



Project: Poverty Alleviation by Mitigation of Integrated high mountain Risk

“PAMIR”

SEPTEMBER 2011

Information bulletin

The first workshop/training on the “**Hazards and Social Vulnerability Risk Assessment for Sustainable Natural Resources Management (HSVRA)**” has been held by International Project Coordinator, Gulnaz Jalilova from 04 to 26 of August in Tajikistan, Afghanistan and Kyrgyzstan. The overall goal of the workshop was to introduce the hazard and social vulnerability risk assessment methodologies, build the capacity of the project research team members in the target regions and discuss the project implementation processes.



The HSVRA aims to empower local communities to reduce the risk and vulnerability to natural hazards and to facilitate them to undertake possible activities (reforestation) in order to improve the natural resources management as well as to improve their livelihoods.



The HSVRA consists of four different phases: environmental setting, field assessment, analysis and synthesis and community group truthing. During the workshop the theoretical and practical tasks have been combined through different techniques and tools as a group discussion with village leaders, mapping of the hazardous areas of the village and developing a village management plan of one of the nearest selected villages in the target regions. Furthermore, risk mapping, hazard impact analysis and multi criteria decision making approaches have been applied and practiced among the workshop participants.



FOCUS Afghanistan organized a briefing session on the PAMIR project for provincial government officials and other INGOs working in the area of DRR on 4th August, 2011 at the Aga Khan Foundation hall in Faizabad Badakhshan province. During this session around 13 participants from leading private organizations and respective Government departments' officials were invited. The agenda of the session was disseminated in advance in both DARI and English.

The details of the project were shared with the participants through power-point presentation during which questions regarding different aspects of the project were answered by Country Research Team Leader. Following the presentation and question answer session an open discussion was ensued. Participants of the meeting very actively participated in the session and discussed the need of Provincial disaster management plan as well as Provincial response plan to deal with emergencies.

After a detail discussion, the following gaps at the provincial level were identified and discussed thoroughly.

- Need for a centralized emergency operation center where data can be managed and disseminated to all stakeholders
- Gaps in the existing Reaction Plan produced by UNDP Afghanistan
- Obstacles hindering the acceptance and implementation of the UNDP developed provincial DRM plan

Outcomes of the Briefing Session:

- PAMIR project was unanimously endorsed and appreciated.
- FOCUS agreed to contribute to the development of Provincial Disaster Management Plan through mutual or multi-lateral understanding. For this purpose, this briefing session, has paved the way to the reactivation of UNAMA's working group in collaboration with PDMC.
- Unanimous agreement on the need to compile, generate a common, acceptable, accessible information hub.
- Creation of an Emergency Operation/Response Center under ANDMA and PDMC.
- The already generated information has to be centralized, managed and properly disseminated through proper channels.
- Capacity Building of ANDMA and PDMC



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Materials, comments and suggestions can be sent to the following e-mail address: aslanov@hilfswerk.tj or 156, M. Tursunzade Str., Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

Tel: (+992) 372 28 93 85.

