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United Nations in Cambodia

CAMBODIA – Flood Season Situation Report #7 Friday 18 November 2011

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- UN agencies in Cambodia continue mobilisation of funds and activities allocated through the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to food; water, sanitation and hygiene; agriculture; and shelter sectors.
- Flood waters are receding and families are returning home. Relief efforts are beginning to move on to early recovery.
- UNDP has been granted USD100,000 from UNDP core fund to support early recovery responses to the Mekong and flash flooding in Cambodia. The funding will support coordination efforts, support a needs assessment, and initiate early recovery framework over the course of 12 months from 10 November 2011.

II. SITUATION OVERVIEW

- There has been no new data since NCDM's data of 28 October, which showed that:
 - **350,274 households** (over 1.64 million people) have been affected including 700,000 children and **51,594 households evacuated**.
 - **18 out of 24 provinces** in Cambodia have been affected with Kandal, Kampong Thom, Prey Veng and Kampong Cham the most badly-affected provinces.
 - There have been **247 fatalities** and 23 injuries as a result of the floods.
- **423,449 hectares** of rice fields have been affected with 265,804 hectares reported as damaged. (With the total area of planted rice at 2,466,429 hectares, this represents 10.7 per cent of total crops destroyed).

III. HUMANITARIAN NEEDS AND RESPONSE

Food – WFP

- WFP immediate response food distribution was completed by early November in 5 target provinces: Kampong Cham, Prey Veng, Kratie, Kandal and Kampong Thom with NGO partners ADRA, Caritas, Save the Children, Church World Service, World Vision and CARE.
- WFP is preparing a 12-month Emergency Operation (EMOP) (Nov 2011-Nov 2012) to provide relief and early recovery food assistance to the most flood-affected households facing food shortages and damage to their livelihoods. It will include General Food Distribution followed by Food for Work and Vulnerable Group Feeding for special vulnerable groups. The first round of General Food Distribution is expected to take place in the coming weeks.

Agriculture – FAO



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- FAO has received USD \$219,000 from the CERF to distribute vegetable seeds and hand tools to 10,000 food insecure farming families affected by the floods. FAO has done a rapid rural appraisal in different provinces: Kampong Thom, Kampong Cham, Prey Veng and Preah Vihear, to assess the situation together with the Provincial Departments of Agriculture. In priority, Kampong Thom has been selected for the distribution of vegetable seeds and hand tools to the most affected farmers. The districts, communes and villages will be selected in the coming weeks and distribution is expected to take place during December. Close cooperation with WFP and NGOs partners is sought in the same areas.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) – UNICEF

- Over the past week, UNICEF relief supplies to improve water and sanitation conditions were distributed to 17,295 families (with an estimated 7,000 children) in seven provinces. The supplies include jerry cans, soap, aquatabs and hygiene/sanitation promotion leaflets. Distribution is being coordinated by the Provincial Departments of Rural Development (PDRD), the Provincial Committee for Disaster Management (PCDM) and the Cambodian Red Cross.
- Efforts to improve coordination in the water and sanitation sector are underway following a national sector meeting held on 3 November 2011 which noted that provincial level coordination and monitoring of disease outbreaks were weak and there had been limited distribution of technical guidelines for WASH emergency interventions particularly well chlorination. Meetings and joint interventions are now planned in both Kandal and Kampong Chhnang provinces with UNICEF, NGO partners and government.
- Between 3 November and 15 November 2011, 18 truckloads of UNICEF relief supplies have been delivered to 12 provinces for distribution to families affected by the floods. An additional shipment of 1.6 million water purification tablets arrived at Phnom Penh International Airport on Tuesday, 15 November 2011.

Health – WHO

- Surveillance data from CamEWARN of 9 November shows an increase in Acute Diarrhoea cases above threshold level in Banteay Meanchey, Oddar Meanchey and Kampong Thom. WHO has requested MoH to sample cases.
- MoH Preventative Medicine data shows that there are 99 severely affected health centers and 6 referral hospitals (severely affected health centres, with one flooded inside the building itself) and reports 237 deaths by drowning, 6 deaths by snakebite (total of 90 people injured by snakes) and 4 other deaths.
- Routine Health Care functions:
 - Obstetric: various response in flood affected provinces, some affected health centres are not able to work while others are. In some provinces, there has been an increase in health centre obstetric work as access to local hospitals has been blocked due to poor road condition.
 - Immunization: Outreach activities on immunization programme are not operating well in some provinces due to road interruption.
 - TB: Community DOT is not interrupted
 - HIV/AIDS: There are around 10% of people living with HIV/AIDS under ART who did not show up on the date of appointment in provincial referral hospital of Prey Veng.
 - Nutrition: MoH nutrition programme does have nutrient supplementary feed sachets which were bought by UNICEF. NGOs and PHDs can ask for supplementary feed to help from the nutritional programme.

Shelter – IOM

- Following a meeting with NCDM Secretary General H.E. Ponn Narith, during which the CERF funded emergency shelter component was presented, IOM met with PCDMs and CRC in the three target provinces of Prey Veng, Kampong Cham and Svay Rieng. The shelter distribution plan was discussed and delivery modalities were adjusted based on the latest updates received at provincial level. Specifically, in the two provinces of Prey Veng and Kampong Cham, the most affected districts are still under water and unreachable by road. In order to access these flooded communities IOM will be using boats. According to the current distribution plan, delivery of emergency shelter material to 5,000 families will start in the last week of November and continue until the end of December.

Education – UNICEF

- An assessment of flood-affected schools has been completed in 4 provinces, is ongoing in 3 provinces and will start in 8 provinces during the week of 14 November.
- Information from the provincial education offices, confirm that as of 9 November 323 out of 1401 affected schools (23%) remain closed. Procurement is underway for some 47,000 textbooks for core subjects for 12 grades, teaching and learning materials, school furniture and other supply items. These will be distributed to the most affected schools.
- Save the Children has been supporting the establishment of Temporary Learning Places of which almost 400 have been established in Kampong Cham, Kampong Chhnang and Prey Veng. This will ensure that education continues for an estimated 10,427 children from 103 affected schools.

Child Protection – UNICEF

- Preliminary data is now being analysed from a Child Protection Assessment conducted from 1-4 November in four provinces: Kandal, Kampong Cham, Kampong Thom and Siem Reap by joint teams including NGO partners, MoSVY, DoSVY, NCDM and UNICEF. Initial findings include the following:
 - Children are suffering from psychosocial distress from the recent events; they are scared of the water and worried about the future. Most children spend the day without leisure, confined to temporary shelters, given the limited space, insecurity and temporary disruption of schooling.
 - Concerns have been raised in relation to increased child protection risks, due to unsafe living conditions, including lack of fencing, lighting and lack of access to safe toilets in the relocation areas. There are also concerns related to the limited access to aid delivery and basic services, which may force some families and children to migrate and engage children in hazardous labour.
 - Children in the affected areas are said to be living with their families and extended families, except in the cases of residential institutions.
 - At least 10 affected residential care institutions were visited by the teams. In 2 institutions, children had been evacuated after the floods however, in others children had continued residing in the flooded facility though water has now receded in most of them. It was found that staff of the residential institutions had limited knowledge on emergency preparedness and response.



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- NGO partners, including World Vision, Save the Children and Friends International are currently carrying out child protection responses in the affected areas, such as creating 'child-friendly spaces' and providing family support to prevent separation. Based on the findings of the assessment, UNICEF will work with the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth (MoSVY) and partner organizations to develop, accelerate and scale-up the response to the child protection concerns identified.

Reconstruction & Rehabilitation – ADB

- Emergency support for rice, canals, and roads. In terms of emergency response, ADB's President approved on 2 November 2011 a grant of \$3 million from the Asia Pacific Disaster Response Fund (APDRF) to support the Government's efforts to respond quickly to the immediate humanitarian needs of the flooding and to lay the foundation for a full recovery. The funds will be used to address critical needs for: (i) rice seeds to enable affected households rapidly to replant destroyed rice fields; (ii) temporary repairs of irrigation canal embankments through provision of fuel and empty (sand) bags; and (iii) support affected families through food and cash for work schemes by undertaking emergency repairs to flood-damaged rural roads in order to restore connectivity of affected communities. This will quickly restore access to flood-affected areas for distribution of emergency assistance while providing jobs to the affected people.
- Post flood rehabilitation and reconstruction. Following the government-led flood damage assessment exercise later this year, the ADB plans to take a coordinating role in putting together an emergency flood rehabilitation project, expected to focus on road and irrigation infrastructure. The total financing of the flood rehabilitation project is expected to be of the order of \$100-150 million, including a contribution from the RGC, and is expected to be effective before April 2012.
- Strengthening flood management. In terms of longer-term solutions to the current floods, which are expected to recur more frequently, ADB has raised the issue of flood management as an area where ADB could provide knowledge sharing support, in partnership with other development partners such as the Mekong River Commission. This could be led by the NCDM, and include flood data systems and flood early warning and response systems, including data management.

IV. CONTACT

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