RAPID ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR TOKWE MUKOSI EMERGENCY

Country: Zimbabwe

DATES: 11\textsuperscript{th} - 13\textsuperscript{th} February 2014

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1.0 Background

After an environmental impact assessment for the Tokwe Mkorsi Dam construction was done, the consultant recommended relocation of 6393 households from within the dam basin and immediate catchment areas. The government chose Mwenezi District as relocation place specifically Chingwizi, Chisase and Masangula lands. The plan development of the relocation site (planning and plot allocation) was not fully done by Ministry of Lands. There was also a delay in processing the compensation of the affected households by the government to facilitate construction of houses in the relocation sites. This resulted in delaying transfer of the affected households from Tokwe Mkorsi dam basin to Mwenezi District (Chingwizi, Chisase and Masangula sites). The unanticipated heavy rains pounded Zimbabwe from January until present leading to flooding of the dam basin where people were settled. Because of the delays in transfer, the heavy rainfalls have aggravated the situation into emergency due to increase in volume of water in the dam reservoir. The volume increases 5-fold than expected inflow causing even a threat of overflowing of the dam. The increase in volume contributed to flooding of the basin of the dam, marooning the houses and fields in the upstream. This posed a threat to the households in the upstream who were at high risk of drowning. As a result of the threat and flooding, the government has put in place an emergency evacuation intervention through the Civil Protection Unit utilising the Army helicopters to evacuate people who were marooned by water, their assets and livestock to transit pick up points in and around Masvingo and Chivi Districts. The population were placed into accessible pickup points where land transport had to pick the people and transport them to the relocation sites. The population are being transferred to relocation places in batches.

The government transfer plan for 3 years was as follows;

**Phase 1: Households in the immediate highest risk flood zones of the dam basis (level 1)**

There were a total of 1247 households in the level 1 category.

**Phase 2: Households in flood Zone (level 2)**

There are 1878 households in the high risk level 2 zone.

The level 1 and 2 were priority levels for urgent transfer to relocated areas.

**Phase 3: Buffer Zone (Level 3)**

There are many people but the government is targeting 3268 households who are at risk. These are planned to be moved from Tokwe Mkosi.

1.1 The triggers of humanitarian response

Due to the unexpected 5 fold rise in water levels in the dam, the plan was abandoned as all people in phase 1 and 2 needed to be evacuated within a shortest period of time. A total of 3125 households have been evacuated from the dam and are currently at transit (pickup point) or at relocation sites. A total of 611 households were confirmed transferred from pick points to relocation sites. The balance of 2514 households was being and is waiting relocation as of 13 February 2014.
1.2 Objectives of the Assessment

1. Analyse the overall emergency situation based on field visit, discussion with key actors and affected families to assist Oxfam to make informed decisions.

2. Determine the immediate needs of the affected people in relocation areas.

3. Recommend further action plans to be taken by Oxfam and Environmental Health Alliance (EHA) members

4. Share the findings with other stakeholders

1.3 Summary of itinerary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 February 2014</td>
<td>12 February 2014</td>
<td>13 February 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harare - Masvingo</td>
<td>Provincial Coordination Meeting : CPU, Governor, PA, Hum Actors</td>
<td>Meeting with Humanitarian Actors: OCHA coordinating-Assessment Feedback</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting with PA</td>
<td>Field Visit to Chingwizi (Final relocation area for affected families)</td>
<td>Meeting with EHA members-drafting plan of action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting with DA</td>
<td></td>
<td>Meeting with UNICEF Harare team: feedback for assessment and action plan discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Travel: Masvingo - Harare</td>
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2.0 Rapid assessment Methodology

The assessment team collected information from different sources that include key stakeholders that is government, INGOs, LNGOs and UN. Key information was collected during meetings at provincial level which were coordinated by the Provincial Administrator as Chairperson of the provincial Civil Protection Unit.

Field visits were conducted in the relocation sites in Chingwizi resettlement, Mwenezi District in Masvingo province. Secondary information was also collected from previous assessments by ACF and GAA.
In the field the team conducted focus group discussions with women and conducted a transact walk in the allocated plots, to Runde and Mukume rivers to check the water sources.

3.0 **Assessment Findings in Chingwizi settlement**

The main findings that emerged from the rapid assessment are as follows;

### General Site information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place/position coordinates</th>
<th>Masvingo Province, Mwenezi District</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Block D:</strong></td>
<td>21° 08’ 39” S; 31° 06’ 26” E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Block E:</strong></td>
<td>21° 08’ 55” S; 31° 04’ 57” E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Block B:</strong></td>
<td>21° 10’ 52” S; 31° 13’ 04” E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Block A:</strong></td>
<td>21° 11’ 02” S; 31° 14’ 48” E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Information</th>
<th>Findings</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Distance from Masvingo to Chingwizi</strong></td>
<td>230km</td>
<td>Travelling via Rutenga Growth Point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Distance from Triangle to Chingwizi</strong></td>
<td>22km</td>
<td>Sometimes not passable due to floods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Centres nearby Chingwizi</strong></td>
<td>Rutenga (61 km) Triangle Sugarcan fields (1 km)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Estimated hectarage in Chingwizi for target population to be transferred | 25572 Ha | Estimation is based on 4 ha per family for estimated total of 6393 families to be relocated from Tokwe Mkosi. |

| Characteristics and access | The terrain is flat from Rutenga to Chingwizi, through to Triangle. The soil is clay red with low absorption capacity | The road from Rutenga to Chingwizi is fairly good and need improvements during the rain season. The road from triangle to Chingwizi is good during dry season and during the wet season there is access restriction if river is flooded. |

| Estimated capacity of relocated families | 6393 families | The relocation is in phases and the chosen areas have a maximum capacity to accommodate all the families |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water sources</th>
<th>Chingwizi Block A-E: Main source is Runde River, approximately 3.5km from the dust road from Rutenga to Chiredzi. The other source is a sand river bed in Mukume river also 4 km from the road linking Rutenga and Triangle.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lundi Old Irrigation pump station: 21° 07’ 36” S; 31° 08’ 26” E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mukume river 21° 08’ 26” S; 31° 08’ 37” E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The rivers are seasonal water sources and all water had high turbidity approximately 1000 – 3000 NTU.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARDA Nuanetsi: Triangle sugar cane fields have canal water and is 1 km away and tributary river is less than 1 km.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Vegetable and other environmental condition/Land use | Grass, trees and bushes around Land was being used by ARDA as farmlands | Good soils conditions for agriculture. |

| Firewood (fuel for livelihoods) | Available in abundance | Some dead trees were |
| Security | Local community reported presence of crocodiles and hippopotamus in Runde River; these can be threats to the population and their livestocks. |

Chingwizi resettlement is divided into 5 blocks and the relocated families will be resettled in each block, each family will get a plot size of 4 hectares. During the time of the assessment it was observed that families were offloaded along the road close to their allocated plots. Some households had to carry their belongings from the road to their plots walking approximately 4 km into the bush looking for their pegs. The plots were not cleared, neither were they habitable. Each family was allocated tauplin plastic sheeting without timber and were pitching their own tents without help from government and humanitarian actors. There was big concern as pregnant women and infants were observed and their parents were concerned about sleeping outside in the malaria prone area. Foot prints of hippo were observed along Runde River and the households with plots close to the river were concerned about their safety.

### 3.1 Water supply

There is no safe, clean water source. The only water source available is seasonal rivers that are Runde and Mukume, running during the rainseason and very unsafe. Other people are relying on water ponds, which is stagnant with high turbidity with milky colour. The population reported that the nearest borehole is 30 km away from Chingwizi. There is no information on the ground water potential except if drilling is done along the Runde river banks.
Collecting water in a pool with run-off water. Water collected from Lundi river 4 km away

3.2 Sanitation
There were no sanitation facilities and people were using the bush during the time of the assessment.

3.3 Health facilities
There were no health facilities in Chingwizi and the nearest are Triangle which is 22 km but majority of the people reported going to Rutenga for health care. There are no health workers in the area.

3.4 Transport
There is no public transport in the area as the population reported using private vehicles that spontaneously pass by.

3.5 Protection issues
During the time of assessments some families reported sleeping in the open at receiving points and before the family finish pitching temporary shelter. There were reports of hippopotamus presence in the area along Runde river as well as crocodiles.

3.6 Schools
There are no schools in Chingwizi resettlement.

Humanitarian actors in Chingwizi resettlement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Responsibilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red Cross</td>
<td>Tents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACF</td>
<td>Water and sanitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxfam GB</td>
<td>Water and Sanitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Aid</td>
<td>Food distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BASO</td>
<td>Water and Sanitation and logistics support</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.7 High Risk factors for the families in Chingwizi

3.7.1 Diarrhoea disease outbreak.
The families were evacuated from villages where they were using clean water sources (boreholes) to areas with dirty water sources and no social services like health facilities and schools. There are no community health workers. The sudden change from using clean water to using dirty water may trigger diarrhoea outbreak.

3.7.2 Malaria disease outbreak
The current situation is alarming as the families are occupying thick bushes, with grass, close to rivers and a few stagnant water points. There is no evidence of mosquito nets being distributed.

3.7.3 Protection issues
There are no traditional structures in Chingwizi as people are not being settled in the original pattern. The structures were distorted as the families are allocated stands.

The area is close to the river with many wild animals like hippopotamus whose foot prints were observed. There also reports of the river being infested by crocodiles. Some plots are close the river (less than 1 km in some cases) and these are at high risk of attack during the night when the wild animals are moving.

3.7.4 Malnutrition (under-5s and pregnant women)
Each family was given 25kg of maize with some few rations of rice, beans and cooking oil. This can not last long. The families will not harvest anything this season and some were evacuated when they were almost harvesting but the crops were flooded in the dam basin. This implies that they have upto the next season without food. Government is relying on donations from NGOs, parastatals and private individuals to meet the demand. There is a huge need for food over the next 18 months (next harvest season).

4.0 WASH Intervention options

4.1 Water supply

4.1.1 Water trucking from Triangle to Chingwizi (approximately 25km)
Opportunities: the road from Triangle sugar cane plantation is accessible and fairly good. There is an existing prefabricated tank that can be used as a temporary reservoir and also 5000l tanks can be fixed along the road. In order to supply minimum water to the population of 12500 people there is
need to supply 187.5m$^3$ (15l/p/d) of water per day, meaning 18 bladders of 10m$^3$ size. If a truck is supplying water at a rate of 45m$^3$ per day then a maximum of 4 trucks (15m$^3$ capacity) are needed when covering up to last resettlement point (25km distance).

**Challenges:** expensive, unsustainable with poor exit strategy. There is funding problems. The potential safe water source is far (25km). The capacity to supply both Triangle needs and the relocated people’s needs may be compromised. The people are being settled in plots of 4 ha each, meaning the families will be sparsely distributed and this is not compatible with water trucking. People will walk approximately up to 5 km to collect water from central collection points.

4.1.2 **Distribution of water purification products at household level**

**Opportunities:** If aquatabs and waterguard can be used for low turbid water (less than 20NTU) and it’s quick and can reduce incidence or occurrence of diarrhoea among the relocated families. Watermaker has a potential to be used for reducing turbidity.

**Challenges:** high turbidity may reduce effectiveness of chlorine dosage as the water has high turbidity; puri-tabs are best options but may not locally available.

4.1.3 **Drilling of boreholes**

**Opportunities:** But there is potential to drill borehole along the Runde river banks. According to remote sensing and discussions with the people there is potential to get sites for drilling boreholes as well.

**Challenges:** there is no data on ground water potential, need geophysical studies.

5.0 **Recommendations**

a) **Water trucking**
- It is recommended to do trucking of clean safe water from Triangle to Chingwizi resettlement starting immediately for 15 days and the number of trucking per day will progressively reduce according to progress of borehole drilling as exit strategy.

**Household Emergency water treatment measures**
- Where water trucking is difficult to access, distribution of water purification products (aquatabs or waterguard for less turbid water less than 20 NTU and watermaker for water with more than 20 NTU) should be done for duration of between 1- 4 weeks. Training households on use of water purification products and monitoring the residual chlorine should be done.

b) **Drilling of boreholes**
- Recommend to mobilise two contractors onsite to start drilling of at least 10 boreholes in Chingwizi resettlement area (2 per block of allocated plots) starting immediately. The drilling of boreholes will facilitate proper exit strategy from water trucking.

c) **NFIs**
- Distribution of NFIs (jerican, washing bowls, soap and buckets), the distance to water source in some cases is more than 4 km therefore families need more storage containers.
d) Hygiene Promotion

- Immediately start mobilising families to start water purification including use of traditional methods like boiling and cloth filter, digging pits for latrine construction after the distributing emergency latrine slabs.

- Hygiene promotion activities in all the relocation sites, training volunteers on hygiene promotion and supporting Ministry of Health to re-establish community health workers.

- Distribution of IEC materials to the affected families targeting malaria and diarrhoea prevention methods.

4.1 Advocacy Interventions

Develop messages on the following key areas:

- Provision of health facilities in relocation areas (temporary or mobile clinics) with essential drugs for treatment of malaria, diarrhoea and ARV supply.

- The design of the compensation strategy has not been clear as families were getting different amounts and some families did not receive the compensation at all.

- Protection of families from hippopotamus and crocodiles especially livelihoods

- Food supplies enough to sustain the families until end of next agriculture season (after harvesting) should be distributed.

- Setting up of communal gardens for the families to start agriculture production e.g setting small fence plots for vegetable production. Measures to stop families from depleting their savings for the buying food should be ensured.

- Provision of seeds and tools for initial agriculture production in the new locations

- There is need to improve shelter at transit pick-up points and at temporary holding points for accommodating people as they wait. There is need to facilitate access to mosquito nets by the affected families as the area is malaria endemic.

Photos in Chingwizi:
Temporary holding point in Chingwizi Block A (ARDA – Nuanetsi)