

Project: East African Drought/Horn of Africa Conflict

Situation:

Countries located in the Horn of Africa/East Africa region are highly dependent upon the yearly cycles of rainfall for crop production, water supply, food supply, and hydropower production. The rainy season occurs during two periods: March, April and May and then again in October, November and December. During the 2010-2011 rain season the La Niña weather pattern greatly diminished the amount of rainfall that occurred. This lack of rainfall had a significant impact on water and food supply thus creating a humanitarian crisis. La Niña is a cyclical pattern that typically occurs every 2-5 years. Scientists like Dr. Chris Funk with the United States Geological Survey are predicting another diminished rainy season for the region this year.

As of August 2016, There were estimated to be 24 million people in Kenya facing critical food insecurity levels. 5 million people or 40% of the Somali population is in need of food and livelihood assistance. 50,000 of those people are severely malnourished children. Continued drought, increased food and water shortage, and total decimation of the agricultural market are likely to increase criminal activity as a means of survival.

Project Development:

1. Develop a survey for the client's personnel to determine the mode for training (i.e. are they better visual learners, auditory, explanation driven, are they better readers for understanding?).
2. Develop a list of ideas/concepts necessary for a successful outcome.
3. Research and develop and understanding of the client's current level of understanding of weather patterns and concerns and how climate change could increase volatile events.
4. Research and develop and understanding of the client's ability to protect and defend their assignment under these continued events.
5. Map any shortfalls the client may have in capabilities, equipment, training, and/or preparedness.
6. Develop a training/lesson plan to get the client from their current capability to the successful outcomes outlined in Item #1.
7. Establish a program timeline that includes milestones either by objective or by set deadline dates.
8. Produce required training materials
9. Establish a method of evaluation to gauge the client's progress through the objectives to be used throughout the implementation phase.
10. Prepare for contingency in case the first operational plan is disrupted (i.e. relocation of training-logistics, loss of power, conflict, emergency situations).

Implementation:

1. Follow the lesson plan developed in Project Development Item #6.
2. Evaluate the success/failure of the project at the midway point from an in-house perspective as well as from the client's perspective.
3. Utilize the results of the evaluation to either continue on the original lesson plan or make the necessary modification to get the project back on track and toward the successful reaching of the planned outcomes.

Closeout/Project Completion:

1. Ensure that all objectives/outcomes have been met.
2. If any objectives or outcomes have not been met use evaluation materials to determine if the completion date should be extended or if a second project (essentially a “part II”) should be developed and implemented.
3. Conduct a complete analysis of the project through in-house evaluation of all project phases.
4. Gather program evaluations from the Client as well as all trained personnel.
5. Use both in-house and client evaluations to write a final report on the outcome of the project.
6. If any, use data to develop a best practice for similar projects going forward.