

REACT Bulletin

November 2014

A monthly summary of activities by REACT members in Tajikistan

UNICEF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE WORKSHOP WITH PARTNERS

On 17 October 2014, the UNICEF Country Office in Tajikistan, with support from the UNICEF Regional Office for Central, Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, organized a one-day workshop on Emergency Preparedness and Response for national and international partners at the Lotus Hotel in Dushanbe.

The training was to sensitize partners on UNICEF's Core Commitments for Children (CCC), while providing refresher sessions on the Humanitarian Reform and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Transformative Agenda, SPHERE Standards, Humanitarian Performance Monitoring and humanitarian assessment tools such as the Multi-Cluster/Sector Initial Rapid Assessment and Post-Disaster Needs Assessment.



Arthur van Diesen, Deputy Representative of UNICEF Tajikistan, greeting the workshop participants

The participants of the workshop came from a broad range of governmental agencies,

including the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defence, the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, the State Statistical Agency and Tajik National University. Various UN agencies, international development organizations and civil society organizations also participated in the workshop.

Children are often disproportionately affected by emergencies. The workshop contributed to ensuring that children's suffering is minimized in emergency situations in Tajikistan. For more information, please contact pmuhamedkhojaeva@unicef.org or visit <http://www.unicef.org/tajikistan/>

EMERGENCY CROSS-BORDER SIMULATION EXERCISE

From 22 to 24 October, 2014, a cross-border emergency simulation exercise was organized in Sughd Province, Tajikistan and Batken Province, Kyrgyz Republic by the World Food Programme in coordination with the UNICEF and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. The exercise was made possible by financial support from DFID.

The Tajik part of the exercise took place outside Khujand (Sughd Province) with the active participation of national and regional representatives from the Committee of Emergency Situations, other parts of the Government of Tajikistan, UN agencies, international and local NGOs and the Red Cross Red Crescent movement – REACT

partners both at national and regional levels.



The simulation combined table-top coordination, field assessment and search and rescue activities to present participants with an opportunity to practice joint rapid needs assessments involving the humanitarian community and the government. Through the simulation, local, regional, inter-governmental and inter-agency contingency plans, including the Tajikistan Inter-Agency Contingency Plan, were tested in near-real conditions. The simulation also provided an opportunity to test coordination arrangements and emergency response procedures in areas near national borders.

One of the simulation exercise's main objectives was to practice the timely, effective and coordinated rapid needs assessment in response to a disaster in the border areas between the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan. In parallel with the Tajikistan simulation, government and humanitarian counterparts conducted a similar simulation exercise in the Kyrgyz Republic raising the overall joint coordination capacities of emergency responders in the neighboring countries. For more information: raffaele.richetti@wfp.org

REACT Bulletin

Please send short reports on project activities or events, up to 200 words, with a picture, to REACT Secretariat in Dushanbe react.dushanbe@undp.org Items should be submitted by the first working day of the month for the **Bulletin**, which is issued on the 7th working day of the month.

REACT **Bulletins** can also be found at

http://untj.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=132&Itemid=565

The **REACT Bulletin** is supported with funding from the UNDP Bureau of Crisis Prevention and Recovery, and technical support of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). The REACT Secretariat, UNDP or OCHA do not take responsibility for the accuracy or details of the information reported in the **Bulletin**.

Questions and comments should be sent to react.dushanbe@undp.org.