

Natural Disaster Relief – The Nigerian Example

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February 2011



Background of USAID MARKETS Project

- Emphasis of assignment on food security
 - *Transit of food relief the initial focus, not import*
 - *Customs only the initial focus, not other agencies*
- Prior relevant work with NCS
 - *Legal Reforms*
 - *Risk Management Including Organizational Risk using “Projectized Approach”*

NCS Risk Management Methodology

The NCS approached:

Projectized Response to Risk

Negative Risk Response

- *Avoidance*
- *Mitigation*
- *Transfer*
- *Accept*

Positive Risk Response

- *Enhance*
- *Exploit*
- *Share*
- *Accept*

Models for the Nigeria Approach

- WCO RKC - Specific Annex J
- WCO SAFE Standards
- United Nations General Assembly Resolution 46/182 of December 19, 1991
- ANSI/PMI Project Management Standards

Assumptions for the Nigeria Assignment

- Primary responsibility is at national level for emergency response
- Preplanned response is critical
- Border response must be coordinated
- Customs is not the lead national agency
- Customs must use modern approaches to risk management

Nigeria's Lead Agency Mandate

- The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) leads Nigeria's national disaster response
 - *Reports to President*
 - *Lead Agency in all aspects of disaster response*
 - *First point of contact with other entities in either domestic or foreign disaster relief*

Preplanned Response

- Advance planning includes:
 - *Roles and responsibilities – Government, Private Sector, NGOs*
 - *Approval levels to activate plan*
 - *Preset authority & approval levels including normal systems override*
 - *Shared responsibilities*

Coordinated Approach

- Early stakeholder identification
- Separation of communication lines from decision & direction
- Delegated authorities by National Government Agencies to other Agencies
- NGOs delegated responsibilities by Government Agencies

Customs & Immigration Roles

- Customs – lead agency for managing disaster relief goods crossing border
 - *Other regulating agencies – i.e. Standards Organization of Nigeria, etc.*
- Immigration – lead agency for managing entry and departure of relief personnel
 - *Responsible in emergency to protect interests of regulating agencies regarding persons – i.e. Ministry Of Health, etc.*

Nigeria Emergency Response Specifics

- Declaration – President
- Lead Agency – NEMA
- Secondary Agencies for border issues
 - *Nigeria Customs Service – Emergency Relief Consignments (ERCs) clearance and release/transit*
 - *Nigeria Immigration Service – Temporary Admission Non-ECOWAS citizens*

Nigeria Emergency Response Specifics

- Preplanning and registration
 - *NEMA – Identification and registration for pre-approved participant organizations (Shared risk management similar to AEO program)*
 - *Customs – Pre-approved participant organizations identified in automated systems*
 - *Immigration – Pre-approved organizations identified and where possible up-to-date person registry identified*

Nigeria Emergency Response Specifics

- Emergency Relief Consignments (ERC) multi-agency coordination
 - *Customs delegated to act in behalf of other agencies in managing disaster relief goods*
 - *Normal pre-arrival processes suspended for ERC shipments*
 - *Normal post arrival processes suspended for ERC shipments*
 - *Priority clearance afforded to confirmed ERC shipments*

Nigeria Emergency Response Specifics

- **Emergency Termination**
 - *Declared by President*
 - *NEMA coordinates all participant notification*
 - *Customs coordinates re-export of temporary importations and excess relief goods or conversion to duty paid status*
 - *Immigration confirms departure of persons with temporary admission specific to disaster relief*
 - *NEMA leads in lessons learned analysis*

Nigeria Program Current Status

- Agreements rewritten by NEMA, NCS, NIS from initial drafts
- Draft agreement finalization and implementation pending further technical assistance with:
 - Tests of designed systems and processes
 - Stakeholder events to educate on new approaches for emergency responses

Questions & Comments?



Thank you for your kind
attention!



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