



WFP PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME (PREP)

EPR KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

RATIONALE

- WFP commitment to learning in support of SO1 'Save Lives'.
- Need for a more structured and systematic approach for greater accountability.
- Recommended by WFP Global Meetings and key donors.
- PREP as a response to lessons learned from major emergencies.

DEFINITION

Organizational Learning is both:

Formal

Evaluations, Audits

Informal

Lessons Learned, After-Action
Reviews, best practices

STRATEGY

Objective:

- Use knowledge to improve WFP EPR capacity

Based on principles:

- Dynamic and continued learning
- Accountability
- User-focused
- Partnership

ACHIEVEMENTS

LESSONS LEARNED

- Lessons Learned Database fully developed.
- Recommendations ranked and prioritized.
- Methodology tried and tested.
- Mandatory after every Level 3/Level 2 Response.
- Comprehensive Toolkit developed.
- Summary reports available for external audience.

LESSONS LEARNED

- Five Level 3 Lessons Learned exercises completed:
 - Sahel, Pakistan, and Haiti (2010)
 - Horn of Africa (2011)
 - South Sudan (2012/13)

DYNAMIC LEARNING

Lessons Learned have informed:

- EPR Training and Deployment Strategy:
 - Emergency Deployment systems
 - Emergency Training programmes
- Normative Guidance:
 - EPR Framework and Policy
 - Activation Protocol
 - Catalogue of normative guidance

DYNAMIC LEARNING

EPR Strengthening (EPRS):

- Learning from 1990s/early 2000 emergencies triggered major EPR investment programmes.
- Systematic EPRS effort now launched based on:
 - continual organizational learning
 - robust knowledge management system

DYNAMIC LEARNING

Lessons Learned contributed to:

- Sahel 2012 Regional Response Strategy
- Pakistan and South Sudan responses
- Cluster guidelines for Country Directors

FOCUS ON USERS

- Networks established:
 - EPR Knowledge Management Champions Group, Rome-based.
 - EPR Field Outreach Network – RBs and selected COs.

PARTNERSHIP - A LOOK INTO THE PAST TO INFORM THE FUTURE

- Partnership with Auburn University, Alabama.
- Students and Academics conducted qualitative study of WFP emergency operations from 1999-2011.

PARTNERSHIP - A LOOK INTO THE PAST TO INFORM THE FUTURE

Objective: To map trends in WFP's emergency response over the past ten years.

Research Questions:

- How do you know when a lesson is learned?
- What has WFP learned in ten years of EPR?
- How does WFP prove it can now better respond to emergencies than in 1999?

PARTNERSHIP - A LOOK INTO THE PAST TO INFORM THE FUTURE

- Preliminary Findings:
- Over time WFP has improved in:
 - Inter-agency coordination via clusters, including Food Security.
 - Pre-positioning and preparedness.
 - Expanded cash and vouchers.

PARTNERSHIP - A LOOK INTO THE PAST TO INFORM THE FUTURE

Recurring issues:

- Acting on early warning.
- Staff training and deployment.
- Slow availability of mobilising resources.
- Inconsistent communication – internal & external.
- Information management - data inconsistency, improved data systems & equipment.

PARTNERSHIP - A LOOK INTO THE PAST TO INFORM THE FUTURE

Qualitative study/data from over 1000 pages will be combined with:

- Audit and evaluation reviews; and
- Quantitative analysis of EMOP/PRROs.

To produce a comprehensive Synthesis Report.

EPR KM – THE WAY FORWARD

Future activities include:

- Support to Regional and Country Offices.
- Finalization of the Synthesis Report.
- Inter-agency Knowledge Management training.
- Web-based EPR community of practice
- Outreach to wider EPR KM arena:
 - other UN agencies
 - external networks/communities of practice

To ensure sustainability:

- Contribute to corporate KM initiative.
- Integration of KM in EPR Policy.

Success demands a long-term commitment to EPR Knowledge Management.

THANK YOU



PREP Presentation to the Executive Board, 15 May 2013