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## **Component !: Political commitment and Institutional Aspects**

- 1.1** The country has developed a National Disaster Policy. The document was approved by the Government in April, 2004. There is a standing Legislation which was enacted 1990; to deal with relief referred to as ‘The Disaster Relief Coordination Act, 1990. A draft Legislation to amend the 1990 has been prepared, so that it covers all aspects of disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.
- 1.2** Yes! The Tanzania Disaster Relief Committee (TANDREC) at the National level has been operational since 1990s. The Committee is composed of Permanent Secretaries from Ministries of Finance, Defense, Planning, Agriculture, Lands, Water and Livestock, Education, Works, Communication, Community Development, Home Affairs, Energy and Minerals plus heads of early warning Institutions namely: Tanzania Meteorological Agency(TMA), Food Security Department and Fire and Rescue Department. Its main function has been to oversee and coordinate activities of the Government designed to secure effective prevention of disasters, preparedness and operation of affairs in an event of a disaster. There are plans to commission structures at lower levels: region, district and village level as well as sectoral committees.
- 1.3** Few sectors have plans that incorporate risk reduction concept into their development areas. Examples are the Health Sector which has prepared an Emergency Operation Plan (EOP) and protocols. Forestry and Industrial Regulations. Traffic and Transport sector regulations (air, marine and road) The Ministry of Agriculture has a strategy of food security. Some Town and Urban Authorities have land use plans and squatter upgrading which incorporate risk reduction measures.
- 1.4** Tanzania has developed a National Disaster Operation Guidelines (NOG). A Disaster Assessment (V.A.) survey has been carried out. A Policy document has been approved. The next step is prepare the National Strategy to implement the policy. Thus it is intended that the Millennium Development Goals- MDGs will be incorporated in the strategy
- 1.5** Tanzania is not prone to seismic risk. There are building codes which have to be adhered to by the building industry. However, there is Seismic Earthquake Monitoring Center that is under the University of Dar es Salaam. Apart from building codes in place that cater for other disasters such as fire and floods as well as landslides.
- 1.6** Tanzania always maintains an item on the budget for disaster response (contingency fund) under the Prime Minister’s Office. Meaning that when a disaster occurs or when there is a disaster threat such as drought, funds would be released from National Treasury through that item for early intervention. In addition, the country has a budget for public awareness. Funds are always released through the Disaster Management Department in the Prime Minister’s Office.

1.7 Disaster risk reduction activities in the country are implemented by the Government Departments and other stakeholders including NGOs including Religious Institutions, Media and the Civil Society. Specifically at the National level there is the 'National Food Security Team-FSIT. Which is normally involved in food security issues. Other civil societies and the private sector are involved in fire disasters and rescue. Tanzania Commission of AIDS-TACAIDS handles issues of HIV-AIDS.

## **Component 2:**

2.1 Yes. A survey to identify type of hazards was partially first carried out in 2001 across the country. Another survey was carried out in 2003 and a comprehensive report and maps prepared (cf attachment). The report is available for use by any institution.

2.2. Yes. We have been carrying out annually Rapid Vulnerability Assessment (RVA) for Food Insecure Districts in the country. Questionnaires are normally developed and administered in the respective areas at regional, district and village level. Factors captured include: rainfall patterns in the various areas, crop production (acreage vis production), inputs administered, unusual pest/diseases affecting crop production, livestock production (unusual diseases outbreak). Government Officials at the various levels: Regional, District and Village are contacted and interviews are also held amongst the vulnerable peasants in the affected areas. (*attach v.a report*).

2.3. Tanzania Meteorological Agency-TMA always give information on weather and climate as part of early warning and drought risk monitoring. Under the Ministry of Agriculture, there is also Early Warning Unit that give information on rainfall for crop production, crop status and other externalities that might affect food security. The findings of the early warning assist in the risk reduction. The Ministry of Health has also surveillance system to monitor spread of epidemics.

2.4. Yes. Concentration has been on causes, structural and legal weaknesses as well as loss analysis. Results are always available and circulated to concerned parties for actions in addressing issues raised and working on the recommendations.

2.5. Yes. For drought, floods, human and animal diseases information is passed on to most areas of the country. Tanzania Meteorological Agency, Emergency Preparedness and Response Unit (of the Ministry of Health) and Food Security Department. Some Institutions use early warning information for preparedness measures, but the ordinary peasants are yet to take up seriously such warnings

### **Component 3:**

3.1 A Food Security Information Team (FSIT) is in place. The Team is composed of members from the Disaster Mgt Dept.( Prime Minister's Office), Food Security Department (Ministry of Agriculture), WFP, FAO, Save the Children (SC-UK) and OXFAM-GB. The Team meets regularly to review and provide technical advice to all relevant parties involved in food security issues in the country. Its other role is to address causes of all forms of food insecurity. FSIT coordinates and conducts **Rapid Vulnerability Assessment on Drought Affected Areas in in the country.**

The assessment is conducted through a set of questionnaires. After analysis the report is available for the Government and Donors for developing and conducting interventions

3.2 Yes, the University of Sokoine for Agriculture (SUA) and University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) and University College of Lands and Architectural Studies (UCLAS) are frequently involved. As a result, a Disaster Management Training Centre has been established at the UCLAS. This gives opportunities for a number of research and studies to be conducted regarding disasters. In September 2003, the Department jointly with UCLA carried out a study to determine types of disaster we have in the country. A report and maps were produced.

3.3 There is little coverage in primary schools through their curriculum in which pupils are taught awareness and causes of hazards like fire, floods, drought, environmental degradation, accidents etc.

3.4 There are training programmes for Chief Executives ( Permanent Secretaries, Regional Administrative Secretaries), Politicians ( Regional Commissioners, District Commissioners, Councilors and Members of Parliament). These are basically awareness courses on disaster management. In general, the Disaster Management Department always prepares a number of training sessions to different groups.

3.5 This area is not well researched.. However, the people have indigenous own ways of handling or getting prepared for say food insecurity as well as coping mechanisms. There are traditional preservation methods used for food types and also planting drought resistant crop varieties.

3.6 We have weekly programmes aired in the national radio. The programme is prepared and conducted jointly by one Official (Information Officer) and a disaster focal official from a media institution. The target group is ordinary people both urban and rural.

#### **Component 4:**

- 4.1 Yes. Environmental conservation is emphasized. There are programmes on conservation of water sources and planting of trees in slopes, issues of pollution, deforestation, soil conservation etc. Campaigns like cut one tree and plant three are common in the rural areas. Land use plans are also emphasized. Flood prone areas are restricted often avoided. Also, building in mountainous slopes is prohibited
- 4.2 Only a Disaster Relief Fund exists a National level for response purposes
- 4.3 Some simulation exercises have been conducted to build capacities of first responders ( fire, police, red cross, paramedics)

#### **Component 5:**

- 5.1 The Disaster Management Department in collaboration with stakeholders have developed National Disaster Operation Guidelines (NOG) . The Guidelines define responsibilities/mandates of various stakeholders in responding to disasters. The guidelines cover the broad areas of mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery, which constitute “*comprehensive disaster management*”. The guidelines have identified most common hazards in the country and have earmarked Lead and Support Agencies in handling them. Each Lead Agency is responsible for activating its own plans.
- 5.2 Emergency Funds are normally solicited from the National Treasury (Ministry of Finance) whenever there is an emergency. Disaster Management Dept. currently has a godown where relief items: such as clothes/blankets, tents, medical equipment etc can be stored. These items are normally a collection of items donated by various well-wishers when an emergency has taken place. There is in place a Strategic Grain Reserve (SGR) facility under the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security.. Maize stored in this facility has always been used by government for food releases whenever there are food shortages in the country.
- 5.3 Disaster response is ideally coordinated by Lead Agency; according to type of disaster as defined in the National Operation Guidelines. However, the Lead Agency in turn links up with the Disaster Management Department in the Prime Minister’s Office who have overall coordination roles for all disasters across the country.

From inventories available it is fair to mention non of the responding agencies have neither enough equipment or funds for the job. However, some of the agencies have well trained personnel

