
Shelter Coordination Group - Cyclone Sidr
Meeting, 16 January 2008, 1500 hrs
CDMP, 4th floor Conference Room, Disaster Management and
Relief Bhaban, 92-93 Mahakhali, Dhaka.

Minutes

ADMINISTRATION

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Changes to the agenda

OPERATIONS

3. Early Recovery issues

- 3.1. UN Habitat noted that according to a small sample survey, 30% of affected persons are landless and not living behind embankments.
- 3.2. It may be possible to build cluster villages (Bari) as per past Bangladesh government and an example plan of such a Bari issued to attendees for comment.
- 3.3. Local GoB representatives have indicated it is best to settle people where they were prior to the cyclone.
- 3.4. Anecdotal information indicates that people must pay for land they occupy and on occasion bribes have been requested with minimal recourse for the occupants.
- 3.5. UN Habitat to follow up appropriate GoB agencies to confirm this remains current GoB policy and obtain approval for this approach. To confirm GoB capacity and willingness to allocate or acquire land through standard Government procedures for the cluster villages.
- 3.6. UN Habitat to confirm/obtain the GoB definition of landless persons.
- 3.7. Oxfam commented their current program is not building outside embankment but will provide materials to affected persons.
- 3.8. Generally there was concern regarding GoB strategies and people failing to get recognition or assistance. This will in some way be addressed through points 3.5 and 3.6
- 3.9. A number of grants have been promised to the GoB by other countries. The implementation strategy at this stage is unknown.

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4. **Update discussion of core shelter model and design plans**
 - 4.1. GoB requested the SCG team to submit all transitional/core/permanent housing design to them for approval prior to any construction commencing.
 - 4.2. SCG team requested any designs from actors to be submitted to the group (TWIG) for analysis prior to the group submitting to GoB. The SCG team will attempt to expedite this approval process in cooperation with the GoB.
 - 4.3. Caritas and Care indicated they have designs and will submit to the SCG as soon as possible

5. **Feedback on National TWIG and IEC materials presented in last meeting**
 - 5.1. The TWIG plans to release designs with 3- 4 options of various materials and construction methods.
 - 5.2. Questions included if these designs had been implemented before in Bangladesh?
 - 5.3. Suggestion raised that there should be a history of work of this nature in Bangladesh and the SCG team could use this if able to get access.
 - 5.4. Such evidence would assist in the approvals process with the GoB with demonstrated previous successes
 - 5.5. SCG technical representative to investigate and report back to the group

6. **Information management**
 - 6.1. Outline of activities from the last week and an explanation of the reassessment methodology presented to the group. New ward level assessments have been launched to confirm the following key pieces of information:
 - 6.1.1. Confirm the self recovery rate of affected communities that was reported by the Early Recovery Assessment.
 - 6.1.2. Confirm the government's damage information reported through the MoFDM
 - 6.1.3. Determine the remaining need for emergency shelter
 - 6.2. The SCG team is focusing on local NGOs to do assessments in a standardized fashion to bring the SCG information into line with the GoB style of reporting and information presentation.

7. **Who, What, Where at Upa-zila Level**

- 7.1. Latest figures were presented to the SCG
- 7.2. Action Aid were unable to be contacted and update information, approximately 2500 shelters expected.
- 7.3. Caritas requested CRS be removed from figure sheet, as it would be more accurate to describe CRS as a donor and Caritas as the lead implementing agency of
- 7.4. There remains a large gap in the forward projections of need vs committed. Potentially there but there is an unknown amount of information not being captured by SCG group such as GoB information and private money/donations
- 7.5. Oxfam indicated that more than 3000 households would be provided with shelter kits through its programs
- 7.6. Information gap regarding figures and information relating to the number of host families coming under financial/social pressure. To be addressed in the reassessment.
- 7.7. All agencies asked to consider opportunities of increasing their programs to assist unmet needs

8. **AOB**

- 8.1. SCG team requested the SCG group to update information using the forms available on the website to assist in obtaining the latest information and figures
- 8.2. TWIG meetings not notified on website, to be addressed by the SCG team

9. **Next meeting?**

Proposed Wednesday 23 Jan 08, 1500 hrs
Venue: CDMP, 92/93, Mohakali, Dhaka

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Or find us on the web: <http://groups.google.com/group/shelter-coordination-group-cyclone-sidr>