

A world map with several regions highlighted in orange and red. The highlighted areas include parts of South America, Africa, the Middle East, India, and Southeast Asia. The text "Clouds, but little rain..." is overlaid on the map.

“ Clouds, but
little rain...”

*The people every day see many clouds –
international initiatives and plans, but
very little rain –
actual change at the frontline.”*



Global Network
of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster
Reduction (GNDR)

“Views from the Front Line (VFL)”

A bottom-up approach, the perspective from the grass-
roots level for

Monitoring the Hyogo Framework of Action (HFA)

“Views from the Front Line” – whose views and from where?

- VFL is a complement to the UN-ISDR Global/National Platform program;
- VFL is an action-research project linking civil society actors with government bodies – the primary stakeholders in UN-ISDR GNP;
- Survey findings provide a ***different but complementary*** perspective viewed by community level actors – district officials, educators, health workers, religious leaders, and your neighbors.

Objectives of VFL

- Provide an ***independent*** overview of progress on HFA at the local level via a provisional baseline;
- Strengthen (or establish) ***public accountability*** for effective HFA monitoring;
- Enhance civil society ability to engage in the HFA on the ground (monitoring, info sharing, policy, advocacy...)

VFL in Tajikistan – who, what, when where?

- August 2008 GNDR confirmed REACT as the sponsoring mechanism for the research.
- Mission East volunteered to serve as National Coordinator/Facilitator.
- ECHO endorsed the VFL and use of DIPECHO time and resources.
- GNDR provided standard questionnaires and ready-made database.
- Mission East engaged Netherlands Red Cross / Tajik Red Crescent Society, FOCUS Humanitarian Assistance, and local NGO MUNIS to conduct field activities.

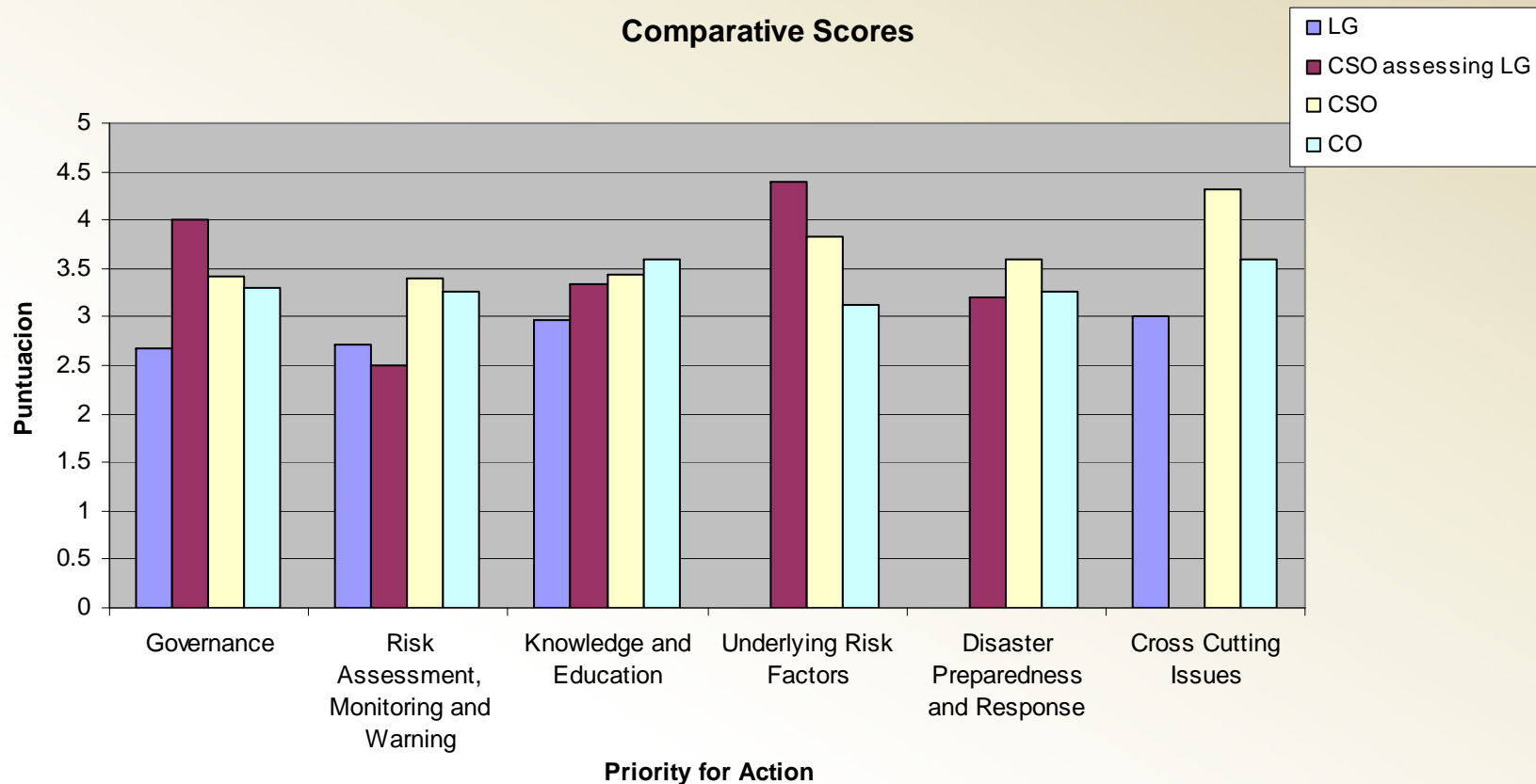
Field Activities – March & April 2009



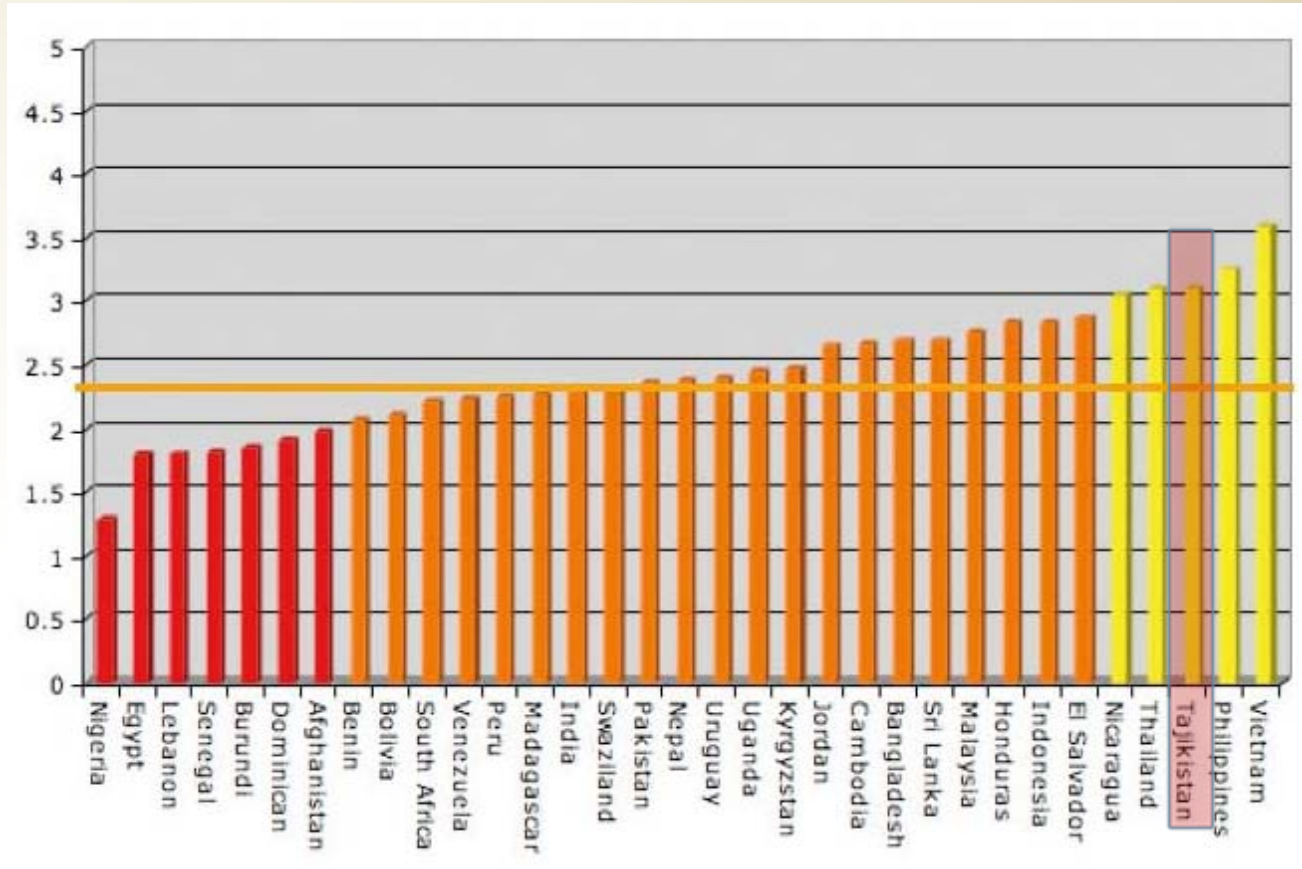
Respondent groups identified:

- 60 senior govt officials including district heads, planners, members of district development departments;
- 9 heads of local NGOs
- 248 community reps – religious leaders, school principals, village leaders, health workers.
- 317 Total respondents.

Results: Awareness level by Group and Priority For Action

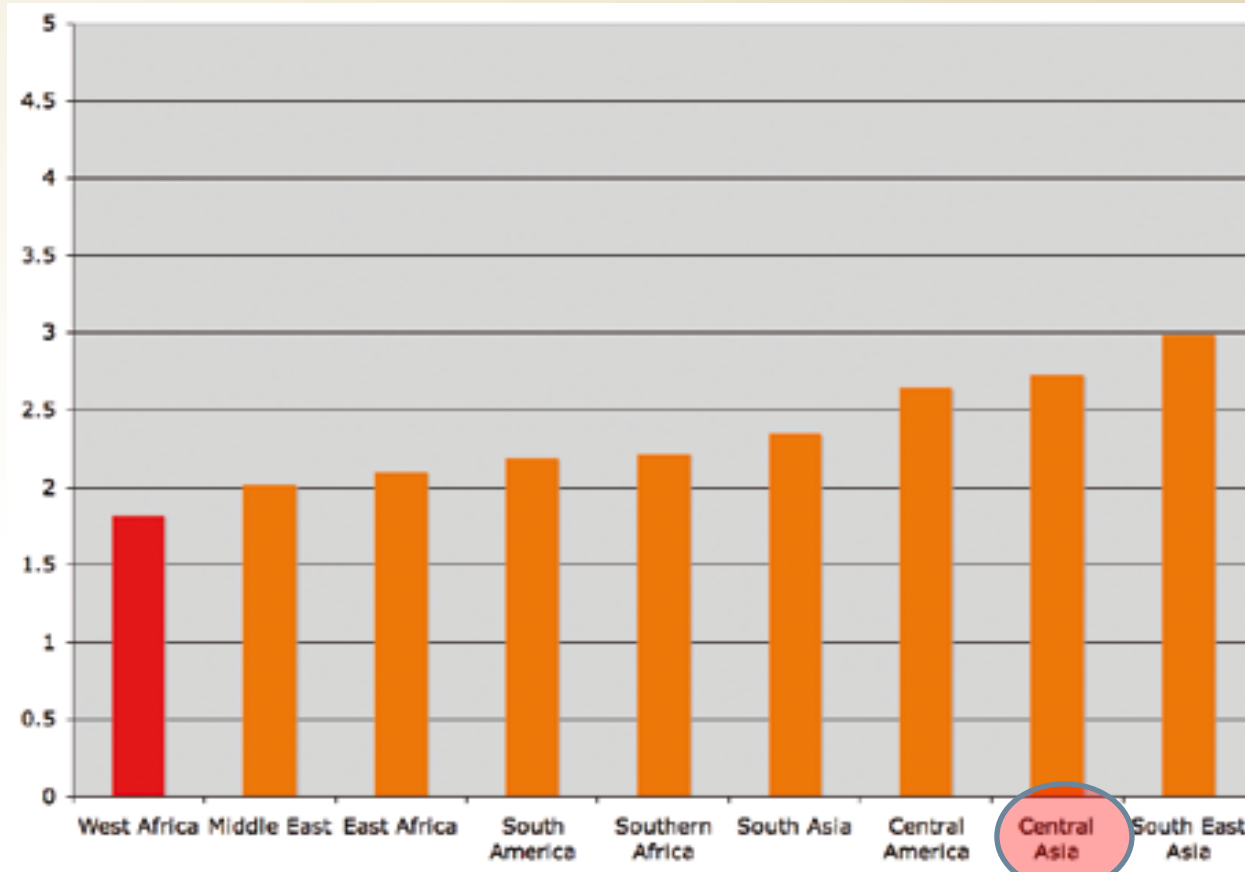


Tajikistan in the Global Context



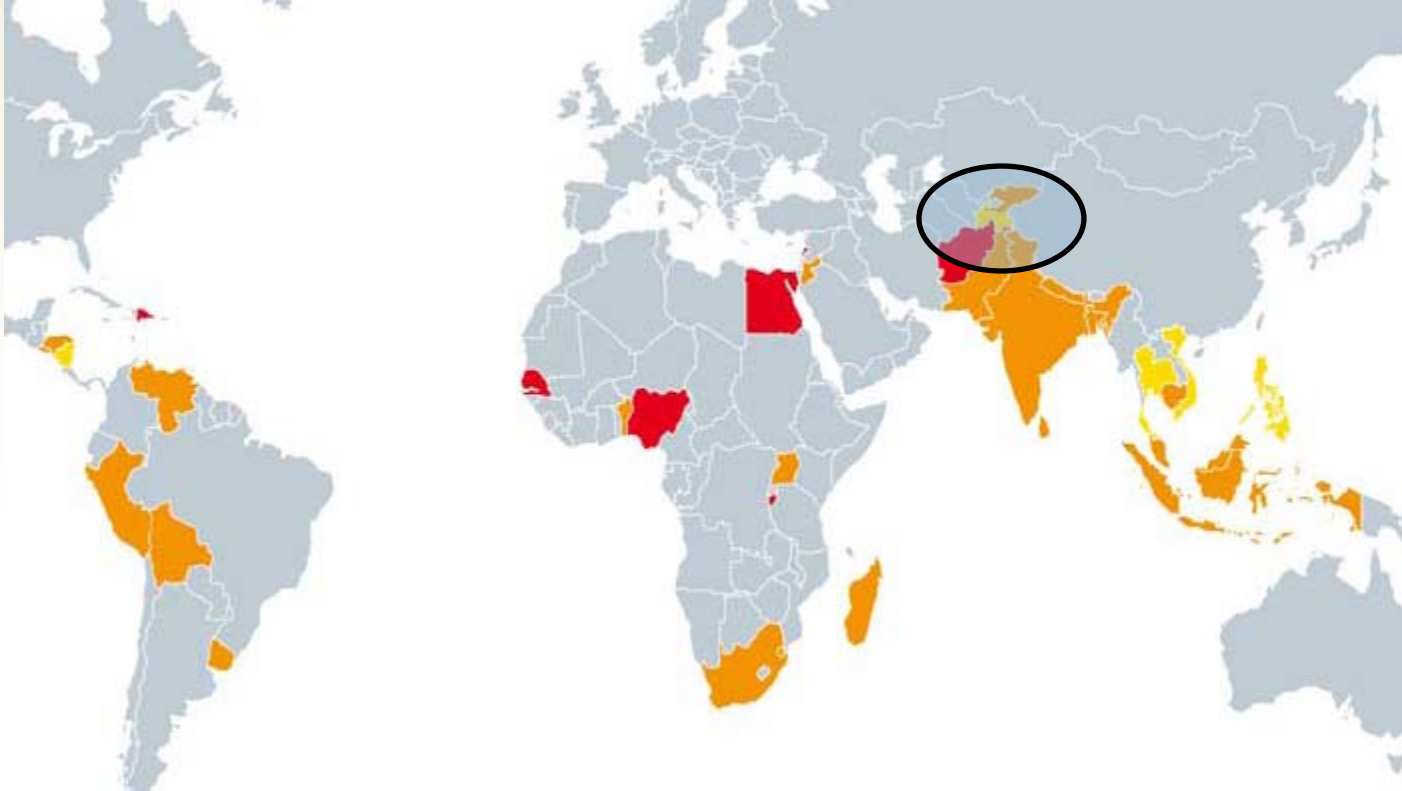
HFA implementation as reported by VFL respondent groups in 33 participating countries

Central Asia in General



South East Asia, **Central Asia** and Central America report the most progress with West Africa the least

The Global Perspective



Red – No progress, not at all

Orange - To a very limited extent

Yellow - Some activity but significant scope for improvements

What Does This Tell us?

Disconnect between national level perceptions and local level perceptions;

Globally, the data reveals that progress made by local stakeholders are significantly lower than those from the national level assessment (not the case in Tajikistan).

CSOs report greater perception of progress than either Local Government or Communities.

What should we take away from this?

- DRR actors must work to narrow the 'perception gap' between the different levels of stakeholders;
- Once the gap is narrowed and stakeholders are operating with the same perception of progress (or lack of), work for more accurate planning and quality of engagement by target groups.

A few notes on methodology

- Design of questionnaire problematic (lack of “don’t know” option);
- Self-administered questionnaires have inherent weakness;
- Methodology will consequently be adapted for next phase of VFL.

Thank you!

For more information, kindly contact:



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