



Committee of Emergency Situations & Civil Defense, ECHO and UNDP Tajikistan
Project "Strengthened Disaster Risk Management in Tajikistan"

Minutes of the Regular REACT Meeting

3 November, UN Conference Hall

Chair: Mr. Sulton Kholiknazarov, Deputy Chief of Staff, Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (CoES)

Participants: REACT partners (Annex VII- attached)

1. Introduction:

The meeting was opened by Mr. Kholiknazarov, who welcomed all the participants and briefed the participants on agenda of the meeting.

2. Central Asian Center for Disaster Response and Risk Reduction:

3. Steering Committee updates:

- a. Update of Inter-Agency Contingency Plan;
- b. Evaluation of REACT's humanitarian action in response to spring disasters of 2009 and 2010.

4. Regional Disaster Response Simulation Exercise for Zeravshan Valley, 26 October 2010 in Shing, Penjikent District;

5. News from partners:

- a. "Disaster Risk Reduction Overview" Course, 20-21 October, Dushanbe (UNDP).

6. Disaster Updates:

- Floods and mudflows in Aini

Mr. Hoji Muzayanov from the deputy Head of CoES in Sughd, the chairman of REACT in Sughd and Zeravshan valley, briefed the participants about floods occurred on August 23rd in Ayni district, which lead to death of 1 person and 2 people were injured. He mentioned that due to the floods 20 houses were fully destroyed, 30 houses were damaged and it also affected the roads, bridges, drinking water pipelines, irrigation lines etc. Overall the following 4 villages of the Ayni district, were mostly damaged: Sangiston, Zoosun, Putkhin and Tomin villages. In terms of the assistance provided Mr. Muzayanov mentioned that Hukumat of Penjikent district provided the affected households with the food items; CoES Dushanbe provided 22 affected families with the tents; RCST Ayni and GTZ assisted with kitchen sets, hygiene kits etc. GAA is ready to support the construction of houses for all disaster affected families, to be relocated to Zafarabad district (more details are available in **Annex I**).

Mr. Jamshed Kamolov from CoES added that an official request to Government has been provided to support the affected families with the food items and construction materials for reconstruction.

Also there was one suggestion from USAID that assistance from US government (tents) that was provided to Kulyab floods. Further on, once the recovery is over the tents should be gathered and distributed to other affected area when necessary.

- Floods in GBAO

Mr. Malik Ajani from FOCUS informed the participants that more than 30 small-scale disasters have occurred in GBAO during the month of August: 28 homes have been destroyed; approximately 200 homes partially damaged; 27 bridges destroyed; 8 km of water irrigation channels destroyed; 4 km of roads were destroyed and 185 ha of land flooded. The most affected areas are, Rushan (Bartang Valley), Murgab, Vanj and Roshtqala Districts. At the present

time the government and non-government organizations are working to re-open the road in Bartang. World Food Program and the government are providing food aid to the communities in upper Bartang Valley through a Government of Tajikistan helicopter mission. Focus Humanitarian Assistance has assisted affected communities in the districts of Vanj, Roshtqala, Murgab and Ishkashim with non-food and shelter assistance. At the end of the presentation Mr. Ajani highlighted that there are 2 priority needs:

- Government and non-government agencies require assistance in building back better the destroyed bridges and roads. Therefore needs include construction material / fuel for heavy machinery.
- Should the road not reopen by the middle of autumn, then there is a serious risk for a food security crisis in the upper Bartang Valley.

For more detailed information please refer to **Annex II**.

After the presentation there was a question from Ms. Marydean Purves from Mission East that mentioned that almost of the disaster affected areas have road problems. So what is the level of Ministry of Transportation involvement in the response operations? Should we invite them to REACT for this purpose?

Mr. Kamolov from COES respond that the Government of Tajikistan already tasked the Ministry of Transport to focus on restoration of roads and bridges in all the disaster affected areas, including Bartang and Ayni.

- Floods in Rasht

Ms. Jenice Setser, from Mercy Corps informed the participants about flood in Rasht. The most affected areas are Garm town and Jamoats of Hijborak (hail – 3 villages), Tagoba (2 houses – 1 village); Nusratullo Maksum (4 villages) and Navdi (4 villages). Households

- Water Supply
- Crop land (& land contiguous to HH)
- Roads / bridges
- Electric lines
- River bed (mud flow channels)

Annex I: Floods and mudflows in Aini

Mudflows in Ayni district on 23 August 2010



Sangiston, Zoosun, Putkhin and Tomin villages

Сели в Айнинском районе 23 августа 2010



Села Сангистон, Зоосун, Томин и Путхин

Annex II: Floods in GBAO

Disasters in GBAO, Tajikistan in August 2010

- More than 30 small-scale disasters have occurred in GBAO, Tajikistan during the month of August.
- 28 homes have been destroyed. Approximately 200 homes partially damaged.
- 27 bridges destroyed.
- 8 km of water irrigation channels destroyed.
- 4 km of roads destroyed.
- 185 ha of land flooded.



Home damaged and houses due to flooding in GBAO

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Стихийные бедствия в ГБАО, Таджикистан, Август 2010 год

- Более 30 небольших стихийных бедствий произошли в ГБАО, Таджикистан в августе месяца.
- 28 домов были разрушены. Около 200 домов частично повреждены.
- разрушены 27 км водосливных каналов.
- разрушены 4 км дорог.
- 185 га земли затоплено.



Водоосливные каналы и дома повреждены в ГБАО

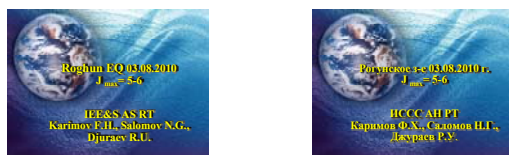
REACT

Annex III: Floods in Rasht

Rasht Flood 23rd August, 2010

- Areas affected:
 - Garm town.
 - Jamoats:
 - Hijborak (hail – 3 villages)
 - Tagoba (2 houses – 1 village)
 - Nusratullo Maksum (4 villages)
 - Navdi (4 villages)

Annex IV: Earthquake in Tajikistan, August 3, 2010



Annex V: *Update on Risk Monitoring Warning System*



Annex VI: *MOI Strategy and Capacity to Respond to Natural Disasters and Critical Incidents*



Annex VII: *List of participants, REACT Meeting, September 1, 2010*

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Situation update in East Khatlon

Mr. Mukhtor Hasanov from UNDP DRMP, provided a brief overview on the status of the recovery process currently on-going in different districts of Eastern Khatlon, including Kulyab town, following the series of floods and mudflows occurred in early May 2010. He highlighted that three months afterwards the disasters response operations are fully shifted towards the recovery and many NGO's active in the disaster affected areas are now returning to regular programs. One of the major achievements during the month of July was an official hand-over of 10 newly built and furnished houses to disaster affected families in Kulyab city. Currently around 60 % of the construction works in Kulyab city have been completed according to data provided by CoES. In surrounding disaster affected districts over 47% of the construction works have been completed. Different activities in the sectors of water and sanitation, education and food security in Kulyab city and surrounding disaster affected districts are on-going. For more details please refer to **Annex I**.

Mr. Andy Baker from OXFAM, mentioned that mobilization campaign for the cleaning of the Tebalay river anticipates the cleaning of the downstream of the river located within the territory of Kulyab city. OXFAM engineers in consultation with local authorities and State Commission on Emergency Situations, have conducted the assessment of the Tebalay and reported the results to Mr. Alimardonov. The results of the assessment indicate that Tebalay river should be cleaned from upper stream, which is located in Shurobod district. The estimations indicate that this exercise will require around 250 000 USD. Therefore, using the opportunity, Mr. Baker appealed to donor agency to support this exercise, to ensure efficient mitigation of the future floods on Tebalay river.

Ms. Marydean Purves from Mission East highlighted the active role of Government and its efficiency in response operations in Kulyab city. This should be considered as significant progress in state response systems. However, there are still pending issues with recovery in Khuroson district, which was hit by mudflow back in 2009. Currently there is still no water supply in the new settlement Oftobak in Khuroson district, number of families unable to receive ownership over the newly built houses and etc. There is a need to evaluate the recovery programs in both locations Khuroson and Kulyab city, to enable the comparison of two operations and identify Lessons Learned from gained experience. The most efficient approaches should be considered as standard operations to be replicated in future. Ms. Purves suggested that Shelter Cluster would take the lead in identifying the solution for the issue of ownership over the newly built houses. There is a need to conduct a research, to identify the roots of the problems, responsible parties and possible solutions of the issue.

Mr. Alisho Shomahmadov noted that proposal will be passed to representatives of Shelter Cluster with the request to lead the process. He added that representatives of CoES will also support the Shelter Cluster representatives in the given exercise.

7. National Report on implementation of Hyogo Framework for Action – REACT partners inputs:

Mr. Andurahim Muhidov from UN ISDR informed the participants that Tajikistan is a signatory of Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) since 2005. Being a signatory of the HFA, Tajikistan should submit annual report on implementation of HFA in Tajikistan. Tajikistan has submitted its first report in 2009, which contained comprehensive, qualitative and comparative information and currently available on UNISDR website for public use. It is planned that next Global Platform will be held in May 2011 in Geneva, Switzerland, where the Global Report on implementation of HFA will be presented. To ensure that individual country is properly represented in the report, a lot of efforts in providing of comprehensive information in a detailed way is required from country. Colonel Shomahmadov, currently chairing the meeting, is a National HFA Focal Point in Tajikistan. Colonel Shomahmadov is responsible for compilation of the report and its further submission for posting on the website. Further on, details of development and compilation process of the reports and timeframes were presented by Mr. Muhidov. For more details, please refer to **Annex II**.

Ms. Purves from Mission East mentioned that given report is mainly focused on state institutions and on high level achievements. While Global Network of NGOs for Disaster Risk Reduction in parallel to the Global Report prepared by HFA, will conduct a survey, which will focus on "grass-root" level. Similar survey was conducted in 2008-2009 and results presented at last Global Platform in 2009. Mission East was involved coordinated mentioned survey in Tajikistan. Mission East has programmed funding within its DIPECHO VI project for the similar survey in 2010. The results of the survey can contribute to the presented report.

Mr. Alisho Shomahmadov added that collection of information from state institutions has already started. However, to ensure that report is comprehensive and covers all the necessary information, we would like the to request Cluster Coordinators and every individual agency to contribute their share to the report. There are two forms, which allow facilitation of information collection process: 1) Guidance Note and 2) reporting template, which needs to be filled in. The forms can be shared with all partners, through REACT Secretariat. We would highly appreciate to receive your input latest by August 25, 2010.

8. REACT Steering Committee updates:

Mr. Andy Baker from OXFAM, member of REACT Steering Committee informed the participants that last meeting of REACT Steering Committee was held on August 3, 2010. Only three agenda points were discussed during the meeting:

- REACT Steering Committee Terms of Reference;
- 2010 spring disaster response evaluation: finalized ToR and next steps;
- Update of Cluster Terms of References;

Mr. Baker listed the outcomes of the meeting, as follows:

1) REACT Steering Committee Terms of Reference:

- Revised version (as of July 9, 2010) of ToR accepted/endorsed by REACT Steering Committee members;
- Disseminate among REACT members endorsed version of the ToR;
- If REACT partners have specific issues with the ToR they can approach the SC directly and the SC can later amend the ToR.

2) Evaluation of emergency and early recovery response to floods in East Khatlon:

- Revise Terms of Reference of the external evaluation, in line with comments provided by REACT SC members;
- Issue an official letter on behalf of REACT SC signed by UN RC and Chairman of CoES and approach donor organizations for funding;

3) Cluster Terms of References

- The update of Terms of References of WASH, Education and Shelter/NFI clusters is currently on-going.

Ms. Marydean Purves, being a member of REACT Steering Committee, added that given body within REACT has been established to consider the issues faced by different REACT members and REACT partnership as a whole. She mentioned, that issues raised earlier as ownership of newly built houses following the disasters, can be raised to REACT Steering Committee and on its turn the Steering Committee can take actions. Therefore, she emphasized that if any REACT partner faces the issues, they can raise those for consideration of Steering Committee.

9. Results of the first coordination meeting of DIPECHO VI implementing partners: Decisions, procedures:

Ms. Rano Numanova from ACTED informed participants that in response to suggestion of DG ECHO a first coordination meeting was held among DIPECHO programme grant-holder agencies. During the meeting, it was agreed that this forum should be considered as a Working Group, which will meet regularly and consider issues related to methodological and technical implementation of DIPECHO funded projects. She highlighted that mentioned issues cannot be raised during the regular REACT meetings, because of their irrelevancy. At this stage it is agreed that Working Group will meet on monthly basis and draft Terms of Reference for the group has been developed. It is expected that ToR of the Working Group will be finalized by end August and presented to all REACT partnership at next REACT meeting. Several discussion topics for next meetings of the Working Group have been already identified, such as DRR education programmes in schools, involvement of private sector in DRR initiatives and etc.

Mr. Alisho Shomahmadov suggested to include the representatives of CoES into the established Working Group.

Ms. Rano Numanova emphasized the technical nature of the group, however she replied that suggestion will be proposed to the members of the group, where decision will be taken.

10. Special REACT meeting: "DIPECHO VI projects presentations":

Ms. Shahlo Rahimova from REACT Secretariat informed the participants that selection process for DIPECHO programme implementers has been completed, implementing agencies identified and agreements signed. Therefore, it was agreed to call a special REACT meeting devoted to presentation of DIPECHO projects. Meeting will be held on

August 18, 2010, from 10.00 till 12.00 at UN Conference Hall and all interested partners, including state institutions are invited to participate at the meeting. For this purpose, in consultation with DG ECHO office a special template for Power Point Presentations has been developed and will be shared with all DIPECHO partners shortly.

11. News from partners

Mr. Farshed Karimov from Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Seismology briefed participants about the earthquake, which occurred on the territory of Tajikistan, on August 3, 2010 at 21: 26 of local time. Earthquake was 5.0 scale magnitude and the epicenter of the earthquake was close to Roghun area, 70 km south-east from Dushanbe. The intensity of the earthquake in different locations: Roghun = 4, Nurek = 3-4, Dushanbe = 3. In addition, Mr. Karimov presented some explanations and definitions about MMSK-64&86 12_No Intensity scale. For more details please refer to **Annex III**.

Mr. Mukhtor Hasanov from UNDP DRMP highlighted that difficulties have been faced by REACT Rapid Responce Team as well as Governmental authorities, during the damage assessment following the earthquake in Vanj district. Therefore, he suggested that IEES specialists train members of RRT and other interested partners on internationally accepted standards on classification of damages to the buildings.

Mr. Jamshed Kamolov from CoES added that CoES staff members face the same problem in assessing the damage, however not only during the assessment of damage caused by earthquake by other types of disaster such as floods and mudflows as well. He suggested that some unified criteria, standards should be developed in classification of infrastructural damage to the buildings.

Mr. Jamshed Kamolov reminded the participants about the State Programme on development of the field of emergencies and civil defense for 2009-2014, which was approved back in 2008 by Government of Tajikistan. In line with the given Programme several civil services such as: anti-hail services should be handed over under the supervision of the CoES. Specifically the issue of functionality of the anti-hail services has been raised several times by International Organization during the recent response operations in Kulyab city. Using the current opportunity, Mr. Jamshed Kamolov on behalf of CoES requested support of REACT partners on this matter.

Annex I: Power Point Presentation: "Situation update, East Khatlon floods"



Annex II: Power Point Presentation: "HFA report"



Annex III: Power Point Presentation: "EQ in TJK, August 3, 2010"



Annex IV: List of participants, REACT Meeting, August 4, 2010

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