



**Note for the Record
Tajikistan IPC Regional Workshop
Khujand, Sughd – March 12, 2010**

Agenda: See annex 1

Workshop participants: See annex 2

Session highlights:

1. Opening of the floor

- The participants welcomed for the next-1st round of 2010 IPC workshop as it was agreed to be conducted three times a year (seasonable) during the last workshop.
- Advised that the methodology of the workshop will focus on an interactive and open discussion among participants.
- Further, the participants were clarified the main objectives of the workshop when asked to discuss the food security phase classification of all presented / agreed Fergana Valley clusters (situation of the past 3 winter months) and forecast of the situation of the next 4 months using the proposed indicators and as well as own analysis available from their side.

2. Food security review session

- Considering that the workshop included the new participants invited on a regional and district level, a briefings on the key concepts of food security (the main factors that can influence of FS; three pillars of FS; the food security and nutrition analysis framework; other relevant terms such as livelihood, coping mechanism, vulnerability and shocks) were provided for participants with little or no food security background.
- This introductory session facilitated an active discussion among the participants in order to create the best understanding of food security in the example of Sughd region. The points raised included: need to look at food safety (quality of the products used, the way of storage, the method of meal preparation) as some of the food consumed in the region lead to diseases; food availability versus food access issues and especially livelihood issues that are quite different from one region to another; inadequate diet leading to food insecurity; the importance of the border with Uzbekistan and the dependency of some regions on the opening of the border;
- While discussing measures of food security the participants were smoothly turn to the introduction of the Integrated Food Security Phase classification as a standardised approach that integrates food security, nutrition and livelihood information and finalize the clear statement on

severity of food security in the analyzed area. Finally it produced the document to be used by all decision making structures (government, local NGO's and international agencies) for planning of immediate actions.

3. Introduction to the IPC

- The participants made a clear understanding on IPC as an analysis of the severity of the food security situation providing the indicators as an addition to the existed related documents.
- Further, introduced on the reference table while explaining on every indicator as to provide clear understanding of what is required and expected from the participants. It was also made clear what IPC can do and cannot do.

4. Feedback on IPC material

- As it was experienced in the pervious workshop, the participants advised to look through the agreed clusters in order to finalize/ categorize the last version that will be used for the analyses for further planned workshops.
- The proposed / before agreed clusters generated a great debate among the new participants came from the related districts. They agreed that it was difficult to merge certain districts with each others such as Kanibadam and Isfara referring on the industry in Isfara is more developed then in Kanibadam, as well as the agriculture products produced in Isfara is diverse (fruits, cereals, vegetables) then in the neighbouring district than can influence on the overall food security situation of the population. Finally, they agreed not to go in details and to make the IPC process simple the following clusters categorised further as follows:
 - o Cluster A: Pendjikent, Ayni, K. Mastchoh
 - o Cluster B: B. Gafurov, Spitamen, D Rasulov
 - o Cluster C: Zafarabad, Mastchoh
 - o Cluster D: Asht
 - o Cluster E: Kanibadam, Isfara
 - o Cluster F: Shahrison, Ghonchi
 - o Cluster G: Istaravshan
- Categorization of Cluster A was not discussed by the participants, since the separate workshop will be conducted in the related area through involving of the definite representatives of the available agencies and local authorities.

5. Group work on classification of clusters

- During the session since there were available the representative from each cluster (except Asht, cluster D) the participants managed to work and analyse 6 clusters (B, C, D, E, F, G). As there were no representative from Asht district, cluster D was analysed by the representative of local NGO and UNDP using their own knowledge / observation based on the results of monitoring undertaken in the district through implemented projects.

- The participants tasked to work with the indicators provided and use their own data / observation and come up with the classification of the food security phase at the end.
- The data on social indicators brought by the Regional Statistic Department as well as the indicators on the diseases reported by the regional SES provided to each district representative was quite essential for discussion and categorizing of the food security phase to each cluster.
- Each expert on an agriculture sector presented from the field assigned to the cluster he/she comes from.

1. Presentation of Group Work –

The group work discussion on phase classification mainly based on the reference indicators and their own observation, as well as the secondary data provided by the Regional Statistic Department.

The result of this classification in compare with the previous indicators worked out during the previous national workshop is reflected in the table below.

Sughd Clusters												
Cluster	B		C		D		E		F		G	
Clustering of districts	B. Gafurov, Spitamen, J.Rasulov		Zafarabad, Mastcho		Asht		Kanibadam, Isfara		Shahrستان, Gonchi		Istaravshan	
	Oct-09	Mar-10	Oct-09	Mar-10	Oct-09	Mar-10	Oct-09	Mar-10	Oct-09	Mar-10	Oct-09	Mar-10
Indicator 1	2	2	2	3	2	3	not classified	3	2	2	not classified	1
Indicator 2	2	2	2	2	2	2		2	3	2		1
Indicator 3	2	3	3	3	3	3		3	4	4		2
Indicator 4	2	3	3	4	3	3		4	3	4		2
Indicator 5	2	2	3	3	2	2		2	3	3		2
Indicator 6	2	2	2	3	2	3		1	3	3		2
Indicator 7	2	2	2	3	2	3		2	2	3		2
Indicator 8	2	2	2,3	3	2	3		2	2	3		2
Indicator 9	3	2	3	2	2	2		3	3	3		2
Indicator 10	1	2	2	2	1	1		1,2	1	1		1
OVERALL	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	

Summary of the discussion points for Cluster B; B. Gafurov, Spitamen and J. Rasulov

The cluster is classified under Phase 2:

- o The indicator 1 for this zone is classified at Phase 2 and explained that the availability of land (irrigated and pastures) is more or less then 0.008 ha per capita. However, the taxes for land are too high that could not allow using it for HH's.
- o The prices for staple food in cluster is decreased for 30% for the last months, and will continue to raise up to May month mainly for vegetables and dry fruits as the savings done for winter month is

completed. This is also related with the bordering problems, while the food is mainly imported from the neighbouring country – Uzbekistan.

- Bank transfer of foreign incomes is decreased up to 50% due to decrease of reported remittances in the areas during the last winter months. The analyses are taken from the main bank “Eshata” which is mainly used by migrants for cash transfer.
- Estimated 30% of the winter sowing (wheat) is damaged due to winter snowfalls.

Forecast for the next 3 months: The cluster could fall in Phase 3 due to the following factors:

- 90% of the lands are already ploughed up under early crop and sowing could be damaged due to early spring colds (snowfalls in early march) as well as the high precipitation level forecasting for the first decade of spring months, that can influence on the overall quality / quantity of expected crop;
- The imported high quality of mineral fertilizers has sharply decreased due to problems of boarder and population / dehqan farms could rely on the local production only, which is required to use during the lean period.
- Bank credits which is usually used by DF or HH's for sowing period is decreased, and they could rely on their own savings only.
- The continuously increase of food prices at the local markets could lead that the most HH' income will be spent on food rather than to develop their own agriculture activities.

Summary of the discussion points for Cluster C; Mastchoh, Zafarabad

The cluster is classified under Phase 3:

- Availability of irrigated lands is less than 0,06 ha per capita, the water problem existed in the region considered as the main, that caused the low opportunity for agriculture activities;
- Prices for staple food is increased for > 20%, the prices for vegetable will continue to increase, as this is normal during this period.
- A significant decrease (by 50%) in remittances was noted, consequently the HH's related income shortened. Migrants back home during winter period and could not move due to lack of money. Bank credits given for transport expenditures reduced.
- Indicator 4 is classified under Phase IV, as the wage labour in the area is estimated 15 TJS per day. The shortages of budget could not allow paying the monthly fee in time, and it paid with big delays.
- The HH's reduced consumption of preferred food and rely on a cheapest / low quality products.
- Grasshopper plague is observed / reported in the areas and become the main problem for agriculture activities, The Local Gov start fighting with locusts by using the chemical facilities; however it needs to use strong techniques further. Locusts were the main problem during the last season, which resulted the production of low quantity/quality of agriculture products and in some of the lands, the crop was totally destroyed.
- Block of main roads between neighbouring country (Uzbekistan) is reported, that resulted the shortages of importing the main food products and other agriculture facilities.

Forecast for the next 3 months: The cluster could fall in Phase 4 due to the following reason:

- Remittances will continue to decrease while the foreign employee prefers mainly to use the skilled personal, then unskilled. Banks reduce of giving debts for transport cost that was usually used by migrants.
- Food prices will continue to increase, especially if border remains closed, and all savings and stocks from harvest will not be replaced fully.
- The planned agriculture activities depend on hazards, particularly locusts, which is spreading and destroying sowings.
- The possibility for employment (casual labour) is decreased due to high number of unemployed population because of return of migrants.

Summary of the discussion points for Cluster D; Asht
The cluster is classified under Phase 2:

- There was a lack of data from other sources than the analysis templates. Due to absent of representative from this cluster, the district was discussed by representative of local NGO and UNDP based on their own observation during the monitoring of agencies operating programmes.
- Asht is the prompt zone for natural disasters, and the agriculture activities are mainly depending on a weather condition. The main products produced in the area are apricot and cotton.
- A significant decrease in remittances was noted as well as a slight increase in food prices over the past three months. The winter savings is completed, and HH's rely on the market food.
- Phase 3 was chosen for the daily wage rate estimated 20TJS and the rates outside the centre of the district are quite low and cannot cover basic food needs of the households mainly depending on this livelihood. Moreover, salaries and pensions are also extremely low.
- Reduction of quantity of food consumption is reported, and thanks to WFP SF programme that gives possibility for children of primary grade to be fed by midday meal.
- Increase of sale of productive assets (livestock) for the last three month is reported due to absence of other resources of income. Phase 4 is given to coping.

- **Forecast for the next three months: Phase 2 could change to Phase 3 if;**
- Remittances will continue to decrease, since the returned migrants have no money for transport expenditures, and banks reduce their debts in this occasion. The other important thing that employment opportunity is available for skilled personal rather than for unskilled; Considering this issue, most of the villages returned home hopeless, and has to pay their debts back that is influence on the overall HH food security;
- The probability of spring hazards (flooding) will destroy part of the cultivated lands and orchards;
- Decrease of prices for food products will continue if the border will remain closed, but locally produced harvest will not be replaced fully.

Summary of the discussion points for Cluster E; Kanibadam, Isfara

The cluster is classified under Phase 3:

- The main agriculture product produced in the area is rice and fruit (apricot). However, in Isfara district the production of fruit and rice is more developed rather than in Kanibadam district.
- Market prices for staple food are increased by 16-30% for the last three months that is overall influence on the HH's food security. Population is more relying on cheapest and low quality of food.
- The migrants returned home during winter, and have no possibility to go back due to lack of money. The income was spent for fuel and food during winter season. As well as the global crises influence on the overall migration, when it is decreased for 26-50% in average.
- The wage labour inside of the districts is estimated 15TJS, and is mainly preferred during the cultivation season, when the power is required for field works. During the winter season the employment opportunity was very low.
- The clustering area is faced the irrigation water problems due to block of the main irrigating canal.
- For the winter period it is reported some conflict situation in the bordering Jamoats Chorkuh and Voruh because of the irrigation channel flooding between the territory of Tajikistan and Kyrgyz;

Forecast for the next three months: The situation in cluster will improve as the cultivation season will start when there will be possibility for wage labour: as well as water problems resolved on a Gov level for further improving the irrigation facilities for agriculture lands. **Phase 2.**

Summary of the discussion points for Cluster F; Ghonchi, Shahrison

The cluster is classified under Phase 3:

- Food availability in the area is classified to phase 2, since the savings done for winter period is fully completed and new harvest is under the processing. Population is mostly rely on a market availability which is also worsened due to low trading possibilities;
- Prices are sharply increased for 18-20%, and will continue increasing till the harvesting period;
- Migration possibilities are reduced up to 50% due to global crises that influenced on the overall HH's income. The problem is affecting the food consumption, which is reduced from 2 usual to 1 hot meal prepared / served for family members in a day.
- Malnutrition of children under 5 and pregnant women caused the increase of anaemia reported by medical points by 22% in average in both of the districts;
- Wage labour outside of the district is totalled 10 TJS per day / per person, when population is engaged in the field works in the neighbouring district of Istaravshan mainly during the cultivation season (spring). During the last three months the casual labour was unclaimed. The problem is caused the low income possibilities and influence on the overall HH's food security.

Forecast for the next three months: The overall food security situation in the cluster will worsen (**Phase 4**) due to following issues:

- Early spring colds appeared in the first decade of March month affected on fruit trees by 20-30%, and in some jam oats as Gazantarak, Shahrak and Yahtan orchards are totally destroyed.
- Potato seeds become old and seek and needs to be replaced as it influenced on the overall harvest that is year by year decreasing.
- Taking into account that 75% of the overall lands are non-irrigated, the cultivated crop (cereals) will depend on precipitation level in spring.
- Remittances will continue to decrease, since the migrants back home hopeless and has to pay debts back. A significant proportion of the households will remain under the poverty line especially in remote villages.

Summary of the discussion points for Cluster G; Istaravshan
The cluster is classified under Phase 2:

The overall situations in Istaravshan district in compare with other Sughd areas are better. The most of the population are engaged with agriculture works (grapes and partly potato). Trading is developed in the area, the central market which is considered the main in the region makes the possibility for population for commercial works as well as the employment opportunities for vulnerable / poor population.

- The Istaravshan district is considered as the main trading centre for the neighbouring districts as Shahrison, Zafarabad and Ghonchi, where the food prices for the last three month is remained constant (unchangeable);
- Foreign remittance reduced by 11-25%, for the last three month;
- Wage labour estimated inside if the region for men – 50 TJS (who particularly engaged in the central market): for female – 15-20 TJS;
- > 30% of the overall population has a low dietary diversity, considering that average 60% of the overall population leave in the rural areas;
- Phase 2 for coping mechanism, the population has savings of agriculture products (maize) to be sold / bartered in the coming month;
- General peaceful situation is reported for the last three month:

Forecast for the next three months: Phase 3 is forecasting for the next three month; Dehkans should return the credits taken from banks and microfinance agencies, that could influence on the overall volume of agriculture sowing process; The locusts problems are observed in one of the neighbouring Jamoat, are most likely to infect the other agriculture lands;

2. Conclusion + follow-up action points;

At the end of the workshop 3 key persons were selected for food security that would follow on the process and be involved in the preparation of the next workshop in four months, especially in gathering data from partners and facilitating some sessions. They are from Government bodies and UN agency:

Governmental Body:

Ms Radjabova Marifat – Head of the Agriculture Unit / Regional Stat Department;
 Mr Zununhodjaev Zainitdiin – Chief Specialist / Regional Education Department;

UN agency:

- Adjusted reference table will be revised / updated and include new indicators, to be provided in coordination with the Local related departments and revised thresholds and circulated at least one week in advance of the next workshop to leave sufficient time for preparations by the participants.
- It was agreed that this group of participants will take part in IPC workshops for the long-term period ;
- Wrap-up tables for classification and forecast were provided by each cluster to accelerate the reporting process;
- It was agreed that there is a need to ensure a systematic mechanism of checking the quality of data used for the analysis (it was pointed out at the plenary session of the group work presentations that the estimates for the indicators were not “precise” enough to reflect the reality in the region/district). This would be coordinated / facilitated by the IPC FP’s selected on the regional and international level before next round of planned workshop.

ANNEX I Regional workshop "Integrated Food Security Phase Classification"

Date: March 12, 2010

Venue: Khujand city, K. Khudjandi str, 29 café "Khushbahti"

Time: 09:00 – 17:00

Objectives :

To carry out a participatory IPC situation Analysis at the regional level based upon technical consensus

Participants:

Local government officials (Statistics, Agriculture, Health etc.)

Representatives from the banks, hospitals, Statistics Department, Land Committee and environmental specialists; Relevant UN agencies represented at the local level; Relevant local NGOs and INGO's

session number	Time	Title	Format	Expected results
1	9 :00 – 9 :15	Welcome words, presentation of the program	Plenary with individual presentations	To welcome participants and to clarify expectations and objectives.
2	9:15 – 9:35	Review on Food Security	Plenary with presentation and discussion	To review with participants some of the key concepts in understanding food security.
3	9:35 – 10:30	Introduction to the IPC	Plenary with presentation and discussion	To provide participants with a clear understanding of the IPC approach and its application in the local context
TEA BREAK 30 minutes				
4	11:00-12:00	Feedback on clusters; Reference Table for Tajikistan; and Information available for Sughd	Plenary with presentation and discussion	To provide participants with a clear understanding on the idea "cluster", methods of categorizing Sughd clusters.
5	11:00 – 12:00	Feedback on IPC and clusters	Plenary discussion	To feed back on material and address any concerns or issues participants wish to rise
Lunch - 60 minutes				

6	13:00-13:40	<p>1) Review and validation of national analysis workshop results</p> <p>2) Review of secondary data available (Questionnaire to be completed simultaneously)</p>	<p>Group work (6 groups)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cluster B - Cluster C - Cluster D - Cluster E - Cluster F - Cluster G 	To review the results of the 1st regional analysis workshop and propose relevant changes.
7	13:40-15:30	<p>Identification of main structural causes, immediate hazards, and projection of food security conditions for the next season</p>	<p>Group work (6 groups)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cluster B - Cluster C - Cluster D - Cluster E - Cluster F - Cluster G 	To identify the main structural causes for the food security situation in Sughd clusters (districts related) and make projections for the next season.
TEA BREAK 30 minutes				
8	16:00-17:00	<p>Wrap up and Next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IPC process in Tajikistan and national classification; - Linkage to decision making - Revision of Reference Table for Tajikistan - Possible creation of regional food security forum 	<p>Plenary with group's presentation per cluster and additional feedback from the other group</p>	To provide an opportunity for feedback on the workshop process & content and plan next steps.

ANNEX II List of IPC participants in Fergana Valley

#	Name	Organization	Position	Contact phone number
1	Dodoev Rustam	Agriculture Department of Istaravshan district	Deputy Chief	(92) 741-02-24
2	Muzayanov Hoji	Emergency situation & Civil Defence Regional HQ	Deputy Chief / responsible person on REAKT	(92) 769-31-34
3	Halimov Abdurazzok	Agriculture Department of B. Gafurov district	Principal Economist	(92) 778-70-70 (92) 748-28-70
4	Azizova Sofia	UNDP	CPA	(92) 731-85-00
5	Rajabova Marifat	Regional Statistic Department	Head of Agriculture Unit	(92) 764-54-78
6	Tulieva Shohida	ASTI	Project Assistant	(92) 773-49-93
7	Ziyoev Sulaimon	Agriculture Department of Zafarabad district	Head of Department	(92) 716-71-48
8	Boimirzoev Narzullo	Agriculture Department of Mastcha district	Head of Department	(92) 768-05-25 (95) 133-90-53
9	Kahhorov A.	Agriculture Department of Spitamen district	Head of Department	(92) 765-90-74
10	Sultonov Abdumavlon	Regional SES	Deputy Director	(92) 779-67-50
11	Zununkhojaev Zainiddin	Regional Education Department	Senior Expert	(92) 710-72-80
12	Ismailova Dilbar	Regional Education Department	Deputy Chief	(92) 765-52-62
13	Kodirov Nasimjon	Regional Agroindustrial Department	Agronomist	(918) 18-30-14
14	Shokirov Mavlon	Regional Melioration and Water Source Department	Deputy Chief	(92) 777-63-32
15	Habibulloev Saifullo	Agriculture Department of Isfara district	Principal Specialist	(92) 760-29-35
16	Akbarov Ahror	Regional Health Department	Hospital Service specialist	(91) 911-08-38
17	Yuldasheva Gulnora	PO "Saodat"	Programme Coordinator	(92) 707-02-41
18	Prudskikh Dmitriy	YGPE	REAKT Coordinator in Sughd / YGPE	(92) 777-43-71 (3422) 4-17-71
19	Solieva Firuza	Hukumat of Ghonchi district	Vice Chairman	(92) 810-16-76 2-55-22
20	Sayora Ishanova	UN WFP	Head of Sub Office	(907) 70-41-53
21	Saidjon Jalolov	UN WFP	Field Monitor Assistant	(92) 717-10-77
22	Shuhrat Obidjonov	UN WFP	Field Monitor Assistant	(92) 777-83-89