

# Preparing for a MIRA in Afghanistan

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# Preparing for the MIRA in Afghanistan

- **Scoping mission - October 2011**  
to understand applicability of MIRA and test waters (bilaterals)
  - applicable to large scale sudden onset disasters
  - applicable for newly-accessible conflict areas
  - for slow onset disaster (drought) & for highly localized disasters (avalanche) only the review of secondary data is relevant
- **Workshop - January 2012**  
to bring different actors on board with approach and highlight key actions
  - Improving secondary data
  - Questionnaire development
  - Capacity building
  - Standard Operating Procedures



# Secondary Data

- **Gathering and analysis of secondary data should be carried out as part of preparedness**
- **Enhancing the consolidation and analysis of pre- and post- crisis secondary data requires:**
  - Expanding existing **monitoring efforts**
  - **Having systems in place for data collection and sharing**
  - Increased coordination and **harmonization of data collection**
  - **Triangulating compiled data**
  - Increased collection of **district level data**
  - **Enhancing Cluster IM Capacity**
  - Establishing **processes for joint data analysis**
  - Enhancing data preparedness on the CODs and FODs



# Questionnaire Development

- **Developing an Analytical Framework and MIRA questionnaire(s) for Afghanistan.**
  - Establishing an agreed **“analytical framework”**
  - Holding a tightly **facilitated inter-Cluster meeting** to finalize the questionnaire.
  - **Reviewing the questionnaire** to ensure its coherence and its simplicity.
  - **Testing the questionnaire** to ensure feasibility and consistency
  - Including protection components to the questionnaire specific **to conflict-settings**



# Capacity Building

- Identifying and building the skills of assessors to undertake the MIRA.
  - Developing an **inter-agency pool** of trained MIRA assessors
  - Developing a **basic training curriculum** for selected assessors
  - Identifying **funding mechanisms** to support the training and maintenance of inter-agency assessor pools
  - **Empowering HRTs** to manage the pools of trained assessors at the regional level
  - Establishing a system for **lesson learning around the MIRA**



# Standard Operating Procedures

- **Developing Standard Operating Procedures for undertaking a MIRA in Afghanistan**
  - Developing an **Operating Guide for the MIRA** in Afghanistan
  - Defining agreed **triggers** for undertaking a MIRA, based on the crisis scale and typology.
  - Identifying **sources of support**
  - Including **provisions for channelling immediate requests for “urgent action”**
  - Including **provisions for cross-border assessments** (eg. Afghanistan-Pakistan).



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## Next Steps in Afghanistan

- **Deployment of an Assessment Coordinator**
- **Strengthening of information management capacity, and coordination (IM WG)**
- **Development of an agreed Analytical Framework**
- **Finalization of the questionnaire**
- **Development of a “Practical Guide” for Reviewing Secondary Data and for the Field Investigation**
- **Development of SoPs**
- **Undertaking of capacity building**



## Feedback on the MIRA for the NATF

- MIRA is generally well perceived, approach is solid and familiar
- MIRA manual should emphasise that documenting the humanitarian situation through secondary data compilation and analysis is an on-going responsibility (and essential groundwork for MIRA)
- MIRA manual should make reference to access issues, and propose complementary tools (access strategy)
- MIRA manual should make stronger reference to the involvement of the Government
- MIRA manual should clearly outline what crises the MIRA is (and is not) applicable to
- MIRA cannot be implemented unless the HCT has established processes, tools and network of professionals tied to carry it out
- MIRA manual should emphasize that the absence of (secondary) data in a given location does not imply there are no needs.
- Expanding the meaning of “assessment” to include “analysis” remains a challenge in the field. The reference to the field investigation as a “CLA” does not help this.
- Value of the “bank of questions” for field support, and this needs to be urgently finalized.