

Questionnaire IV (Country Report IV) – For Session 3

~ The experience of drought management

1. Please describe the experiences of recent severe drought. Specific describe is appreciated.

(Country Name: VIET NAM)

Drought is the natural phenomenon causes by the unequal distribution of rainfall. In Viet Nam, drought usually occurs in dry season from December to April of next year. In year 2005, drought occurred seriously in whole country.

The main reasons of drought situation:

- The forest was destroyed;
- The rainy season stopped too early;
- The rainfall was lower than the average range from 10-30%;
- The flow in rivers had reduced;
- The salinity intruded far from the sea to the inland;
- The water level in rivers was low;
- The water volume in reservoirs was 60-70% of design storage, and
- Amount of existing reservoirs were not enough.

The solution for drought overcoming:

- Statistic the water storage for reservoirs;
- Make a plan for drought overcoming;
- Inform the drought situation to all people;
- To repair water resources engineering;
- The rational distribution of water resources;
- Saving water use, and
- Make plan to construct more new reservoir in the future.

The experiment in drought preventing and overcoming:

- The guidance of The Government;
- The cooperation between Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and Ministry of Nature Resources and Environment, Energy General Company of Viet Nam (EVN), Center of Hydro-meteorology Forecasting;
- The efficient activities of local drought preventing board; and
- The support of people.

2. If there is a legal or institutional framework of drought management in your country, please describe the outline of it. In addition, how have you (or your organization) coordinated the drought in practice? (For example, intervention of government, negotiation among stakeholders)

(Country Name: VIET NAM)

The institutional framework of drought management in Viet Nam is stipulated by The Law on Water Resources 1998 and Decree No.179/1999/ND-CP of December 30, 1999 Stipulating the Implementation of the Law on Water Resources.

The Law on Water Resources stipulate in Article 20 and 43 as following:

“Article 20.- in case the water resources is not enough, the regulation and distribution of water resources have to priority for people. The other water demand will base on river basin planning.

“Article 43.- Preventing, combating and overcoming the consequence of drought:

1. The State shall invest in and support the building of water conservancy works in the areas frequently affected by drought in order to provide water source for living, production and to prevent and fight forest fires.

2. Organizations and individuals have the duty to take part in the prevention, fight against and overcoming the consequence of drought.

3. The State managing agency on water resource, the People's Committees at various levels have the responsibility to work out the plan and organize and direct effectively the prevention, fight against and overcoming of the consequence of drought.

4. The State managing agency on Hydro-meteorology has the responsibility to supply in time information and forecast about Hydro-meteorology in service of the prevention and fight against drought.”

Decree No.179/1999/ND-CP of December 30, 1999 Stipulating the Implementation of the Law on Water Resources stipulate drought management in Article 7 as following:

“Article 7.- The regulation and distribution of water resources stipulated in Article 20 of the Law on Water Resources is specified as follows:

1. The agency in charge of State management over water resources shall base itself on the river basin zoning and the actual potential of the water source to announce the water sources' capacity to the concerned branches and localities, so that the latter can work out population distribution and socio-economic plans suitable to the water source potential.

When the water source is incapable of meeting the water use demand, the branches and localities shall have to readjust their plans for population distribution and socio-economic plans to make them suitable to the water sources' actual capacity.

2. When a drought occurs, thus causing severe water shortage, the agency in charge of State management over water resources shall regulate and distribute water resources on the following principles:

a/ Ensuring the water supply with prescribed minimum rations for daily life in any circumstances;

b/ Meeting the demand for water for cattle and poultry raising, and aquatic and marine product culture;

c/ Ensuring sufficient water supply for important industrial establishments and scientific research institutions;

d/ Ensuring the water supply in service of the food security program and crops of high economic value;

e/ Other water exploitation and use purposes.

The agency in charge of State management over water resource defined in Clauses 1 and 2 of this Article shall have to work out plans for regulating and distributing water resources. "

3. Do you have any special questions for other participants including NARBO secretariat? Or, do you have what you want to discuss related to water allocation issues? If so, please describe them freely.

(Country Name: _____)