

Sidr Response

Coordination Clusters Leads and IM Managers

Meeting

Monday 10 December 2007

Minutes

Participants: attached
Cluster Leads, IM Managers, Resident Coordinator
Venue: 12th floor, IDB Bhaban.

Cluster Status/IM status:

Logistics

- WFP has assumed leadership, the mission left.
- Very limited participation from UN agencies, NGOs and GoB.

Early recovery

- GoB co-chairing, but better integration of government in cluster would be desirable.

Health

- GoB Co-chair, firmly integrated into the cluster.
- Coordination meeting taking place in 5 out of 9 worst affected districts.
- Greater coordination with especially WASH and UNICEF on nutrition would be helpful.

Shelter

- Some district-level coordination meetings took place.
- GoB focal point, same as Early Recovery. Has participated once.
- Data collection continues to be a challenge.
- Early recovery person participation in shelter to ensure coordination
- Participation is reducing; one meeting a week is planned.
- Early Recovery increasingly on the agenda.
- Funding is not in place for many, data collection on damages still on going.

WASH

- While some shortage pockets remain, the general water situation getting better, with most needs attended to.
- Sanitation is now the most important issue. Need more attention, better focus needed. Data for analysis available, analysis to be done.
- Relations to GOB focal point working well, lots of willingness. No confusion on who should be the cluster focal point/partner.

- Expect to have a good picture of overall capacity by Wednesday, but GoB capacity is not mapped out.

Food

- Many assessments on-going; improving coordination an important challenge.
- Discussion on whether the cluster is about Food or Food Security.

Assessments

- Many assessments ongoing but not all information reaches the Early Recovery cluster, making it difficult to coordinate assessments and getting a grip on gaps.
- Difficulties with getting information from some NGOs.
- *Information on assessments should be sent to Steve.*
- The Early Recovery Cluster will meet this week to endorse the TORs for the Environmental Rapid Assessment and the Early Recovery Assessment on core business i.e. governance, community infrastructure, short-term livelihood, risk reduction and cross-cutting issues. The Early Recovery Assessment will bring together over 60 Government and NGO representatives who will conduct assessments in 6 districts, 12 upzilas and 36 unions. In addition 108 household case studies will be conducted. Both these assessments will be fundamental in the development of an early recovery strategic plan, which will be undertaken in early January.

If any clusters have any information need, please have the information queries included in the UNDP assessment. If the need is great, teams can join UNDP's efforts, provided they participate in the whole process. UNDP will incorporate indicators which can be (easily) tracked for monitoring purposes.

The assessment will be the basis for the National Early Recovery conference planned for the 30/12 and feed into strategic planning session on the 3/1.

- Health cluster has planned an in-depth assessment.

GOB Cyclone Response Plan:

- Draft plan with government, final version should be expected shortly, maybe by end of the week.
- Government expected to announce transition to “Early Recovery and Residual Relief” phase soon. One clear indication is that the Advisor and the Marines have left Barisal Coordination. This means changes in the way we operate.

Cluster Functioning

- The relevance of clusters is determined by its usefulness. *The ability to shape action, support government and produce clear action is key.*
- *Cluster information should be fed to CDMP DMIC focal point to ensure it will be circulated within the Government.*
- Many have been working under the assumption that the local level coordination function as well as it usually does. But in some place there may be difficulties. In Baguna the District Level administration has recently been changed.

- *For future implementation of clusters, the functioning should be documented while it is hot. How? By whom?*

Next meeting:

- Meeting to coordinate clusters and meet with GoB scheduled for Thursday, 13 December. *Time and venue TBD (by Scott)*. This will replace the forum for Cluster Leads and Information managers.
- *Scott is going to circulate an email with a couple of questions for the clusters. Please reply quickly.*