



Tajik Committee of Emergency Situations & Civil Defense and UNDP in Tajikistan
Disaster Risk Management Programme

Minutes of REACT meeting

Kurgan-Tube

November 25, 2011

10:30– 11:30 Conference Hall of Khatlon Region CoES

After the welcoming the partners the head of CoES and CD of Khatlon Province shared the information which has been operatively received during the disaster in Shuroobod and Muminobod districts on November 17-19 2011. According to preliminary information due to the strong wind and heavy rainfall which was the reason of flooding 1.5 km of roads in Shamsiddin Shohin Jamoat, Sangdara and Chashmai Jushon villages have been damaged. Furthermore 200 meters of local roads in Langar village and bridge was partially damaged which has been connecting road to Kulyab. The volume of damage were calculated which compiles 570.000 Somoni.

On the same dates in Shuroobod district as a result of heavy and long raining 10 km of roads connecting the Sarichashma-Qavaq, 8 km of Sarichashma-Tugarak, 10 km of Chogai Sarichashma, 7 km of Shuroobod Chogai, 3 km of Shokhai Dashtijum, 10 km of Chagom connecting to main road to Kulyab and the bridge of Langar-Vaghlel was totally damaged. The total cost of the damage is 1.2 millions of Somoni.

Mrs. Zuhro Murodova Save the Children International has raised the issues concerning the food security on the level of the Khatlon province. And highlighted that unseasonable cold weather including frost, heavy rains and snow November 7-11, 2011 caused widespread losses to farmers and increased financial hardships to town residents. According to reports from officials in 12 reporting Jamoats indicate nearly 38,000 people affected in Khatlon. A rapid assessment in Khatlon by Save the Children indicates that 30-40% of harvested crops were lost. These crops were laid out for drying or had not been put into winter storage at the time of the storm. There are reports that the late potato crop was frozen as it was budding and is expected to be seriously affected by the frost. In mountainous areas 20-25% of the livestock was reported to have frozen to death. There are widespread reports of fodder that was still to be gathered from the fields becoming waterlogged, frozen and unsuitable for use. The loss of food, harvest and crops from one side and on the other side the high demand for fuel for the cultivation season has driven prices up. Since October 2011 fuel and as well as fruits have doubled in price in the Kurgan-tube and Kulyab markets. Other staples such as wheat, onions and potatoes have raised 25% post storm and bad weather conditions. During the last four years Khatlon has been beset by a serious of irregular and sometimes severe weather patterns that affected the household food security of residents.

Mr. Kholov Tursunmurod the representative of agriculture department of Khatlon province commented that over the past 3 years the crop yield was not so good. However community farmers advised by us apply second crop in fall season, this improves the situation. He has also added that the cold weather will not affect potatoes yield with the comparison of frost season in 2008. The reason of poor harvest is related to insufficient access to quality seeds by farmers in the region mentioned Mr. Kholov. Therefore he commented that unfortunately November's snowing also affected to Hissor and Regar grapes which farmers still selling the frosted grape in the markets which consumers will not be able to use it after keeping it in warmer place for a while. This year instead community farmers grown cottons in bigger scale with the hope to generate more income as

they experienced last year but unfortunately majority of them were involved in cotton growing thus price for cotton went down.

Mr. Nosir Abdulvohidov represented Oxfam in REACT meeting and considering the above situation on food security he commented that they have conducted livelihood household survey in Kulyab, Vose, Hamadoni, Farkhor, Vakhsh, Jomi, Yovon and Hissor districts for the purpose of developing new livelihood project. Moreover Mr. Nosir mentioned that Oxfam Tajikistan will also develop a new DIPECHO VII project for working on Disaster Risk Reduction starting from 2012.

The head of CoES Mr. Hotamsho Sharifov mentioned that the majority of the disasters are in the region could be prevented through the riverbank strengthening, gabionizing and even people preparedness. As we are all facing with critical situation so far through the cooperation we will be able to withstand toward the small scale disasters and to keep the food security stable in the region as getting the crop yield has a close linkage to weather which may be the reason of disaster.

Suggestions:

- Mr. Mirzoev Safar from Meteorological station of Khatlon province informed REACT partners about poor facilities for instance computers, weather gage and office furniture to give early warning on weather change for Khatlon. The equipment that they have is old and do not work properly.
- The chair of REACT Mr. Hotamsho Sharifov in Khatlon province asked React Focal point in KTY to have a meeting with Acted and Red Crescent Society to cooperate with CoES and not to respond to disasters on their own.
- The REACT secretariat Manuchehr Rajabov advised Mirzoev Safar from Meteorological station officially approach with the request for getting support with the equipment (computer, weather gage, office furniture, desks, chairs etc) to improve the working condition of their office and to inform weather analysis properly. REACT secretariat also mentioned that would consider the request made by meteorological station and share it between REACT partners and give a support whereas possible.

Annex 1:List of participants:

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