

“Preparedness for effective response”

**Oxfam International Contingency
Plan for Humanitarian Response,
Vietnam**

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World Conference on Disaster Reduction
20 January, 2005



Oxfam definition of Contingency Plan

A forward plan that identifies potential humanitarian crisis, establishes priorities, encourages preparation and improves human capacity for a quick, coordinated and effective response to the crisis.



Why do we need Contingency Plan

We can respond to emergencies more quickly and effectively. This can save more lives, time and money.

“It is always better to plan when it is not needed than not have planned when it was necessary.”



Oxfam Contingency Plan, Vietnam

Context:

1. Basic Information of Vietnam:

a) Population: 80.7 million, with growth rate 1.18%

Population density (person per sq. km): 243.6

b) Economic: GDP per capital (2003) US\$ 485

GDP (2002) 7.24%

c) Social development:-

Human development index 109

Gender related development index 89

Human poverty index (94 developing countries): 39

Disasters in Vietnam:

Slow-onset floods, flash floods, storm, earthquakes

We divided the country into 6 regions:

- North and south central coast:
- North East and North west
- Red River Delta
- Central Highland
- North-East South
- Mekong Delta



Identified Hazard, vulnerabilities, risks and capacities.

Updating communications of provinces, districts of major disaster prone areas, logistics and hazard, risk and vulnerability related information (quarterly basis)



Govt. Partner capacity and Gaps

- **Central and province DM authorities have good capacity**
- **Red Cross has enough human resource capacities and experiences**

Identified gaps in following major areas:

- **Early warning system**
- **Less community capacities**
- **Quality of relief operation**
- **Coordination local & national level**



Identified Oxfam's capacity

Human resource:

- **Country level Humanitarian and Development Program Team**
- **Logistic and Admin support team**
- **Regional Strategic Team**
- **Regional and Head offices**
- **Staff capacity building**



Finance:

Catastrophic Fund managed country team
Catastrophic fund managed by Head Office
Backed Donor funds from Each Affiliates

Advocacy:

Government departments
Donors
Media
Coordination agencies
Working organizations



System, procedure, standards

- 1. Emergency Response Manual: How to start Emergency response and how to end (situation report, concept note, formation assessment team, assessment checklist, how to write report, proposal, Job description, implementation, how to monitor, framework of evaluation, project handover**
- 2. Staff security guidelines, evacuation plan**
- 3. SPHERE guideline (Minimum standard for humanitarian response)**
- 4. Gender & Humanitarian Action policy & Checklist**
- 5. Sectoral Guidelines (Public Health, Food & Nutrition etc.)**



Ongoing protocol with Inter-agency Coordination group

- 1. National Level DM working group- monthly meeting, emergency meeting, donors briefings**
- 2. Formal agreements of Joint Assessment (JA)**
- 3. Format and Check list of Joint Assessment**
- 4. Coordinating Agency appointed for 2 years**
- 5. Communication details, logistics**
- 6. Training on Assessment, SPHERE, Gender**



Linked with Community Based Disaster Management (CBDM)

- 1. Participatory Hazard, Vulnerabilities, risk and capacity assessment**
- 2. Household, village & commune Action Planning**
- 3. Community DM preparedness and mitigation**
- 4. (household, children, village, communes, district and province)**
- 5. Community managed early warning mechanism**



Linked with govt. and other activities

- 1. Capacity building: commune, district, province government officials, NGOs and Red Cross staff**
- 2. Coordination in Province, district level**



Challenges

- **We have achieved not more than 20%**
- **In normal time, Contingency planning does not get priority, busy with other activities**
- **Coordination: During normal time it doesn't get priority, staff shift organizational priorities.**



Challenges- continued

- **Standards: Different Interest group**
- **Gender mainstreaming: Not easy**
- **Early warning mechanism weak**
- **We are unprepared to respond to Tsunami type of disasters**



Conclusion and main messages

- **We shouldn't wait, start from today to make our plan, organizational plan and community plan to response emergencies.**
- **It does not need huge resources, our commitment is important.**
- **Seek cooperation from others, and also provide support to make our community safer.**





Many Thanks

