

Meeting with District Disaster Management Committee Members, radio stations and Regional Emergency Operations Center

8 July 2021

This meeting was organized to bring the Greater Accra Regional Emergency Operations Center (EOC) as well as some radio stations in the Weija-Gbawe area (Think FM and Angel FM) to terms with the work the project is seeking to do regarding communicating disaster information to the community in a timely manner in the Weija Gbawe Municipal. The meeting was also to look at the draft communication plan the information services department (ISD) of the Weija Gbawe Municipal Assembly had been tasked to develop at the previous meeting.



The main session was on the need to have a communication management plan, the purpose of the plan, identifying relevant stakeholders as well as the resources that drive communication. The draft communication plan developed by ISD was also presented for inputs, comments improvement.

Some suggestions, questions and comments from the workshop

- How do assembly members and DDMC members get information to give out when there is a disaster? From community members they know and other stakeholders they may know personally as well as official information.
- How do we ensure preparedness as well as managing disasters when they occur?
- Some of the suggestions made on communication vehicles in the presentation are already being done so we should try and merge this project with the things that are already in place.
- We can only say our communication of disaster information is successful when the effects that were earlier experienced are no longer there.
- We should know the lead agency per disaster issue that comes up.
- Collaboration, coordination and communication between stakeholders is very important in handling disaster issues.
- The radio stations will play complementary roles to the CICs when there are emergencies. They can also get disaster information coined into songs for community sensitization.
- The CICs need to be involved in all phases of disaster management, namely: prevention, preparedness, emergencies.
- All stakeholders need to be sensitized on the communication plan in order to make it more useful.
- The issue of certain DDMC institutions not having essential equipment/ resources for their work needs to be addressed. It was however mentioned that since the DDMCs are working together for a common purpose, they should all mobilize their resources when the need arises instead of leaving it to one institution as though it is their problem.

MORE INFORMATION

Dr Adelina Mensah
PRIMED Director
ammensah@staff.ug.edu.gh
University of Ghana

www.primed-network.com