

I. AN GIANG

(Report on 5 years Flood and Storm Control from 2001-2005)

1. Difficulties and Shortcomings:

Floods in 2001 and 2002 happened early with high quantity in a long time, which also were 2 severe flood years caused huge damage to Province. In 2005, floods occurred early and fell slowly, although the flood water level was higher than average one but the impacts of storm and flood-tide in the end of September to the beginning of October affected the third crop production. Heavy rains and whirlwinds also harmed to some part of Province.

Damage to Agricultural: In severe flood years like 2001, 2002; although there was protect plan from the beginning but damage to planting, raising, aquatic product were still high. In 2003 to 2005, which were average flood years, moreover the entire Province had an effective protect plan and solution, therefore all Summer- Autumn and the third crop area were harvested completely. However, because of heavy rains and flood-tides, some new rice sawing areas for Autumn- winter crop were damaged and must re-saw or preliminary transplant.

Lost of life – economic:

- In 2001 there were 135 people died and in 2002 there were 78 people died which are very high. In 2003 to 2005, though the number of people died reduced but was still worth caring (in 2004 there were 16 people died, in 2005 there were 33 people died). Although Province had many positive solutions (such as organized child caring places, taught swimming to children from 5-12 years old, etc) combined with disseminating and mobilizing people, etc.; there were still people died in flood season, most of which were children (in 5 years there were 224 children died), because of severe flood, high inundated water level but the main reason was the carelessness of families and low awareness of community.
- Damage to human, infrastructure in the next 2 year (2004, 2005) was too much lower than last years before (main damage were by whirlwind and land erosion and almost too poor households).
- Mobilize relief to overcome disaster work: In misfortune Vietnamese people have shown their spirits of helping and cherishing, contributed to reduce pain of people in flood area. INGOs also support money and means actively to help people to overcome flood season. Local authorities, armed forces, Red Cross, Hochiminh Communist Youth Union, etc were enthusiasm and ready to help people overcome disaster, mobilized and relived timely, which had a part in stabilizing people's living in and post flood.

2. Lessons learnt:

- After severe floods such as 1994, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002 showed that flood happened early with high intensity, damaged to Summer- Spring crop. Therefore agricultural sector took initiative with many solutions such as: Crop and planning calendar ensure harvesting Summer- Spring fields completely in the end of July and

the beginning of August, used short time seeds, as well as repaired upgraded bank and sewer system, etc and had plan on drainage pump to avoid inundation. Hence, achievement on protecting Summer- Spring crops was good, damage was not high (main damage on area outside of enclosed area and some unprompted areas in severe flood years). In not severe flood years, all crop areas were harvested.

- Solidification rural transportation, schools, clinics create good condition for traffic, community health care and pupils' education in flood season. For this reason, in spite of some schools inundation, no pupils must leave school by flood.

- Lost of life: Although 2003, 2004, 2005 were not severe flood years, there were tens of people died by flood (in 2004, 2005 there were 49 people died by flood, of which 45 children). However number of people died was reduced than previous years; this is still an urgent matter in Flood and Storm Control work. From this point, it is realized that residents' protection still had many shortcomings in mobilizing and disseminating awareness on themselves protection of families, children care centers in flood season did not meet the need of people. People awareness on children protection in flood season must be promoted.

- Policy on children care centers conducted in flood season, of which has common assent, has a part in reducing children died in flood season. However, in the long term must stabilize residents follow resident clusters to be convenient for extend; upgrade children care centers to become kindergartens, nursery schools, etc.

- Mobilization, propagandistically work and on the spot relief work to effected people by damage run well, supported timely to households effected by damage.

- Steering closely and often go on practical inspection and supervision tours to officers and people in severe damaged area from all authorities' level created communities' belief in Government and Party.

- Good effectiveness of rescue teams, stations in limit life and property lost of people must maintain train and better equip means, tools for the next years Flood and Storm Control plan such as: life vest, lifebuoy. Teaching swim to people, especially children must attach much importance, in canoes and boats must have lifebuoy to ensure people's life.

- Statistic report and assessment work on effectiveness by flood were quite complete which help Government and Province in flood management steering but sometimes the data in reports from localities were not timely and correct. Staffs work in Collecting, classifying and analysis must be trained to apply the report work.

- Flood is not only disaster but also brings benefit, therefore must grasp thoroughly "Living with flood" motto, consider inundated season an yearly fact to adapt in action, work, invested plan with ensure that all socio activities continue normally.

3. Conclusion and Recommendation:

Floods in 2001 to 2005 caused huge damage to Province on socio-economy. But the most loss in An Giang in flood seasons was life. Number of people died was still high although Province's People committee had many solutions to reduce the casualties.

Suggestion: Province's People committee guide sectors and locals quickly have plan to overcome flood damage in 2005, early implement to stabilize people's

living, at the same time propose long term direction to ensure “living with flood” motto with the least damage.

BAC LIEU

(5 years sum up report from 2001-2005 and Direction, duties on Flood and Storm Control work from 2006-2010)

1. Shortcomings:

- River dikes, especially near coastal area were still not closed, as a result when storm combines with big waves and water increase, these dikes have not enough ability to prevent increasing water. In the coastal area, almost houses are temporary, therefore when storm happen, it will cause huge property damage.
- Lightning claimed people's life become more regular in Bac Lieu. At present, Province have only one solution is to recommend people not to go to field or exposed place when it is raining (because in almost cases victims were in field or exposed place) but there still no technical solution to prevent lightning.
- Province's means serve the search and rescue work can not go to sea when it is windstorm.
- Walkie-talkie systems of sea fishing-boats are not the same in communication channel which is difficult to call ships, boats to find shelter in tropical depression or storm.
- Storm warning light system has not been built yet creates difficulties to warn ships boats in sea when there is tropical depression or storm.

II. BEN TRE

(5 years sum up report from 2001-2005 and Plan on Flood and Storm Control work from 2006-2010)

1. Shortcomings:

- Investment in Flood and Storm control and Disaster reduction: During previous years, Ben Tre was invested by different investment in infrastructure and has some initial effects. However, because lack of budget, some structures were not invested comprehensively therefore effectiveness from structure still not high and not promote its capacity. Accordingly, impact of salinity, lack of fresh water for production and living happens yearly.

- Force in Flood and Storm control and Search and Rescue work is half-responsible force therefore expertness is not high; rescue force is not strong enough; rescue means are not reliable; there are short of specialized means for search and rescue. To mobilize force on the spot when storm, flood occur is still slow and difficult.

- Budget for Flood and Storm control and Search and Rescue is still limit and correspondingly drill and practice supposed events work happened not regularly. Therefore overcome disaster work is not initiative.

- Raise awareness and responsibilities of community in Flood and Storm control and Search and Rescue work has not been built to be a program with long term, basic system yet.

2. Lessons learnt:

- Authorities at all sectors, level must pay more attention to Flood and Storm control and Search and Rescue work in localities; reinforce raise awareness and must consider a regular work, uphold internal strength initiatively, well-implement “4-on-site” motto.

- Grasp vigilant awareness to cope with disaster, against thinking in localities that disaster rarely happens. Prepare to deploy Flood and Storm control work, ready to cope with all kind of bad weather, which will reduce damage by disaster.

- Need the cooperation among all sectors, levels and local authorities and direction consistently from Committees of Flood & Storm Control and Search & Rescue at each levels; execute and well-implement all stipulation on and Storm control and Search and Rescue.

- Plan on Flood & Storm Control and Search & Rescue must be close with practical situation. Propose guideline based on “prevent is the main solution, against is the temporary one”.

III. CA MAU

(5 years sum up report from 2001-2005 and Plan on Flood and Storm Control and Natural disaster reduction for 5 years from 2006-2010)

1. Shortcomings:

- Shortcoming in drill work on Flood and Storm Control for forces participated to have basic knowledge to cope actively with disaster.
- Districts and especially coastal ones such as: Phu Tan, Dam Doi, Tran Van Thoi, U Minh, Ngoc Hien, Nam Can only conducted few training classes on disaster reduction as resident clusters are along sea or estuary.
- Equipments for Flood and Storm Control such as: professional salvage tug, rescue boat were short, reserved fuel for rescuing were little.
- Not surmount yet high signal gun as at present the signal is to short for boats, ships to recognize
- Not inspect means especially small one such as boats, junks closely since all these means did not register and often hided coastguard or registry ships although they are the most accident cases.
- Still not relocate households in coastal, estuary area as plan on new residence area are not done yet and almost are long standing people through many generations.
- Shortcomings in building information and communication system from aquatic sector to fishery region, from shore to far shore boats. As a result, calling boats, ships go to ship shelters still not meet requirement.
- Contact and coordinate with government rescue forces on sea such as Naval Region 5 force. Sea police coordinate actively to cope with bad situations by disaster on sea.
- Propaganda, warning to equip lifebuoy, communication equipment is lack, only far shore fishing boats have equipped 100 %, other near shore and small ones have just equip 40%.
- Till now only enhance awareness for far shore fishermen but the near shore ones are still subjective and lack of awareness.
- When disaster happen, it is difficult to appoint rescue boats from communities due to unclear policy and regulation for rescue force after disaster.
- Not collect Flood and Storm control fund according to decree No. 50 of Government.
- Report, on duty regulation is not thorough and regular, especially Districts rarely send report to standing office of Flood & Storm Control and there is no one on duty when contact outside working hours, while report is done slowly.

Weakness of Flood and Storm Control for 5 years from 2001-2005)

- Flood and Storm Control and Natural disaster reduction are not mentioned properly in Socio-economic development plan and still not pay attention to ensure safety in complicated situation of disaster.
- East dike system, sewers on coastal dikes and river, coastal bank erosion preventive structures are not invested comprehensively and closely, make difficulty for production development and people's achievement protection, especially in flood season.

- Information system for storm and tropical depression warning are not good, mainly not have equipped high signal gun for far shore boats, ships to recognize yet.
- Some invested structures for coastal infrastructures not pay attention to Building standard to ensure ability of rainstorm, wind and storm coping.
- Rescue forces are not strong enough, rescue means are not reliable, lack of specialized means, as a result, search and rescue work have not meet the requirements yet.
- A part of people still unaware therefore they have not implemented safe methods in disaster preparedness and controlment.
- Some of fishermen and means stay at shelter from the storm still not execute the appropriate departments; create difficulty for management work of appropriate forces.
- Invested resources for flood & storm preparedness and control are still bad in human resources, means and budget.

2. Lessons learnt:

- Flood & storm control steering work must be timely, prompt, thorough and united from Province to local level, absolutely not to be unaware and neglect, well-implement 4-on-site-motto, ensure principle to prepare initiatively, deploy timely and effectively when damage happen.
- Have judicious policy and high responsibility spirit. Implement plan must be detail, close with practical situation. Steering measure must be appropriate and determined. Steering guideline must be suitable, make creative initiative of local authorities and people.
- Actively lay forces, closely and mobility organizes cooperation between forces.
- Strengthen inspection and supervision work to have timely steering, dealing measures.

IV. CAN THO

V. DONG THAP

(Plan on Flood and Storm Control and Natural disaster reduction for stage from 2006-2010)

1. Difficulties and shortcomings must overcome

-Although the average economic development in the last five year was 9, 93%, but agriculture production still occupies 55% of economic structure, the annual people's income is 406 USD, the life of people living in remote areas still difficult, so the mobilization of sources to invest, develop and building capacity for community in the last time still limited.

- The reason for slow implementation programs on Construction of resident cluster, consolidation channels, schools and construction of critical works is due to insufficient policies and slow modification; the same work but assigned for different sectors, levels implement; the unspecific assignment ; the cooperation in the implementation still insufficient, some policies still slowly modify and inadequate, particular, the policy on land price.

- The crest of flood in 2003, 2004, and 2005 was at the average level of several years, so appear subjective thinking in some localities, the implementation of annual plan on natural disaster prevention and mitigation still slowly. A part of people still expect and rely on State a part of people have thinking rely on State, unaware the dangers of natural disaster and awareness of keeping environmental sanitation clean still not high.

- The quality of weather forecast work for natural disasters not high, particular, the long and middle forecast work. Equipments serving for measuring, forecasting work still lack and out of date, slow sharing and collecting information, the staffs and technical officers had been supplemental trained and educated but some of them can not meet the demand of assigned work.

2. Lesson learnt:

- Dong Thap is a flood prone province, so in the annual socio-economic development plan of sectors and levels need to consider about annual flood and other natural disasters. Levels of Party committees, authorities and organizations must really consider Flood, Storm control and natural disaster mitigation work is one of the fist missions.

- Reinforce the cooperation among sectors, levels. Well-implementing dissemination work and make people think Flood, Storm control and natural disaster mitigation work not only their responsibility but also their duty to community. Effectively utilize all resources and well-implement the "on 4 spot policies",

- Early and accurate forecast the hydro-meteorological, especially the long and middle forecast help sectors, levels give timely and appropriate decisions, concurrently, reinforce information dissemination on mass medias to make people know and actively coping with natural disaster .

- Actively implement the flood and storm control and natural disaster mitigation plan from early month of the year and unify the direction from central to ward, commune level, reinforce the verify and inspect work, timely solve difficulties, obstacles of localities; prop the instructional bureaucratic and expect and rely on others.

VI. HAU GIANG

VII. KIEN GIANG

1. Difficulties and shortcomings

- Forecast and warn work have many progress but are still inadequate under present complicated hydro-meteorological situation, lack of medium and long term forecasts. Specialized equipment system has been improved but is still lack, especially at the province level. Not update completely changes in water level due to impact of infrastructure building in the last years.

- Flood drainage system in Long Xuyen quadrangular region have not been built comprehensively, short of manager system and implementing process.

- Shelter structures for boats, ships from storm are implemented slowly.

- Coordination between some sectors and regions are not closely sometimes and someplace. Propaganda is still not wide and deep, not uphold potential of people in flood & storm control and search & rescue work. Collection situation of flood & storm control fund are not well-done, using this fund is not right purpose sometimes and somewhere. Inform and quick report work when damage by disaster happened in some regions, sectors are not good, not report data timely, lack of practical verifying. Management work to boats, ships in the sea are also passive, still not summarize timely number of ships, area of ships in the sea when disadvantage situation happens.

- Flood coping had good experiences, but storm coping is still limited, passive even in sea as well as on land.

- Coordination between regions and government offices in some area is not good, particularly in flow relieve work.

- Although search and secure projects have share and coordinate the work but still lack of specific solutions to mobilize material resources in eventuality: communicate information, division of work and responsibilities, expense, etc. We can't assess realizable possibility even of provinces or branches because they weren't held a maneuver.

- Provinces still not deploy and reproduce economic model in accordance with ecological region themselves to promote flood's advantage.

2. Lessons learnt:

- During last years, branches and levels of government have gradually learned from realizable direct the flood & storm control and natural disaster reduction work themselves: hold the work more closely, have clearly division of work and responsibilities, etc. Awareness of branches, levels of government and people to natural disaster control in generalities and living with flood in private were improved.

- However, thought of rely on higher authorities still exist in some part of branches, levels of government and people. In direct lack of propaganda method, guide people preventive methods so that still not limit damage.

- Flood in the year 2003, 2004, 2005 are weak, but still have 11 people died cause by flood, essentially are children. From that point we can see awareness of many people is still subjective, neglect in children care made unfortunate consequences. Some localities have many children died but the truth flood is not cause of died. There is a lesson learnt in propaganda work for localities and has practically projects to limit children's life damage to maximum in next flood season.

VIII. LONG AN

IX. SOC TRANG

X. TIN GIANG

XI. TRA VINH

XII. VINH LONG

(Sum up report in 2001-2005, direction in 2006-2010)

1. Difficulties and shortcoming

- Hydrometeorology happening more and more unfavorable for production and life, in particular are flood, land erosion, salty, drought. River bank erosion more and more seriously; storm, whirlwind more and more frequently and in a larger extent make more damage to houses and poverty.
- People's vigilant awareness about natural disaster still in low level.
- Lack of funds for investment and for maintain water resources and traffic structures, etc, make difficult for initiative flood and storm control.
- Some levels of government and people still expect to supports of higher authorities, not really mobilize all of standing internal force for flood & storm control and natural disaster reduction work, direct in flood and storm control of levels of government still not concrete, lack of initiative in control and repair the damage.
- Resident cluster program still slowly, not really attract people shift to live.
- Propaganda and campaign people works still not regularly.
- Equipment and means of survey to disaster forecast, flood forecast, rescue in province still privatively
- Still have not strategic flood & storm control and natural disaster plan in entire province.
- Regional cooperation in flood & storm control and natural disaster work still shortcoming.

2. Lessons learnt;

- Grasp direct of CCFSC and provincial committee of the Party thoroughly, flood & storm control plans were proposed by branches and levels of government, concentrative and complete penetrative directed in flood & storm control work. Get a good hold of time, sphere of influence, scale of natural disaster in provincial and neighboring area, internal force of province for this work, well-implement the "on 4 spot policies" to prevent, give way and repair disaster damage.
- Promote internal force of people to participate with government in flood & storm control work actively and initiatively. Intensify the part of CFSC in branches, levels of government and basic government.
- Intensify to inspect flood & storm control structures before, in and after flood, storm to propose actively controllable projects.
- Have closely cooperation to neighborly provinces and central in flood & storm control and search & rescue.