



State Inter Agency Group, West Bengal

United for Humanitarian Response

Minutes of the Coordination Meeting

23 June 2011, 1530 hrs

Venue: BIT Kolkata Office

Members Present:

Department of Disaster Management, Lok Kalyan Parshad, CARE, Habitat for Humanity, LWSIT, ACTED, ADRA, Save the Children, Ramakrishna Loka Seva Kendra, OXFAM, IMSE, UNICEF, CINI, Caritas India, Chaplin Club, Action Aid, CASA, PUS, CKS, ABCD, KJKS.

HIGHLIGHTS

- District-wise situation in terms of extent of damage was shared by the organizations according to working area. The flood-like situation resulting from the excessive downpour has mostly affected the houses, agriculture, floriculture and fishery as water has ingressed.
- The community and the PRI seem to have responded together in quickly taking action to stem the water inflow and starting repair of embankments; they have also started disinfection of tube wells in South 24 Parganas.
- As shared by Action Aid India, the Village Preparedness Committees, functioning in the villages and the preparedness activities taken up in their working area, like raised plinth level of reconstructed houses and tubewells above last flood water level and preparedness plans are ensuring that the losses are less.
- As discussed by the members, several validations need to be done on behalf of State IAG West Bengal. They include:
 - Whether the relief materials are reaching those who need them the most,
 - To what extent the lessons learnt and plans from the CBDRM / CBDRR / CMDRR that have been taken up in some of these affected area have lessened the losses and / or the extent of damage.

- As shared by OXFAM India and Save the Children India, a rapid study on WASH, Child Protection and Access to Rights and Education would be done in the district of E. Midnapore.
- Concern was expressed by the members regarding return to normalcy, restoration of livelihood and mother and child health (including promotion of institutional delivery, or at least access to trained midwives and a sanitized area for delivery in the campsite itself), although the situation is reported to be in control.
- As suggested by the house, on 04th July, a detailed damage assessment exercise would be taken up by two teams from State IAG West Bengal. The teams would go to the twin districts of Midnapore. The names that have been Volunteered already are: Sarah Lee (ACTED), Andrio Naskar(ADRA), Surajit Neogi (Action Aid), Anjan Sengupta (IMSE) and Alope Ghosh (CASA),
- The draft indicators for the study would be shared on Monday the 27th June, 2011 for a quick feedback from members. Upon receiving the feedback they would be finalized and shared again.
- Concern was expressed by members regarding an sms alerts system that is continuing at the moment and the house decided to take up the issue in its next regular meeting.
- Regarding the draft launch of the Bengali translation of the Sphere Handbook 2011, the programme would take place on 30th June at 04:30 p.m. The venue would be decided later.

Prepared by :

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