



## Minutes of REACT Meeting

5 September 2012

### Crisis Management Center of the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense

**Chair:** Col -General Khairiddin Abdurahimov, Chairman of the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (CoES)

**Participants:** REACT partners (Annex IV - attached)

#### 1. Introduction:

The Chairman welcomed the participants commenting on participation of REACT meetings. He noted that number of participants of REACT meetings is decreasing. He also mentioned that he expects the meetings to be attended by senior management as they have the mandate to take important decisions. The Chairman added that he wants all the counterparts which are willing to present topics during REACT meetings, to present their topics to CoES at least 10 days in advance so he and his team should have sufficient time to review topics and be prepared for discussions. In terms of quality of presentations he emphasized that it is important to provide concrete facts and numbers.

#### 2. *Weather overview for June, July, August and forecast for September 2012*; Jamila Baidullaeva, Head of Hydro Meteorological Center of Tajikistan.

The presentation provided some comparative observation of the weather during June, July and August of this year with the general weather tendency in the country and it has been highlighted that no significant changes were observed. As for September the average monthly temperatures are expected to be 1-2° above the long term averages at the lower elevations and in the foothills and all the rumors regarding exceptionally cold weather in September and October must be ignored. Ms Baidullaeva also highlighted that main source of most such rumors are different internet sources and therefore if people want reliable information, the web site of Hydromet is providing constant updates of weather forecasts.

#### 3. **RCST Response to Humanitarian Needs in GBAO**, Umed Aminov, Coordinator of DRR and Climate Change.

The presenter informed the participants on RCST response in GBAO after a clash of government forces and opposition groups. Mr Aminov stated that the first meeting in connection to the mentioned events was organized by RCST and further coordination meetings with the participation of IFRC, ICRC, PNS, WFP, WHO, FOCUS, UNDP DRMP, UNICEF, UNOCHA, GIZ were held on 27th, 28th and 30th of July. The coordination meetings were followed by mobilization of 12 members of staff and 48 volunteers to render first aid, distribute non food items and to conduct needs assessment in 6 micro-regions of Khorugh town. Followed by the assessment 130 First aid kits were distributed to most affected families and 50 first aid kits for RCST volunteers, one medical kit for war wounded



(1,100 kg of dressing material and specialized drugs for 50 injured patients) and 522 bed-linens were transported from Dushanbe to Khorugh city branch and donated to the regional hospital of Badakshan. Additionally RCST received and is planning to revision of supplementary food parcels for 1,620 affected families (9,720 people) in Khorugh city, Provision of hygiene kits for 1,620 affected families (9,720 people) in Khorugh city.

The Chairman noted that he had reviewed the presentation in advance and there are many details which needs to be clarified such as how the assessment was conducted, what was the government response, who were the injured people, why are they injured and so on. He noted that upon review of the presentation he contacted CoES team of GBAO which was unable to provide him with any details regarding the response operations and that means there is again lack of coordination with CoES, which must be avoided in the future.

Shahlo Rahimova from DRMP also pointed out that whenever presentations are dealing with assessments, usually a brief introduction should be followed in connection to methodology of the assessment.

#### **4. Recovery activities following the earthquake in Rasht valley of May 13, 2012, Maruf Kandikov, REACT Secretariat.**

The presentation jointly prepared by REACT Secretariat, CoES and UNICEF, deals with response actions followed by an earthquake in Rasht valley on 13<sup>th</sup> of May 2012. The response operations were presented in two phases; preliminary response and long term response. Preliminary response included distribution of cash and food items by the government, RCST, IFRC and WHO in conjunction with the Ministry of Health. Second phase of the response from the government side consist of provision of land for construction, construction materials and relocation of around 150 families from Tavildara District to Kumsangir and Pyanj Districts. The presenter provided some details on how far this response was materialized providing details of number of households relocated, amount of construction materials, food and non-food items provided to the affected families. Contribution to the recovery process is made by UNDP Tajikistan as well which is allocating founding for rehabilitation of Tavildara Central Hospital. UNICEF also expressed willingness to get involved and conducted assessment of 12 schools in the affected area and is searching for donors to contribute to reconstruction of a school in Rasht district. At the end of the presentation it was emphasized that the situation with the schools still requires urgent intervention from the donor community.

The Chairman emphasized that even within CoES there is a weak coordination of exchange of information as full information in terms of recovery activities of Rasht valley earthquake are absent at the moment. No insurance policies are practiced in Tajikistan which makes it hard to find resources for recovery. He also suggested that the response policy from the government must be reviewed as nowhere in the world full compensation of losses is practiced without absence of insurance.

#### **5. Community Participatory Flood Management Project, Rano Mansurova, Country Director, ACTED.**



The presentation was summarizing the achievements of 3 year program implemented by ACTED in collaboration with CAREC, RCST, Camp Kuhiston and NGO Ghamkhori with the support of funding from Asian Development Bank and Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction. Ms Mansurova explained that Farkhor, Hamadoni, Shurobod and Panj district were selected by the project as target district and Village Development Planning Committees (VDPC) were established in 139 villages in the target districts. All the target communities underwent training such as Integrated Local Risk Management, Mitigation Through Soil and Water Conservation, First Aid and The Role of Women in Disaster Risk Reduction Management to enhance the capacity of the target population to respond to disasters. The current potential of the education system in the target districts was effectively used by the project which focused to spread DRM knowledge among teachers and through them to embrace the large number of students. Various educational programs including ecological camps were designed specifically for students to enhance their knowledge in terms of protection of the environment.

Among the outstanding achievements of the project Ms Mansurova highlighted the following:

- preparation and distribution of hazard exposure maps,
- distribution of 390 community emergency kits consisting of tents, stretchers, shovels, ropes, megaphone, torches etc. delivered to target communities
- development of 130 safe havens in target village selected among which 110 centers equipped with male and female toilets
- 395 emergency drills with the involvement of all relevant stakeholders (CoES) and communities conducted

The presenter then listed some challenges which were faced by the project. First of all she highlighted the absence / small percentage of the budget in district planning for mitigation projects which will undermine most of the achievements of the current project. She also highlighted some miscalculations at the planning stage of the project as the result of which the project was dealing with the outcome of the disasters in target groups without any capacity of uprooting the causes of disasters which were coming from non-target districts or villages. Finally she noted that the target districts are located on the border of Tajikistan with neighboring Afghanistan and most of the challenges require joint response by both countries, an initiative which is not practiced at all at the moment. Therefore in order to safeguard its population and territories Tajikistan must think of policies for joint collaboration with its neighbors in the sphere of DRR.

#### **6. Updates of food prices in Tajikistan, Saidamon Bodomaev, Program Officer, WFP**

The last presentation began with the introduction that WFP does weekly monitoring of food prices in Tajikistan and there are 25 food items, prices of which are updated on regular basis and the results of the analyses are shared among relevant stakeholders.

The presentation revealed that despite increase of some food prices due to Ramadan in general there is some stability in the food sector and despite prediction of rise of wheat prices such tendency is not observed yet, as Kazakhstan, as the main importer of wheat to Tajikistan still have large reserves from last year. Among primary reasons of rise of food prices the rise of fuel exported from Russia was highlighted which reached almost 67% during the last two years.

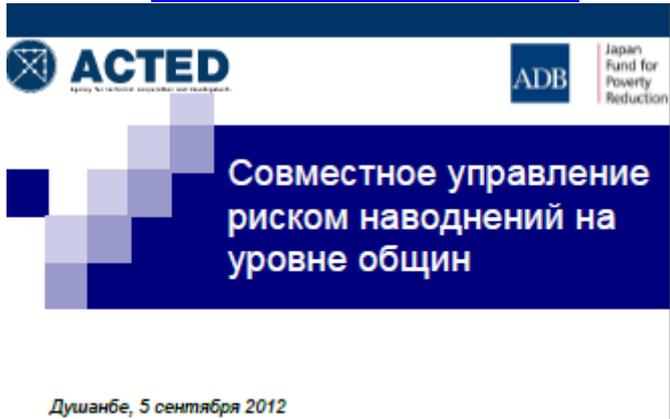
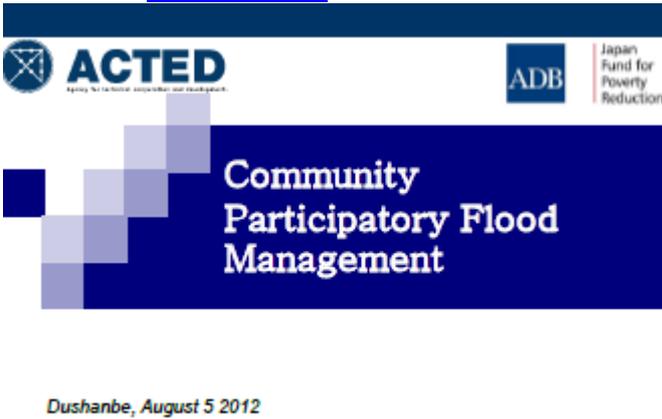
The Chairman made inquiries how these reports can contribute to prevention of rise of prices in the market and what is the primary objective of such reports. He referred as an example to the



prices of potato in the local markets where local produced potato is more expensive in comparison to the potato imported from Pakistan and no analyses are available why the Pakistani potato is cheaper despite of transportation and custom duty costs.

The meeting ended with the final remarks from the Chairman inviting all REACT members to take active part in REACT meetings and CoES will put maximum efforts to address their comments and recommendations.

**Annexes**

<p><b>I. <u>Совместное управление риском наводнений на уровне общин</u></b></p>  <p>Душанбе, 5 сентября 2012</p> <p>ACTED Tajikistan Presentation</p>	<p><b>II. <u>Community Participatory Flood Management</u></b></p>  <p>Dushanbe, August 5 2012</p> <p>ACTED Tajikistan Presentation</p>
<p><b>III. <u>Реагирование ОКПТ на гуманитарные нужды в ГБАО</u></b></p> 	<p><b>IV. <u>RCST Response to humanitarian needs in GBAO</u></b></p> 



V. Восстановительные работы после землетрясения в Раштской долине



Восстановительные работы после землетрясения в Раштской долине

Заседание РЕАКТ, 5 сентября, 2012

VI. Recovery Activities After Rasht Earthquake



Recovery Activities After Rasht Earthquake

REACT Meeting, September 5, 2012

VII. Обзор погоды за июнь, июль и август 2012 г.



ОБЗОР ПОГОДЫ ЗА ИЮНЬ, ИЮЛЬ И АВГУСТ 2012 Г.

Гидрометеорологический Центр  
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Республики Таджикистан

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Байдуллаева Джамила

Заседание РЕАКТ  
5 сентября 2012г.



WEATHER OVERVIEW FOR JUNE, JULY,  
AUGUST 2012  
and  
WEATHER FORECAST FOR SEPTEMBER 2012

Hydrometeorology Center of  
State Agency for Hydrometeorology of Tajikistan

Prepared by: Head of Hydrometeorology Center  
Jamila Baidullaeva

REACT Meeting  
September 5, 2012



## Price Update

REACT Meeting

WFP Tajikistan  
05 September 2012

### IX. Price Update, React Meeting



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