

REACT Bulletin

January 2015

A monthly summary of activities by REACT members in Tajikistan

OSCE AND UNDP PROVIDE TRAINING FOR AARHUS CENTRES AND ENVIRONMENTAL NGOs IN TAJIKISTAN ON RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

A two-day training course for Aarhus Centres and local environmental non-governmental organizations on raising awareness about disaster risk reduction was held at the OSCE Office in Tajikistan on 16 and 17 December 2014. The training course was delivered by national and international experts and is part of a project to strengthen the capacities of Aarhus Centres to enhance community awareness of disaster risk reduction. The project is implemented under the Environment and Security Initiative and funded by Swiss Agency for Development and Co-operation, Finland and the Austrian Development Agency, and is being jointly implemented in seven countries by the OSCE, the UN Development Programme and the Regional Environmental Centre.

Two studies, on the capacities of Aarhus Centres, and on the educational needs of people in Tajikistan on disaster risk reduction, were completed before the training event. The training event will be followed in 2015 by selected Aarhus Centres drafting Action Plans on raising awareness about disaster risk reduction.

The Aarhus Convention is a key United Nations Economic Commission for Europe international convention on access to environmental information, public



participation in decision-making and access to justice on environmental matters. Aarhus Centres serve as a link between the Government and civil society, provide a platform for coalition-building and partnership among NGOs in addressing environmental issues, and promote the Aarhus Convention principles at national and local levels.

For more information, please contact: Ms. Muhabbat Kamarova, National Environmental Officer, OSCE Office-in-Tajikistan: mukhabat.kamarova@osce.org

MEETING OF THE NATIONAL PLATFORM FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION IN TAJIKISTAN

The National Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction of Tajikistan met at the Dushanbe Plaza on 23 December 2014 with support of the United Nations Development Programme in Tajikistan.

The meeting was chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Murodali Alimardon.

Meeting attendees included members of the National Platform from 17 ministries and state agencies, and REACT (Rapid Emergency Assessment and Coordination Team) partners.



Participants reviewed the achievements of the National Platform in 2014, discussed preparation for the 3rd World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, Japan in March 2015, and heard presentations by REACT partners on their disaster risk reduction activities in 2014.

Participants agreed to contribute on drafting a statement to be made by Tajikistan at the 3rd World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, and to strengthen the coordination of ministries and state agencies and international organizations on investment projects on disaster risk reduction in Tajikistan.

The National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was established under the State Commission for Emergency Situations of the Republic of Tajikistan in March 2012 by Government decree.

For more information, please contact Ms. Khursheda Aknazarova, UNDP Disaster Risk Management Programme Assistant: khursheda.agnazarova@undp.org

WORKSHOP TO UPDATE TAJIKISTAN INTER-AGENCY CONTINGENCY PLAN

UN OCHA Regional Office for the Caucasus and Central Asia (ROCCA), REACT and the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense collaborated to hold a workshop on 4 December to update the Inter-Agency Contingency Plan for Tajikistan for 2015.

The Workshop covered a revision of the IACP involving group work and consultations. OCHA also familiarized participants with the new Inter-Agency Standing Committee Emergency Response Preparedness Guidelines, the Humanitarian Reform and Global Cluster Approach and the newly introduced Humanitarian Programme Cycle.

Participants expressed their willingness to work on implementing Inter-Agency Minimum Preparedness Actions and jointly working to update the IACP for 2015.

Specific timeframes to update and finalize the IACP for 2015 were agreed by participants. OCHA will coordinate the updating process based on the agreed timelines. An updated IACP is expected to be available to REACT partners by mid-April 2015.

The objective of IACP is to increase the level of preparedness and enhance ability of the in-country humanitarian community to support the Government of Tajikistan to effectively provide relief and recovery assistance.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP FOR REACT ASSESSMENT AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP

A one-day workshop was organized by OCHA ROCCA for the REACT Assessment and Information Management Working Group (AIMWG) on 18 December 2014. The workshop was intended to raise participant awareness of emergency

preparedness and response information management.

In addition to information sessions on relevant information management tools and mechanisms for pre and post-disaster use, participants conducted group work on ways to improve humanitarian information management in Tajikistan.

Participants agreed to collaborate in 2015 to develop relevant information management tools for Tajikistan, support ROCCA's information management strategy to develop and disseminate pre-disaster datasets, work to improve the information sharing platform for Tajikistan, and adapt needs assessment tools.



The REACT AIMWG was formed in 2012 with the support of ROCCA, based on recommendations of the IASC Operational Guidelines on Coordinated Assessments in

Humanitarian Crisis. The main objective of AIMEG is to collaboratively promote and support coordinated assessment and information management in Tajikistan.

For more information on the two articles immediately above, please contact Mr. Valijon Ranoev, OCHA ROCCA Tajikistan National Disaster Response Advisor: valijon.ranoev@undp.org

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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 Items should be submitted by the first working day of the month for the **Bulletin**, which is issued on the 7th working day of the month.

REACT **Bulletins** can also be found at http://untj.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=132&Itemid=565

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Questions and comments should be sent to react.dushanbe@undp.org.