Briefing Report - Ha Tinh Rapid Assessment:

**Assessment Duration:** 03 days (08-10 October 2010)

**Participating Agencies:** Oxfam (lead), PACCOM, CARE, SCiV, Spanish Red Cross.

I. **Situation Analysis:**

Heavy rains from 29 Sep to 7 Oct with average rainfall of 340mm – 713 mm caused serious flooding in 61 communes of 9/11 districts and cities in Ha Tinh province, in which 31 communes were submerged with 1 – 3 m of water level. Huong Khe, Vu Quang, Cam Xuyen and Duc Tho districts were respectively said the most affected districts by the flood. In addition, flood release from Ke Go, Song Rac and Ho Ho reservoirs to ensure the safety of these works largely contributed to the flood situation in the downstream districts and communes.

As of 9 Oct, there were 12 deaths and 5 injured1 in Ha Tinh province (Huong Khe district: 4 people dead). 26,338 houses were flooded in which 1,882 houses were collapsed and severely damaged. 42 health stations, 98 schools and 32 public administrative offices were flooded.

The flood has submerged and/or destroyed 3,026 ha of winter rice crop, 2,863 ha of winter corn, 1,795 ha of sweet potato, 105 ha of peanut and 2,580 ha of vegetables and cash crops. Total economic losses of Ha Tinh province by the flood were estimated at about VND 845 billion (~USD 43 millions). In Huong Khe district, the worst affected district, total damage was reported at over VND 350 billion.

PACCOM, UN Agencies and DMWG member organizations had a coordination meeting on the 6th October 2010 in Hanoi and agreed to deploy 2 joint assessment teams to Ha Tinh and Quang Binh on 8 and 9 October. A joint assessment team, participated by Oxfam (lead), PACCOM, SCiV, CARE and Spanish Red Cross conducted a rapid assessment in Hoa Hai and Phuong My communes, Huong Khe district, Ha Tinh province from 8-10 October 2010. The assessment team used the joint assessment checklists and data collection forms developed by DMWG members.

II. **Key Findings:**

- Both local authority and people were not well prepared with the rise of water in the region, since the flood was not preceded by any typhoon as usual.

1 See more at CCSFC Situation Report dated 10th October 2010
Early warnings of the flood situation were not disseminated in a timely and effectively manner to the local population;

Water release from reservoirs of the upstream hydro plants were said to be big contributor of the flood situation in Huong Khe and Cam Xuyen districts; Problem with Ho Ho reservoir were recovered by 5th Oct and saved lives of some 28,000 households living in the downstream areas.

Local government have evacuated 7,700 households in 17 communes of Huong Khe district and 800 households in 9 flooded communes of Vu Quang district and 500 households of Cam Xuyen district to safer areas. These families have all returned to their homes by the time the assessment team arrived.

The flood destroyed a majority of summer-autumn paddy rice crop, winter sweet potato and corn crops, which are main food sources of local communities in affected areas. The Provincial People Committee have requested 5,000 tons of rice from Government assistance to meet the food needs of some 55,500 people in 6 months2 (until May next year when the food crops could be harvested). By 7th October, the Prime Minister approved to support flood affected communities in Ha Tinh province with VND 100 billion and 1,000 tons of rice. So the food gap in next 6 months is still 4,000 tons of rice.

26,338 houses were flooded in which 1,882 houses were collapsed and severely damaged. In Huong Khe district alone, 9,881 houses were flooded with 459 houses were collapsed and severely damaged.

80% of houses in the affected areas are made of wood and bamboo. In addition, flood happens frequently so foundation of the house is always high with 1 -2 meters and many wooden boards closed to roof-top were put up to keep clothes, blanket and rice storage. After floods, there was not much damage to the house structure but facilities in the houses such as pots, dishes were lost.

15 schools in Huong Khe district were closed during the flood and will resume to normal by Monday Oct 11, 2010. Most of pupils in the affected areas are school-off due to flooded and damaged. Local authorities expressed that all school will be restarted since Oct 11. However, many pupils will have to travel by ferry-boat to school and must be taken better care by parents.

In the assessment communes, there is no specific care-centre for children and old people. No psychology case is reported. All families take care of children and old-generation. During the flood period, there was less food and foodstuff than usual but they still had some rice and instant noodle.

In Huong Khe district, there were 10,146 wells (of which 90 per cents dig well) and 8,000 latrine were submerged during the flood. It is estimated that nearly 42,600 people lacked clean water in Huong Khe district. As of 9/10/2010, 7,855 wells were cleaned with by Cloramin B and Aquatabs. 630 kg Cloramin B (powder) and 50,000 Cloramin B (tablet), 368,000 kg Aquatabs (tablet), 5000 ORS packets, etc were distributed from 4-8 Oct. Instruction of water treatment were provided by commune and village health staff, but was said to be far from demand. At the time of assessment, most of affected families have not yet had the clean water for both cook and bathing;

There were 140 cases with petechial fever appeared at 8 communes of Huong Khe district during period 31/8-27/9/2010. Communicable diseases have not reported yet in 22 communes of Huong

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2 Source: Ha Tinh PCFSC Situation Report, 7 October 2010
Khe district as of the time of assessment. As of 9/10/2010, 90% of commune health stations in Huong Khe district were reactivated and returned to normal situation.

- Staff from all levels from provincial to commune and village level and young volunteers from neighboring districts have been mobilized for road clearance and environmental cleaning at public facilities like schools and medical clinics in the flooded districts.

- By 8th October, Ha Tinh provincial authorities released VND 1,5 billion and 30 tons of instant noodles, medicines and water treatment chemicals to assist the flood affected communities in 6 districts: Huong Khe, Vu Quang, Cam Xuyen, Duc Tho, Thach Ha and Huong Son.

- By the 9th October 2010, Huong Khe district has received more than 13 tons of instant noodles; 17.5 tons of rice; 400 household kits and VND 383 million from some 24 donors.

- Ha Tinh Provincial People Committee called for national/ external support of VND 400 billion to recover agricultural production, roads and bridges, irrigation system, school, healthcare station, etc.

III. Recommendations:

3.1. Emergency Food Security and Livelihoods (EFSL):

Short-term:

- Immediate support needed of daily used rice to the people in remote and recently isolated communities is recommended, 5,000 tons of rice for some 55,500 people for the next 6 months (according to provincial estimation)

- Seeds and fertilizers for agriculture production: spring rice – 400 tons, winter maize 50 tons, vegetable seeds – 15 tons

- Field recovery and rehabilitation for winter cash crops should be done soon (cash for work options can be considered).

- Advocacy efforts to ensure timely and appropriate distribution of food aid by local governments

Long-term:

- Foodstuff for animal husbandry such as cows and buffalos should be considered as winter will come soon.

- A longer term recovery project in the most affected communes, districts will help the victims to recover their lost land, repair irrigation facilities.

3.2. Shelter and Non-food Items:

- Support to construct Community Typhoon/ Flood Evacuation Centres;
- Advocacy for designs and construction of public buildings under national programs No. 135, 30A that appropriate to situation of flooding in these areas (e.g. office building, water/irrigation works resistant to flood and typhoon; etc.).

3.3. Education and Child Protection:

- The Education Department of Huong Khe district reported the needs for children textbooks and teaching aid kits for teachers and children, clothes for children, tables and desks for children and teachers, Teaching and learning materials. Details of quantity of these needs are being finalized by the Education Department and communes.
3.4. Health and WATSAN

- The PCFSC Report dated 8th October indicated the need for 3,000 kilos of water treatment chemical, 15,000 liters of disinfection chemicals to assist the 9 affected districts.

- Huong Khe district alone requested for 44 medicine units (1,000,000 VND/ unit) for health stations in 22 affected communes (2 units/communes), 1 ton of Chloramin B, 50 litres of Deltamethrin, 30 sets of protective uniforms, and 1,000 sets of mat. In addition, human resources are needed to clean commune health stations.

3.5 Other key recommendations:

- It is necessary for critical review of water release policies by the hydro power plants to ensure flood safety for communities residing in downstream areas;
- Implementation of poverty classification policies and practices should be monitored and evaluated in remote areas;
Emergency Rapid Assessment Report

Flood effects
in Quang Binh province
(01-07 Oct 2010)

From 09 to 10 Oct 2010

Joint Assessment Team (JAT)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Sector</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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Group Assessment in Field

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<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Group I (Minh Hoa dis)</th>
<th>Group II (Nguyen Ho and Quang Trach dis)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Health, Watsan,</td>
<td>Mr. Hoang - WHO,</td>
<td>Mr. An - Unicef, Mr. Chau - Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hygiene</td>
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<td>Mr. Nhat - Unicef</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
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<td>Mr. Tho - Unicef</td>
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<td>Child protection</td>
<td>Mr. Huu - Plan</td>
<td>Mr. Trinh - Unicef</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shelter, NFIs</td>
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Objectives

Identification of damages and needs of people, children and communities in flood-affected areas of Quang Binh province in Oct 2010

Flood Situation

Flood caused by the heavy torrential rains in the Central Vietnam (Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri and Thua Thien Hue) in the evening of October 02 until 05 (800 – 1,658 mm). The rain fall was highest since 1985. Water levels measured at 14.27m (Giang River), and measured at 11.82m (Kien Giang River)

Visited areas in Quang Binh prov
Methodologies

- Meeting with provincial departments (PCFSC, RC, DARD, DoH, DoET, DoFA, PPC)
- Review provincial, district and commune reports on Damages and Needs after the flooded
- Desk study (secondary data)
- Interview local leaders
- In depth interview (households visit)
- Observation/Photos taken
- 5 sub-sectors groups carried out the NA

Overall Damages

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Overall</th>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Education</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Communes flooded: 104/159 communes</td>
<td>• Health stations flooded: 106/159</td>
<td>• Schools flooded: 326</td>
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<tr>
<td>• District/city flooded: 7/7 district, city</td>
<td>• Health stations flooded up to roof: 34</td>
<td>• Food damaged by water: 45,000 tons</td>
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<td>• Flooded commune to date: 4 communes</td>
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<td>• Seedlings damaged by water: 2,550 tons</td>
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<td>• Estimated economic loss: 1,392 bill VND</td>
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<td>• Rice cultivation area flooded: 4,512 ha</td>
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Human loss

- People killed: 45 (5 children)
- People missing: 15
- People injured: 64

Housing

- Houses flooded: 105,232
- Houses collapsed: 123

Findings - Health

- Report some cases of diseases started & increased: skin diseases, eye infections, acute diarrhea, acute respiratory infections, malaria and fevers but no epidemic reported
- Medical equipment and medicines damaged equal 3,6 billions VND ~ US$187,000
- Infrastructure damaged equals to 21 billions VND ~ US$ 1.07 mil

Findings – Water and Sanitation

- Nearly 100% of the dug wells in flooded area were contaminated
- 100% of piped systems were affected with 50% of construction units damaged
- Lacking the hygienic storage tanks/containers
- Lack of chemicals for HH water treatment
- Highly contaminated environment (muddy, animal dead bodies, rubbish, …)
- All temporary latrines were swept away/destroyed
- Soap and hygiene materials were swept away

Findings – Education

- All students in 326 flooded schools were off from school last week from 4 to 9 of October
- Teaching and learning materials were flooded and no longer usable, especially textbook, notebook, etc.
- Plywood tables, chairs and other equipment were damaged.
- All preschools are one-storey buildings, therefore damages were more serious
- Serious damage in remote village preschool sites as they are not solid, some case they are mostly destroyed e.g. preschool site in Phu Cuong village, Phu Hoa commune, Quang Trach District
- Learning materials at home were destroyed due to floods

Findings - Child Protection

- 33 children orphaned by flood
- 3 educational centers for children with disability flooded and damaged, affecting to 236 children
- Post-trauma issues to children whose family members lost
- Children worried on school closure; Stress over children with busy learning schedule to catch up with non-affected areas
### Findings - Shelter, Non food items (NFIs)
- 80% of affected households lost their assets like clothes, cooking and eating facilities, mosquito nets, blanket, etc.
- 100% of resident houses in Minh Hoa districts were flooded for a week (40% were unroofed, up-side-down wooden houses)
- People, including children of the 40% most damaged houses do not have safe shelters to sleep, no safe latrine, and have to go to springs to take clean water

### Findings on Food security & Livelihood
- Rice, maize, groundnut and cassava are the main staple foods
- About 30 % of affected HHs has stored food lost and damaged
- Vegetables are totally damaged
- Urgent food supplementation requires for most affected households
- The most of affected HHs will lack food supply for 1-5 months
- Lack of seeds for next crop, especially short-life seeds (maize, spinach, morning glory)
- Few options available for food gathering and income generated activities (forestry)
- Inter-irrigation system damaged
- No evidence of micronutrient deficiency among children and women

### Initial Responses
- **Quang Binh PC’s** mobilized Army officer, Police officer, Youth Union, Red Cross, Mass Organization and function organization to support the affected people to evacuate and to recover after the flood
- **Fatherland Front of Quang Binh** has received the donation from charities and had distributed to the affected people
  - 100 tons rice
  - 3,300 carton boxes of instant noodle (30 packs per carton)
  - 700 boxes of drinking water (9 bottle/box)
  - 3.5 billions VND
- **RC of Quang Binh**
  - 670 tons of rice
  - 2,760 instant noodles
  - 91 boxes of drinking water (9 bottle/box)
  - 50 millions VND
- **RC of Central Office**
  - 100 millions VND
  - 1,000 family kits
  - 50 tents
  - 1 water filter system (filter 5,000 liter/hour)

### Aid to date and Pledged
- Government pledged to provide rice 1,000 tons rice and cash 100 bil VND but procedure is slow
- Quang Binh PC’s supported 4.5 mil/death of household member, and pledged to supported 5mil/fully collapsed house
- Red Cross, Fatherland Front (provincial) urgent provision continue of rice, noodle, foodstuff and bottled water have been done by different organizations
- Some home necessities have been provided by organization and individuals but insufficient
- Labor forces (army, police, department, mass organization, youth, etc) have been called for public support and school, surrounding environment clearance
- The provincial received 200 emergency drug kits; more than 2 tons of chemical from the MoH timely for cleaning the water and environment and the implementation is on going effectively

### Gaps
- Aid of rice and cash from government are little and slow, need urgent support
- Poor families will lack food for 1-6 months due to loss of food crop and wet during the flood
- Food stuff and nutrition food is very insufficient
- Risk of increased malnutrition among children
- No party pledged yet for education and health care
- No cash and force to recover the damaged land
- Poor knowledge in DRR and CBDRM
- No sustainable livelihoods
- Psychosocial support for flood-affected children, particularly orphans

### Recommendation
#### Immediate support
- **Food aid**: noodles, rice and drinking water to the people in the most affected communities (especially isolated communes in Minh Hoa, Tuyen Hoa, Quang Ninh district)
- **Shelter, NFIs**: roofing materials, household kits, house repairing kits, cash for house repair/reconstruction
- **Education**: Roofs for damaged schools, provision of table and chairs for schools; books, student kits and teaching materials; uniforms; psychosocial support for affected students; awareness raising on nutrition and health care for children at home and school.
- **Child protection**: psychosocial support for orphaned children
**Recommendation (cont.)**

**Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene:**
- Filtered water including filtering equipments, Cloramin B, Aqua-tab, PUR sachets and water containers
- Hygiene kits including soaps
- Essential medicines and equipments, especially to treat water-born diseases
- Environment cleaning (disinfectant, chemical, equipments)
- IEC materials on health and environment

**Recommendation**

**Medium and Long term**

- Rehabilitation of water supply & sanitation infrastructures
- Commune health station/centers for children with disability upgrading
- Seeds and seedlings (vegetables, short-life maize, rice)
- Cash for livelihood recovery
- Awareness raising on CBDRM
- Define relevant preschool models for flood area
- Develop and improve standards for school equipment for flood areas
RAPID ASSESSMENT REPORT
In Hue, Quang Tri

Title: Assessment of Response Needs due to flash flood in 67 communes, 11 Districts, in province of Hue and of Quang Tri

Date of Report: 11 Oct 2010

Summary:
- **Summary of Disaster:**
  Heavy rains from 2nd Oct to 5th Oct 2010 caused flash floods in 258 villages of 25 districts in 5 provinces of Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri and Hue. The flood reached historical levels in Quang Binh and Ha Tinh provinces but lower levels in Quang Tri, Hue and Nghe An. In houses, flood levels are from 0.3 meter to 1.8 meters.

- **Summary of Damages:**
  Damages in Hue, Quang Tri and Nghe An were much less in comparison to Ha Tinh and Quang Binh. In Hue, total estimated value of losses was 42.45 billion VND (USD2.18mil) agriculture loss of 5.40 bil VND mainly in vegetables and other crop, irrigation loss of 18.05bil VND, roads loss of 19.00bil VND. In Quang Tri, total estimated value of losses was 205.55 bil VND (USD10.54mil) of which houses 12bil VND, production and services 84,30bil VND, infrastructure 106.48bil VND, other 2.30bil VND.

  3,300 ha of vegetable crops were affected in Quang Tri and Hue and 500 ha of rice affected in Quang Tri because of these floods. Vegetables and rice were not lost but reduce quality.

  Schools and health stations were less damaged by this flood. No facilities and learning materials damaged. Even the schools were closed for many days in Hue and Quang Tri. In Hue, 450 chairs and tables for kindergartens were wet from flood waters and damaged. They need to be replaced with new ones.

Three houses collapsed, 14 others were badly damaged. 36 other houses roofs were blown off in Quang Tri. Three houses lost roofs in Hue because of local tornados.

- **Summary of Needs**
  **Immediate needs:** In total, needs reported by people committee of Hue and RC chapter of Quang Tri are 2,500 tons of rice, 3000 HH kits, 200 tons of rice seeds and dozens tons of other crops seeds. Our visits to 4 most affected communes justified the food and nutrition needs in Quang Tri and Hue were caused by the flood in 23 August 2010, which was at the harvest time. Rice yield reduced 25% to 50%. The loss of rice harvest was 1,200 tons of rice in two visited communes of Phong Binh and Hai Thanh because of flood 23 Aug 2010.

  According to visits to local people, food shortage for affected families will occur in January 2010, which normally will be met by *Tet for the poor* programme of the Vietnamese government and other humanitarian actors. The current poverty rate at visited communes is from 14% to 24.7% of the population with criteria of VND200,000 (USD10.26)/person/month.

  No urgent needs for household (HH) items. The worst flooded families visited by us reported that they did not lose HH items but some livestock. They still have some chickens and pigs to raise. Other families are living also based on income of children working in big cities as labor force or household help. Reasons were that local people are pro-active in coping with floods by keeping HH items and
food in high and safer area such as the roof frame of their houses. Flood levels were lower than during Ketsana typhoon in Quang Tri and Hue.

**Water and sanitation in the lowland villages and communes are a big problem** because of remaining water from this flood and previous floods. In Hue, thanks to development, visited communes of Quang Phuoc and Phong Binh have clean water systems for daily use. Only 43 families of 167 people in one village in Phong Binh do not have access to commune clean water system because of remote and far living areas from the commune center. The cost of access to 43 families can be 136mil VND (USD7,000) seeking for funding by the commune people committee since 2008 but still no response.

Visited communes of Hai Thai and Trieu Thanh in Quang Tri do not have clean water system. They are using rain water and dug wells for daily use. They use sand materials and other to clean the dug well waters, of which quality does not meet the Vietnamese national Standards. Some families buy drinking water bottles of 24 liters which cost VND12,000 (US6.4). We did not observe the use of water purification tablets and chemical for environmental cleaning. The population of lowlands communes in Hue and Quang Tri will live with flood waters from now to end of December. One training course on water and sanitation will be held on 10 October in Hai Thanh commune by district level in order to improve local response and coping capacity.

**Recovery and rehabilitation:** Needs of reparation and renovation of roads, irrigation system were not assessed during this rapid needs assessment. In Hue, 450 chairs and tables for kindergartens were wet from flood waters and damaged. They need to be replaced by news one.

Only 17 houses need to be rebuilt using tornado and flood resistant techniques. Local people with support from community temporarily repaired their houses, whose roof and walls damaged.

The local affected people also need rice seeds, peanuts, cassava, corn seeds for winter/spring season because this flood and the flood of 23 August damaged the quality of rice for keeping as seeds [for the next planting season]. No data on quantity in the whole province but in Hai Thanh commune there is a need of 35 tons of rice seeds for 297 hectares. However rice seeds and other seeds are available at the local markets (price of rice is VND15,000 to VND20,000 (USD0.75 to 1.00). People in low land communes will need seeds only in December or January next year because of remaining [undrained] waters and potential floods. People in other communes will need seeds immediately or in November 2010. Government also has policy on helping people with seedlings. The Red Cross chapters of Quang Tri and Hue will follow up on the government response.

**Recommendations:**
Emergency relief effort can be focus on Ha Tinh and Quang Binh provinces because present urgent needs in Quang Tri and Hue can be supported with local resources and pledged assistance. Recovery, livelihood and water/sanitation needs can be helped with detailed needs assessments and update of detailed current response by local actors.