

The UN World Food Programme

Cluster 5

Strengthening Emergency Preparedness and Response - an Organizational Perspective



**World Conference on Disaster Reduction
Kobe, Japan**

18-22 January 2005

Who is the UN World Food Programme?

WFP is a dual mandate agency:

- (1) Development
- (2) Relief & Rehab

On a yearly basis WFP assists 90 million hungry poor people in more than 80 countries, including 15 million school-aged children. On average 35 million of WFP's beneficiaries are people affected by natural disasters.

WFP's EPR systems embrace both natural hazards and complex emergencies. Systems are built to address all disasters regardless of nature.



Definition of Preparedness

Emergency Preparedness consists of actions, arrangements and procedures taken in anticipation of an emergency to ensure a rapid, effective and appropriate response that may save lives and livelihoods



Why is Effective EPR Essential?

- Humanitarian imperative
- Efficiency of ops
- Economies of scale
- Anticipation & Rapid Response
- Flexibility & Prioritization
- Global challenges
- Voluntary contributions



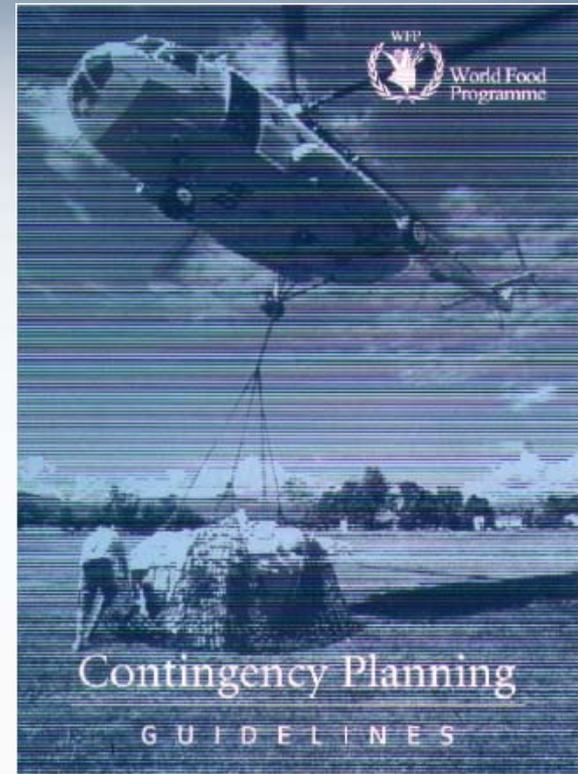
Key Operational & Organizational Challenges

- Establishing efficient **EW multi-hazard** systems linking local-regional-global-I/A
- Connecting **EW to decision making** and early action systems
- Building and managing **EPR capacities** in a decentralised environment
- Establish consistent **normative framework**, tools and knowledge base
- Investing in **improving capacities, systems and tools**
- Ensuring **management confidence and buy-in** new EPR concepts, and mainstreaming EPR in strategic and mgmt plans
- Facilitating a **culture change**, from being **responsive to anticipatory** and preventative



Institutionalizing EPR at WFP

- ❖ EPR Framework
- ❖ Working definition
- ❖ Normative Guidance
- ❖ Emergency Preparedness and Response Unit (ODAP)
- ❖ Tools & Services
- ❖ Human Resources
- ❖ Financial Investment
- ❖ Logistical Preparedness (LCAs, DHC, Standbys, Regional hubs, etc.)



A Framework for Preparedness

Information Preparedness	Stand-by Capacities	Planning	Response Mechanisms	Training
Baseline Information Logistics Capacity Assessments (LCA) VAM Vulnerability Profiles Baseline Surveys	Food Ready to Eat Foods (i.e. in UNHRD) Regional Reserve Food Stocks Operational Reserves and Contingency Stocks Prearranged Loan or Purchase Agreements	Contingency Planning WFP Contingency Planning Inter-agency contingency planning	Internal Mechanisms EMOP PRRO SO	Internal Training WFP Emergency Response Training WFP Contingency Planning Training Security Awareness
Public Information Public Information Strategies WFP News Service	Equipment Operational Support/Rapid Response NFI Stocks in UNHRD Operational Support Equipment in Regional Reserves Long-term Agreements (LTAs)		External Mechanisms CAP CHAP UNDAC UNDMT Security Management Team	External Training UNHCR Emergency Preparedness and Response Training UNDAC Training ICRC Training UN-CIMIC Courses
Early Warning UN Framework Team GIEWS (FAO) Regional Early Warning Reports Alert Matrix	Human Resources WFP Emergency Response Roster Stand-by Arrangements (SBAs) Temporary Duty Assignments (TDY)			
Information Management Situation Room Emergency Preparedness Web	Cash Immediate Response Account (IRA) Complex Emergencies Revolving Fund (CERF)			
	Transport & Logistics Trucking Fleets/Aircraft on contract Logistics Service Packages UN Joint Logistics Centre Concept MCDA			

The Main Elements of WFP Preparedness

Some Key EPR Tools...



Countries of Concern : Natural Hazards

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE UNIT (ODAP)
UNITED NATIONS
World Food Programme



FLOODS:
Countries/Regions with Rainy/Flood Season

Southern Africa
East Africa
Latin America
The Middle East

TROPICAL STORMS:
Countries Currently Affected

Southwest Indian Ocean

DROUGHT WATCH:
Countries Currently Affected

Afghanistan, Bolivia, Burundi, Cuba, Cambodia, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Honduras, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Nicaragua, Somalia, Swaziland, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Zimbabwe

VOLCANIC RISK:
Countries with High Risk

Cameron, Cape Verde, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, DRC, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Guadeloupe, Guatemala, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Mexico, Montserrat, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Philippines

LOCUST INFESTATION :
Countries Currently Affected

Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, Yemen

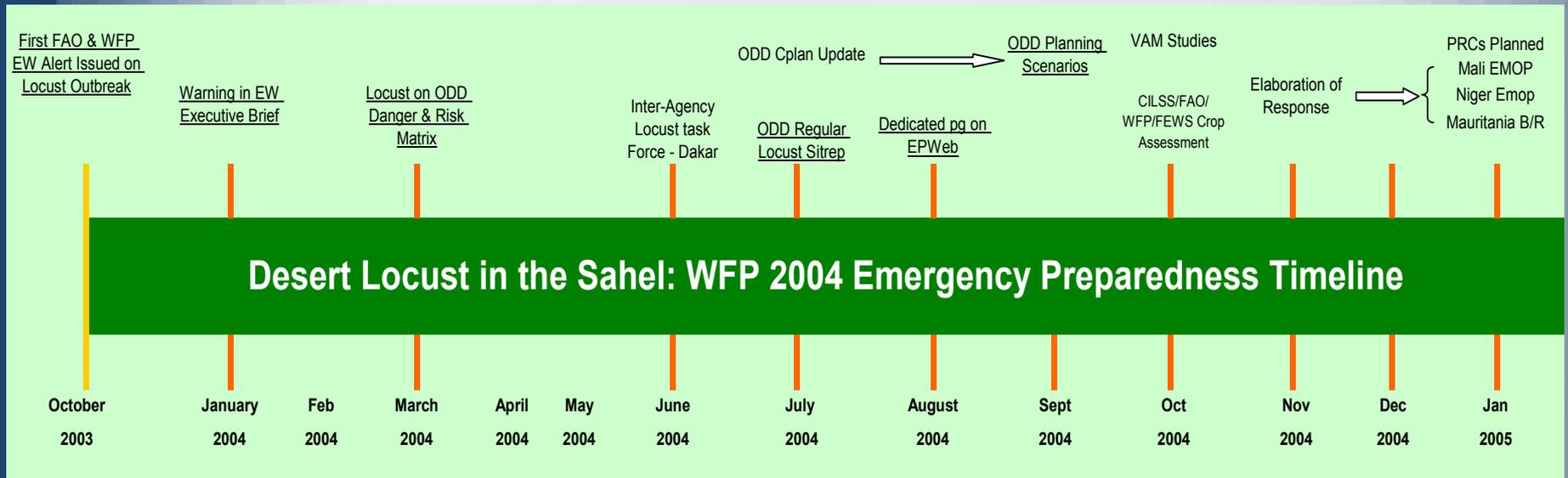
Potential locust in Sudan

- New and/or Deteriorating Drought/ Food Insecurity
- Tropical Storms Area
- Major Potential Flooding
- Locust
- Severe Cold
- Volcano Hazard Activity

The boundaries and the names in this map do not imply official endorsement or recognition by the United Nations. Compiled by WFP/ODAP/EPH/UNEP 1/05/05

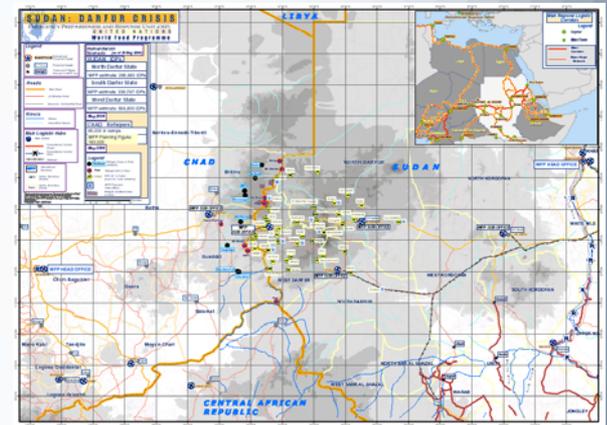
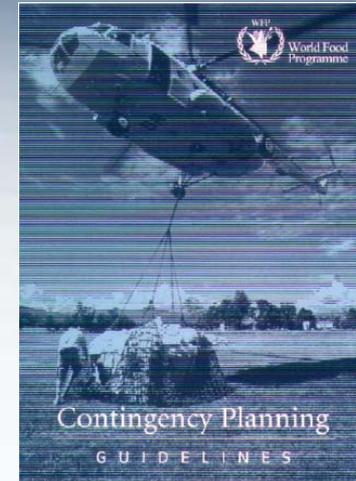
Sources: based on over 50 sources specialised in early warning and preparedness

Learning – Taking Stock of Good Practice



Capacity Building

- Working closely with local **communities** and **Governments** in building capacity, preventative and operational mechanisms, and know-how (ie, Bangladesh, Sudan, Ethiopia, Cuba...)
- Supporting **regional** structures in developing their own EPR capacity (ie, NEPAD, AU, others)
- Strengthening **global-local EPR** partnerships and networks (from community level organizations to regional/global arrangements)
- Engaging the **private sector** (TNT, BCG, others)



Inter-Agency Initiatives

Some deliverables:

- Regular Inter-Agency coordination/consultation meetings
- IASC WG Quarterly watch/report on situations of concern (analysis, risk ranking, and required preparedness actions)
- Inter-Agency Humanitarian Contingency Planning Guidelines
- Inter-Agency Humanitarian C-Planning technical support missions to countries of concern.
- Global Early Warning and EPR methodology development (including preparedness matrix & standards)
- Common Early Warning Service - HEWSweb (www.hewsweb.org)
- Knowledge sharing and process innovation

HEWS

Humanitarian Early Warning Service

A Global Multi-Hazard Watch Service to Support Humanitarian Preparedness

IASC

Inter-Agency Standing Committee
A service of the IASC SWG on Preparedness and Contingency Planning
Developed by the World Food Programme

- MAIN PAGE
- IASC PAGE
- DROUGHT
- FLOODS
- STORMS
- LOCUST
- VOLCANOES
- SEISMIC
- WEATHER
- EL NINO
- TSUNAMI



STORMS

CURRENT STORMS WORLDWIDE:

There are currently no active systems as of 13 Jan, 2005 9:41 GMT



Systemic Challenges...

- ✓ **Comprehensive EPR Approach**: a comprehensive institutional EPR approach reconciling NatDis and Complex emergencies, and encompassing strategy, framework, policy, programming, financial investments, human resources – not always available.
- ✓ **Operational context** - local structures (context, governance) may not always be available to facilitate EPR functions; also, typology of disaster affects implementation capacity and modality
- ✓ **UN capacity**: variable UNCT capacity.
- ✓ **Lack of culture of 'preparedness'** : routine prevails even in fast running emergencies
- ✓ **Poor 'preparedness funding'**: among both the UN and the donor community – limited/disconnected preparedness funding windows
- ✓ **CNN and media factors'**: exerting a global influence on the int'l community response behaviour, with impact on distribution of resources
- ✓ **Lack of standards**: lack of generally agreed minimum EPR standards (IASC work under way)
- ✓ **Accountability**: not enshrined in the system - no clear provisions exist at the organizational and global level.
- ✓ **Coordination and communication**: another variable, depending on context

Key Recommendations ...

❖ **Continue strengthening UN specialised agencies EPR capacities, systems, and tools.**

❖ Consolidate and bring forward existing and new promising I-A coordination and operational initiatives, i.e., IASC SWG, HEWSweb, common services, etc.

❖ **Initiate dialogue on minimum preparedness standards –**
[commencing at the IASC SWG – it could be spearhead by facilitating a first technical consultation during Spring 2005].

❖ **Strengthen EPR networks and partnerships (IASC, others)**

❖ **Avoid system congestion** –
build on areas of expertise, ensure
complementary functions, and build
on value added.

❖ Capitalize on **Local Expertise & Capacity**, and facilitate knowledge transfer: enhance systems and mechanisms to facilitate consolidation and cross-fertilization of experience.

❖ Engaging donors to **ensure adequate funding** base for existing and new EPR initiatives (additional!!!).

❖ Support **IASC efforts for strengthening EPR** for both man made and natural disasters – build on and strengthen linkages with ISDR



Thank You!
Comments & Questions