM rates in the fokontany or our GMP sites that were reviewed by field staff.	Cara Raboanarielina, CRS - Madagascar

2. For me, being able to share data is not just about immediate response and coordination, but it is also possible about early warning or prevention. Is there anything working in this direction?	Panelists' responses
Data from early warning information systems (EWS)/and from modern scientific data is combined with indigenous knowledge by SPIR II so that it could be downscaled with actionable climate advisories tailored to specific locations. That increased the awareness of the community, adoption of risk-reducing practices, and livelihood diversification among farmers to cope with the risks or reduce risk.	Retta Gudisa, World Vision - Ethiopia
We aim at our tool to be progressively the basis of discussion for the scenario forecasting of the various crises in DRC. This is something we have done internally (for Mercy Corps Country Strategy) and we are looking at engagement with other analytical partners to complement our data with those focusing on humanitarian needs and response.	Karolina Sklebena, Mercy Corps - DRC
CRS has started working with the START network to share our approaches to Anticipatory Action as part of our initiatives in the HDP nexus data sharing and learning. CRS as an agency is working on develop specific anticipatory action frameworks for high conflict areas and we have categorized countries based on urgent need and those in crisis and others where food security is a high concern such as southern Madagascar. Through our learning with the START network we seek to expand this to other countries and regions within Madagascar. For more information on CRS Madagascar's work with START, please contact our Emergency Coordinator for CRS Madagascar, Lamine Diallo: lamine.diallo@crs.org.	Cara Raboanarielina, CRS - Madagascar

3. Question to Madagascar: Any good practice that can be shared related to turning data products tailored to community's needs including process or framework used for influencing end users to use the products?	Panelists' responses
As part of CRS Madagascar and Maharo RFSA we used several PRA and visioning tools within our Community Visioning Framework that helped community members assess their resilience capacities and vulnerabilities that feeds into community visioning and action planning. These learnings were shared out during another IDEAL webinar last September as part of the QualME platform. The Final Report and Program Guide will be published very soon.	Cara Raboanarielina, CRS - Madagascar

4. For all presenters: what were the major challenges you came across and how did you overcome them?	Panelists' responses
Technology, especially internet connections in the conflict affected areas, data protection policy, timelines of data sharing. To overcome the challenges the following approach was followed: Use of remote data collection like phone calls/sending the data using flash disks, de-identifications of beneficiary data and aligning with broader and common data protections, and receiving reminder emails from stakeholders in advance to compile the data/preparation of the data to be shared.	Retta Gudisa, World Vision - Ethiopia
There were two: (1) Focus on primary data collection as main source of information and very low appetite to use secondary data sources (for various reasons), (2) delays in availability of secondary data. First, we made an executive decision to make this tool free from primary data collection arguing that based on available information (including for example MC and ACAPS led Analysis of the Analytical Ecosystem in DRC) - there is enough data available but those need to be properly identified, treated and archived. Second, we developed internal indicators on data completion and so in case of extended absence of certain data, we have an option to "switch off" the said indicator and we address this issue under "Limitations" of the current score.	Karolina Sklebena, Mercy Corps - DRC

5. For the MIRA tool, are households self-reporting each month or being approached by enumerators? I'm curious about the time required for households to complete the monthly survey. Can you speak to the cost-benefit analysis of this frequent monitoring?	Panelists' responses
CRS began using the MIRA approach to monitoring resilience in Malawi in 2016 and expanded to Madagascar and other countries in SSA in 2018. As part of the approach, CRS hires community enumerators who are from the commune, know the context, speak the local language, and have a strong rapport/connection to communities. The sampling frame follows a sentinel site approach were a group of HHs in the same sampled sites/locations are selected and monitored each month. The same HHs are interviewed each month; attrition rates are quite low. Each survey takes approximately 10 min; please see our brief about MIRA.	Cara Raboanarielina, CRS - Madagascar

6. What are some best practices you can share with using these data sharing tools for continuous adaptive management within programming?	Panelists' responses
The data sharing tools/practices with stakeholders helped the team to revise/update their messages to farmers to use climate information for making decisions that ensure engagement in risk reduction activities or practices in its agricultural activities which are less risky. It also helped the program team to use market information data for determining transfer ratio, where to make more months of food transfer and also how to address the market constraints.	Retta Gudisa, World Vision - Ethiopia
In-person oral briefings and discussions are the key for teams to really integrate the information. It increases their appetite and understanding of what the data has to offer.	Karolina Sklebena, Mercy Corps - DRC
I agree with the others—continuous and frequent discussions with technical/programmatic staff and stakeholders that are done on a quarterly basis, data discussions are broken down by theme and it's very hands on. For field staff very specific data that relate to their daily work (SAM/MAM rates in their commune where they are a Supevisor to Community Health workers. It's also better to use data visualization like what Karolina presented, we use PowerBi or MIRA so the data are not too complex and can be interpreted easily.	Cara Raboanarielina, CRS - Madagascar

7. How is the use of data achieved in a practical sense? For example, is the collection of data (which is intended to be shared with other organizations) accompanied by a standard or transparent methodology (sampling, specific data collection tools, question wording and response options) for a group of organizations to ensure continuity. Is there an example of such a recommended standard?"	Panelists' responses
Data needs of key stakeholders, the program/organization, where and when as well as prioritization is very important (not all data can be captured for all at all times and hence selection/prioritization of indicators/variables and frequency of data collection and sharing are key things to consider).	Retta Gudisa, World Vision - Ethiopia
Yes, we have a transparent methodology, and an annex with all indicators and indicator data sources.	Karolina Sklebena, Mercy Corps - DRC
Yes, we also share out data collection protocols, sampling frame, including key indicators and frequency of data collection. You can visit MIRA data dashboard plus see the link to the brief above	Cara Raboanarielina, CRS - Madagascar

8. How do you ensure the data shared is utilized?	Panelists' responses
First, we don't ask for data that will not be used. It starts from data needs. Then continuity of demand for data sharing. Stakeholders alert and ask for data to be shared regularly and frequently for use in their programming, course corrections, adaptive management, and donor reporting/accountability.	Retta Gudisa, World Vision - Ethiopia
We directly link data use to learning agenda/plan/CLA learning needs. What information and data/evidence do technical leads, program management need continuously to make decisions and during what timing? Again, data should be relevant to end-users who are making those decisions and we keep that in check by make it explicit in the CLA and MEAL plan of the program and in that identifying the timing of when those data will be used/interpreted and who is leading that component. It also supports collaborative accountability by all in our programming teams.	Cara Raboanarielina, CRS - Madagascar

9. While doing monthly monitoring in Madagascar/DRC, do you use face to face meeting, remote data monitoring? How to avoid beneficiary fatigue?	Panelists' responses
We shifted completely to secondary data. We are actively identifying and engaging with other partners who do direct data collection (REACH, INSO, OCHA, protection cluster, etc.) to re-use their data. We also employ new technologies and new ways to collect data (e.g., radio monitoring, staff perception surveys, remote sensing, etc.) that do not involve another round of direct data collection from beneficiaries.	Karolina Sklebena, Mercy Corps - DRC
We have used face to face meetings, as the remote data monitoring is limited to cell/telecommunications coverage in Southern Madagascar. Interviews are face to face, then collected/uploaded and synchronized to the Cloud to push to our data dashboards through PowerBi for live data use and interpretation. As discussed earlier, our tools are very short with MIRA and it takes only 10 min for the continuous monitoring.	Cara Raboanarielina, CRS - Madagascar

10. With all the data being shared across multiple coordinations, can you speak a bit more on data protection and security of beneficiaries' identification?	Panelists' responses
General early warning and market monitoring data with dashboards and JEOP's monthly Early Warning Report is shared for multiple coordination. Specific and detailed data sets for further analysis and use by the stakeholder will be shared based on request. Now data will be shared without being de-identified and the data protection policy of the donor and the organization is respected.	Retta Gudisa, World Vision - Ethiopia
We do not use any sensitive data, only publicly available information. We do have data sharing agreements with most of the organizations providing us with data, even if their data is public.	Karolina Sklebena, Mercy Corps - DRC

11. Did the teams use the Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index as a tool to measure the progress?	Panelists' responses
It is the UNDP or World Bank that collects this data and produces reports. DFSAs/RFSAs or JEOP programs use the data in this report in their RFP or for program design, TOC narratives/assumptions, and as secondary sources to refer to for poverty and food insecurity related assessments, evaluations, and impact evaluations	Retta Gudisa, World Vision - Ethiopia