

Project Activity Summary Note

Aksu Flood Planning Workshop

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Introduction	1
Results.....	2
Flood Guide Planning Approach.....	2
Unified Flood Risk Assessment	2
Identification of Responsible Parties.....	2
Flood Management Methods	4
Conclusions	4
Annex A – Workshop Background.....	5
Annex B – Agenda	6
Annex C – Attendees	7
Annex D – Overall Presentation	7
Annex D - Hazard and Risk Assessment in the Aksu Watershed	7

Introduction

This report covers a workshop, co-managed by the Disaster Risk Management Programme (DRMP) and the Helvetas/ACTED/GIZ National Water Resources Management (NWRM) Project, on flood management for the Aksu river basin. The workshop was funded through the Swiss Agency for Cooperation and Development (SDC).

The workshop was held on 13 September 2017 in Khujand, Tajikistan. Plans and agenda for the workshop can be found in **Annex A**.

Workshop attendees included:

- Members of the Aksu Watershed Dialogue, including land owners and businesses in the watershed,
- Government officials from Spitamen and Devashtij Districts, bisected by the watershed, and the Sughd Province,
- NGO staff working in the watershed and members of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, including representatives of the Committee of Emergency Situation and Civil Defense (CoES), Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation (ALRI) and the Ministry of Transportation and Communications. There was a total of 40 participants, including five women. A list of attendees can be found in **Annex B**.

The workshop had four objectives:

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1. Identify which organizations are responsible for flood management activities at each stage of the management process (preparedness, warning and evacuation, immediate relief, recovery and risk reduction),
2. Identify the most critical actions to be taken by these organizations to assure the flood management process is successful,
3. Identify what resources are needed to assure completion of these actions, and,
4. Identify barriers, if any, to assuring the actions identified can be accomplished.

A combination of presentations and group work were used for the workshop, with the sessions split between DRMP and ACTED. Presentations used in the workshop can be found in **Annex C (Overall Presentation)** and **Annex D (Hazard and Risk Assessment)**, presented by ACTED. Presentations were projected in Russian version, with oral presentations in Russian or English with Russian translation. Note that the workshop was considered to be a pilot and subject to revision.



Results

During the workshop, participants identified the organizations responsible for flood management across the preparedness, warning and evacuation, immediate relief, recovery and risk reduction stages. Participants discussed a range of flood management methods, from dams to improved early warning and insurance. Information on these methods was used to identify optimal interventions to improve flood management in the Aksu drainage.

Flood Guide Planning Approach

The flood management planning approach used in the **Flood Green Guide** (<http://envirodm.org/flood-management>), developed by the World Wildlife Fund, appears to be adaptable to the Tajik context. Next steps include evolving the management approach to a document which can be used more widely in Tajikistan.

Unified Flood Risk Assessment

Two flood risk management approaches were demonstrated during the workshop, one by ACTED focusing on using the state of natural resources to identify flood risk, and the other, by UNDP, focusing on flood threat to critical infrastructure. Both approaches provided critical information for flood management planning, but a unified approach is needed to ensure that risks are not missed or missed assessed.

Identification of Responsible Parties

The following table summarized the understanding of five working groups as to responsibilities for different aspects of flood management in the Aksu watershed. Further details on the work done by the teams can be found in the presentations in **Annex C**.

The dominance of the Committee of Emergency Situations (CoES) in the allocation of responsibilities is noted (see **highlights** in the table below). With the exception of “Other Activities”, CoES was mentioned by at least one team for each activity, and in the case of warning, by all teams.

As CoES’ primary responsibilities are related to the “liquidation” of disasters, the broader expectations set out below may exceed CoES’ actual operational capacities (a point made by CoES Colonel Kamalov). Further, the distinction between District-level flood management responsibilities and the role of CoES in supporting the district government in a unified approach to flood management, is not clear.

Further efforts are needed to clarify the parties responsible for flood management and the role of CoES in this process. It is worth noting that teams, at times, referred to parts of the government using outdated titles (e.g., Ministry of Melioration and Irrigation). This may mean that some of the workshop participants may not have been up to date on changes relative to the water sector reform.

**Pilot Workshop on Flood Management – September 13, 2017, Khujand, Sughd Province,
Tajikistan
Group Work Result**

Activity	Who?				
	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4	Team 5
Planning for Floods	COES	Hydro meteorological Center	Government, Local Authorities, RBOs	COES and Local Authorities (According to the Programme on District Development Plans – section of Disaster Risk Reduction)	ES Commission in coordination with Regional COES
Preparedness - stockpiles, education, evacuation routes	COES , District Local Authorities (Hukumats); Organizations working in the field of ES.	Gov. Decree # 778 from December 29 th , 2006; Gov. Decree # 490	COES	Local Authorities, COES ,	COES , Regions and Districts at the basin level
Warning	Regional COES (Stabs) and Hydro Meteorological Services.	COES , ALRI, Hukumats and relevant Departments	COES	Hydro meteorological stations, COES	Hydro meteorological stations, COES at regional level
Evacuation	COES , Local Authorities, Jamoats	a) Population; b) Evacuation Commission	COES , Ministry of Transportation	Local Authorities, Regional COES , Commission	Regional Commission, Head of the Region
Immediate Rescue & Relief	COES and relevant Agencies,	COES , Population and Subdivisions	COES , Ministry of Health	COES , Ministry of Health	Rescuers of National and Regional COES

	INGOs, NGOs and Volunteers				
Recovery and Repairs	Relevant Ministries and Agencies	Subdivisions, Organizations and Population	ALRI, Ministry of Transportation and COES	Road Department, ALRI, Ministry of Energy	Relevant Ministries and Agencies
Risk Reduction	COES , relevant agencies and INGOs	Gov. Decree # 778 from December 29th, 2006; Gov. Decree # 490	Ministry of Melioration and Irrigation, COES	COES together with population	COES with other relevant organizations.
Flood Protection Maintenance	Relevant road exploitation organizations, irrigation system, etc.	Relevant departments and agencies dealing with emergency situations	Ministry of Transportation, Ministry of Melioration, COES	Local Authorities, Infrastructure together with Government and International agencies	ALRI
Other activities?	Joint work and regular connection between Units	Neighborhood clean-up (Hashar); cleaning of drainage, canals and irrigation system.	Mutual understanding and cooperation	Conduction of trainings and intervention on DRR	N/A

Flood Management Methods

Some of the flood management methods presented in the **Flood Green Guide** were familiar to most of the participants, but only a few participants were aware of all the methods (see the presentation for the methods). A diversity of flood management methods is an accepted key to effective flood management, and participants in the Aksu drainage flood management process should be better aware of the range of methods set out, and decision-making process for selecting these methods, which is set out in the **Flood Green Guide**.

Conclusions

At the end of the workshop, the participants agreed to review the respective plans, including winter – spring flood plans, and to consider the issues of DRR and flood management.

The Aksu flood management workshop highlighted the need to:

1. Better understand the allocation of responsibilities for flood management in Tajikistan,
2. Create unified flood risk assessment for a watershed, and
3. Introduce a broader based to selecting and implementing flood management methods across organizations and locations within a watershed.

Annex A – Workshop Background

Flood Management Planning Workshop – Aksu Watershed²

Introduction

This document provides a plan for a workshop on flood planning for the Aksu watershed in Sughd Province. For the workshop, the terms *flood management* covers any physical hazard in which water is a dominant factor, including mud flows, flash floods, debris flows and similar hazards. The scope of the workshop covers preparedness, warning and evacuation, immediate relief, recovery and risk reduction.

Objectives

The workshop has four objectives:

5. Identify which organizations are responsible for flood management activities at each stage of the management process (preparedness, warning and evacuation, immediate relief, recovery and risk reduction),
6. Identify the most critical actions to be taken by these organizations to assure the flood management process is successful,
7. Identify what resources are needed to assure completion of these actions, and,
8. Identify barriers, if any, to assuring the actions identified can be accomplished.

Duration

The workshop will take six hours (see schedule below).

Participating Organizations

The following organizations are expected to participate in the workshop:

- Deputy Administrator (Rais) for Spitamen and Divastche Districts.
- CoES officers, Spitamen and Divastche Districts.
- Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation staff, Sughd Province
- Public works staff, Spitamen and Divastche Districts.
- Ministry of Transportation and Communications, Sughd Province
- Red Crescent members, Spitamen and Divastche Districts.
- NGOs staff working in Spitamen and Divastche Districts.

- Land owners and businesses potentially affected by flooding in the Aksu watershed.

Resources

- Conference hall capable of holding 30 persons with space for breakout work.
- Projector, computer and screen.
- Two coffee breaks and lunch service
- Printer and paper
- Extension cord
- Flip charts and stands (4)
- Markers, paper, pens, note books and related materials.
- Poster-sized Google images of the watershed
- Translation services

Process

The workshop process will be organized around the following session plan.

² There were changes in the agenda under the Process section. Annex B contains the actual agenda used for the workshop.

Timing	Topic	Content	Lead Presenter
0900-0910	Opening	Opening speeches (as required)	NWRM
0910-0930	Introductions and Objectives	Introductions of the participants, review of the objectives and workshop process overview.	DRMP - Parviz Said
0930 – 1030	Flood Risk Assessment	A presentation of the risk assessment conducted for the watershed, including flood initiation and impact zones, and questions.	NWRM
1030-1045	Break		
1045-1130	Review of Flood Management Process	Presentation and discussion of flood management options covering preparedness, warning and evacuation, immediate relief, recovery and risk reduction	DRMP - Kelly
1130-1230	Flood Management Responsibility Mapping	Group work (upper and lower watershed) to identify on Google images who is responsible for specific flood management tasks.	DRMP/NWRM
1230-1330	Lunch		
1330-1500	Critical Action Identification	Presentation and group work on identifying critical actions needed for each stage of flood management	DRMP/NWRM
1500-1515	Break		
1515-1600	Resource Requirements and Barriers	Group work on defining resource requirements and barriers to completing the critical actions identified.	DRMP/NWRM
1600-1615	Review and Closing	A review of the results of the workshop.	DRMP/Parviz Said
1615-1620	Next Steps and Closing	Rapid discussion of next steps and closing.	NWRM

Annex B – Agenda

Timing	Topic	Who	Details
0900	Opening and Introductions	DRMP and NWRM	Welcoming, objective of workshop, introductions
0930	Watershed approach to flood management	DRMP	Presentation on the concept of a watershed approach to flood management.
1015	Break		
1030	Hazard and Risk Assessment in the Aksu Watershed	NWRM	Presentation of hazard and risk assessment work done to date.
1130	Mapping Watershed Flood Management Responsibilities	DRMP	Group exercise to map ownership or responsibility for segments of the watershed.
1230	Lunch		

1330	Flood Risk Management Responsibilities	DRMP	Discussion and group work on assigning flood management responsibilities based on the mapping done.
1530	Break		
1545	Review and Next Steps	NWRM and DRMP	Discussion and outlining next steps
1600	Closing	NWRM and DRMP	

Annex C – Attendees



LOP_Aksu Flood Management Planni

Annex D – Overall Presentation

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

National Water Resources Management Project
HELVETAS ACTED giz

UNDP
Empowered lives. Resilient nations.

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Aksu Flood Planning
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Flood Management Planning Workshop – Aksu Watershed

Annex D - Hazard and Risk Assessment in the Aksu Watershed



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