

# REACT Bulletin

February 2015

A monthly summary of activities by REACT members in Tajikistan

## **SAVE THE CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO CoES IN ORDER TO SUPPORT POTENTIAL REFUGEE INFLUX FROM POST-ISAF AFGHANISTAN**

Save the Children International Tajikistan conducted a joint workshop with representatives of the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (CoES) on 9 and 10 January, 2015 to share information and experience on different approaches and standards for responding to emergencies. Representatives of CoES branches located in Shahrituz, Pyanj, Qumsangir, Jilikul, Farkhor, Hamadoni Districts, as well as head of Khatlon Province CoES attended the workshop.

The workshop objectives were to share and exchange best practices in emergency response, and learn about the relevant standards in place within the CoES and Save the Children on taking priority action measures within the first 48 hours of the start of an emergency.



This workshop was part of Save the Children Korea-funded project on

contingency situations for post-International Security Assistance Forces (ISAF) in Afghanistan.

The project also strengthens CoES capacities by providing non-food items (NFI) and tents to cover the needs of 800 potential refugee families from Afghanistan. The NFI and tents will be stored in the CoES compound in Kurgan Tyube city of Khatlon Province to ensure timely humanitarian assistance should it be required.

For more information about the project, please contact Mr. Rustam Nugmanov, Save the Children DIPECHO VIII Project Officer:

[rustam.nugmanov@savethechildren.org](mailto:rustam.nugmanov@savethechildren.org)

## **ASSISTANCE TO DISASTER AFFECTED IN SARICHASHMA JAMOAT, SHUROOBOD DISTRICT**

On 30 and 31 January, 2015 the UNDP Disaster Risk Management Programme provided assistance to the population of Sarichashma Jamoat, Shuroobod District, who suffered from heavy rainfall, landslides and flooding in April and May 2014.

Over two days, 114 households and 10 schools of Sarichachma Jamoat received tanks for drinking water storage, spades, shovels and stoves. Each household received a water tank, a stove, and two spades and shovels. The distribution was conducted together with Shuroobod District authorities, the Jamoat Chairman and Khatlon Province CoES staff.

The assistance was provided with the financial support of Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the UNDP Bureau for Policy and Programme Support.



Distribution of Non-Food Items in Shuroobod District, Khatlon Province, January 30-31, 2015

Recall that heavy rains, hailstorms, flash floods and landslides hit several districts of near Kulyab, in south east Khatlon Province, in the spring of 2014. The most affected districts included Hamadoni, Kulyab, Muminobod, Shuroobod and Vose. Severely affected areas included Sarichashma Jamoat (Shuroobod District), Tugarak Jamoat (Vose District) and Balkhobi Jamoat (Muminobod District). A reported 15 persons perished as a consequence of the floods and mudslides. Significant damages occurred to more than 450 household livelihoods, and local infrastructure, including health and education facilities and roads.

For more information, please contact Mr. Firdavs Faizulloev, UNDP DRMP Manager: [firdavs.faizulloev@undp.org](mailto:firdavs.faizulloev@undp.org)

### **COMMUNITY AWARENESS ON DISASTER PREPAREDNESS THROUGH SCHOOL AND PRE-SCHOOL INSTITUTIONS**

Oxfam Tajikistan is working with the Committee for Emergency Situations and Civil Defence to support communities in rural areas of Kulyab, Tajikistan's southern region, improve their preparedness in case of natural disasters. This is part of a project

funded by the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO) under the DIPECHO 8 programme.

Raising community awareness on disaster preparedness through school and pre-school institutions is one component of the project. This is being done through the Centre for Community Disaster Preparedness and Education (CCDPE), a structure supported by Oxfam and managed by the CoES in Kulyab. Members of the CCDPE are agencies that work in the education sector in Kulyab part of Khatlon Province.

A roundtable on CCDPE was held on 22 January 2015, bringing together 30 participants from governmental agencies. The themes of the meeting were awareness raising at education institutions, and how to better work with them on preparedness to disasters.

Participants discussed strategies for improvement at three levels:

- In pre-school institutions,
- In secondary school institutions, and
- In higher education institutions, universities and colleges.

The discussion identified challenges, and also possible solutions. For instance, participants raised the issue of a lack of visual aids and education materials on disaster preparedness, as well as the lack of specialists on the subject at universities and colleges.

Working groups of participants identified the following recommendations:

- Use mass media to spread information and conduct public campaigns in communities on good practices in case of natural disasters.
- Establish a mechanisms for close collaboration among the main public agencies in charge of helping and responding to cases of disasters, i.e. the CoES and the Fire Department.
- Conduct special events and exercises on disaster management in schools, universities and colleges,
- Help local authorities conduct simulation exercises on disaster response in their communities.



Group work during the Education and preparedness to disasters at universities and colleges meeting, Kulyab area, Khatlon Province, January 22, 2015

On the basis of these recommendations an Action Plan for disaster preparedness in the education sector will be designed and launched by the CCDPE and partners to improve the level of preparedness of children, pupils and students in the Kulyab part of Khatlon Province. For more information, please contact Mr. Zubaid Karimov, OXFAM DRR Project Officer: [zkarimov@oxfam.org.uk](mailto:zkarimov@oxfam.org.uk)

## REACT Bulletin

Please send short reports on project activities or events, up to 200 words, with a picture, to REACT Secretariat in Dushanbe [react.dushanbe@undp.org](mailto:react.dushanbe@undp.org) *Items should be submitted by the first working day of the month for the **Bulletin**, which is issued on the 7<sup>th</sup> working day of the month.*

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Questions and comments should be sent to [react.dushanbe@undp.org](mailto:react.dushanbe@undp.org).