

Terms of Reference for Inter-agency, Multi-Sectoral Disaster Needs Assessment Teams.

The main purpose of fielding the teams is to gain a more comprehensive and accurate profile of DER needs, and the measures required to meet them, than could be provided by initial assessments that might have been conducted individually by locally-based agencies. Such an inter-agency, multi-sectoral approach helps to ensure co-ordinated coverage of the affected area, with each team covering all sectors.

The assessment, through use of the Sub-group's Disaster Needs Assessment Form, will focus on the following sectors:

- Food security, including agriculture / livestock
- Nutrition
- Health
- Water
- Sanitation
- Shelter
- Non-food items

In addition, the teams will consider the following cross-cutting issues:

- likely duration of the emergency
- GoB policies and procedures
- logistics
- communications
- field-level co-ordination
- targeting systems (self / administrative / community)
- vulnerable groups,
- coping mechanisms,
- loss of assets and employment.

Reporting

Upon the assessment teams' return to Dhaka, the DER Sub-group lead agency will convene a Sub-group meeting for an initial verbal debriefing by the teams.

Sectoral specialists from each team should together submit a combined report on their sector to the Mission Leader within 24 hours of their return from the field. The Mission Leader will submit a consolidated report within 48 hours of return from the field, for emailing by the CSF to all Sub-group members.

The report should provide analysis of the data collected, forecasts of how the situation might develop, and include the teams' conclusions and recommendations. These should define objectives, and outline how relevant assistance can be provided to victims. The report should promote an integrated, multi-sectoral approach to the response.

Disaster Needs Assessment Teams

Proposed Field Equipment

Core Equipment

Water bottle
Water purifying tablets
First-aid kit
Sleeping bag
Tent
Tarpaulin
Kit bag
Field rations
Potable water
Torches / lighting
Personal effects
Lap-top computer + accessories
Cassette recorder + accessories
Digital camera + accessories
Radio + accessories
Mobile phone + accessories
Satellite phone + accessories
Megaphone
Stationery
Sub-group needs assessment forms
Vehicle with telecommunications
Fuel
Compass
Maps (general, affected areas, technical/specialized)
Satellite information on movement of cyclones/floods
Geographical Positioning System Equipment

Optional Equipment, Depending Upon Nature of Disaster

Umbrella
Rain coat
Rain boots
Life jacket
Boat + accessories