

RHC Case Study 1 Group Questions

Assessing the Needs

Instructions

1. View the introductory "sarvo.swf" file and read the RHC Case Study 1 text file.
2. Upon completion of the Case Study, fill out the Peer Evaluation Form.
3. Review the questions below, which are organized by group. *Each group* must complete the last three themes (Conclusions for Action, Priorities, and Capacity and Organization).

Group A: Nature of Event

- What was the nature and cause of the emergency situation?
- When and where did it strike?
- What was the severity in different locales?

Baseline Data

- What was the population of the affected area before the disaster? What were the size and location of the communities?
- What are the ethnic and cultural characteristics of different groups—language, average family size, typical household living arrangements?
- What are the ecological and economic characteristics of the area (degree of self-sufficiency, normal sources of supplies)?
- What traditional community coping/response mechanisms exist?
- What political and administrative structures exist in the areas affected?
- What type of services and development programs were operating?

Group B: Impact of Events

Impact on population numbers and distribution

- Have people evacuated or migrated?
- Have families become divided?
- What are the reported numbers of casualties—dead, injured, and missing?

Impact on food and agriculture

- Food stocks and/or distribution mechanisms?
- Crops, irrigation systems, etc.?

Impact on health

- Health service facilities and supply systems?
- Health workers and control programs?

Impact on shelter and personal protection

- Family dwelling rendered uninhabitable?
- Essential household property lost?

Impact on water and sanitation

- Water supplies?
- Sewage systems or other sanitation arrangements disrupted?

- Childcare and other social services, i.e., schools?
- Impact on communications and logistics**
- Telecommunications within the area and to outside locations?
 - Transport routes and capacity?

Impact on economic activity—employment and income-generating opportunities?

Group C

Present Situation

- What are the weather conditions at present?

Community Response

- What are people/survivors already doing to help themselves?
- Are traditional coping mechanisms operating?
- If not, what are the reasons?
- Have any self-help groups/arrangements been established?

Food, Nutrition, and Income

- Are any particular groups without adequate food? If so, is it due to lack of supplies or lack of purchasing power or something else?
- Have any self-help groups/arrangements been made? By whom?

Health

- Are there any immediate health problems?
- Are there adequate medical personnel? Do they have facilities and supplies to live and work?

Shelter and Personal Protection

- Is survival threatened by lack of shelter, clothing, etc.?

Water and Sanitation

- Are at least minimum quantities of safe water available to all communities?
- Is lack of adequate sanitation posing immediate health risks?

Child Care

- Are there children in need of special care—unaccompanied, traumatized, disabled?
- Are traditional care arrangements and social services functioning?

Logistics

- Can supplies be brought into the area?
- What are the specific constraints?

Administration

- Are there any problems of law and order?
- Is the local administration functioning effectively?

Assistance

- What is the government already doing/planning? Has there been an official request for aid?
- What other organizations are present? What are they doing/planning?

Group D: Probable Evolution

- What weather conditions are forecast for the immediate future? What are the implications for survival, communication, and logistics? You can address temperature, etc.

- Are any secondary disasters or incidents likely to ensue?
- What health risks arise from changes in the environment in which people are living?
- How are the people expected to respond—what further actions will they be taking for themselves?
- Are disruptions to market mechanisms, supply systems, and employment opportunities likely to have short or long term effects?
- What policies and actions are the government and others expected to pursue?

All Groups: Conclusions for Action

*(The themes below should be addressed by **each group**)*

The following immediate actions (specify actions, target beneficiaries, and locations) are required to meet immediate needs:

- Access to food supplies
- Household functioning
- Health Care
- Shelter and personal protection
- Water supplies
- Sanitation
- Special care for children

Priorities

- The overall priorities of the various communities are _____?
- The most severely affected areas and population groups are _____?
- Special considerations arising from the nature of the area/location are _____?
- More detailed surveys and investigations should be undertaken to determine needs and identify appropriate response in respect of _____?

Capacity and Organization

- Local capacity to handle the required relief and rehabilitation operations should be strengthened by _____?
- Other in-country capacities that should be mobilized include _____?
- To ensure effective coordination and control at local and national levels, action should be taken to _____?

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