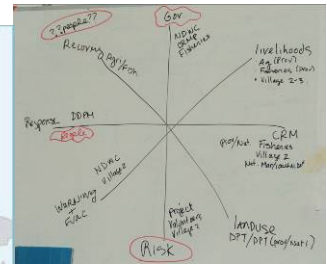


National Consultation Workshop on Coastal Community Resilience Issues in Myanmar

15 February, 2008 (Friday)



CCR Workshop Concept Note

1. Background

Coastal communities in Myanmar and around the world, large and small, are becoming increasingly vulnerable to a wide range of coastal hazards including severe storm events, tsunamis, shoreline erosion, and coastal resource degradation. Increased vulnerability is partly due to the constantly increasing coastal population. An estimated 23 percent of the world's population (1.2 billion people) and more than 50 percent of the Indian Ocean region's population lives within 100 kilometers of shoreline and 100 meters of sea level. Most of the coastal population lives in rural areas and in small to medium cities, where basic services and disaster warning and response mechanisms are limited. Population density coupled with increasing frequency and duration of storms, sea level rise, and other coastal hazards cause the impacts of disasters to be more severe and recovery to be slower and less sustainable.

While many coastal hazards are beyond the community's capacity to control them, proactive measures can be taken to reduce vulnerability and provide the enabling conditions for communities to absorb and bounce back from disruptions in basic services and economic activity. "Resilient coastal communities" understand coastal hazards, take deliberate and coordinated actions to reduce vulnerability, and have appropriate and practiced contingency plans to respond to disaster events.

2. What is the CCR initiative?

The Coastal Community Resilience (CCR) is a focused initiative that promotes tsunami and other hazard readiness through the active collaboration of national and local emergency management agencies, coastal managers, training institutions, and local communities. Building on local knowledge and needs, this effort supports integrated and more standardized hazard awareness and mitigation efforts that improve public safety during emergencies and builds preparedness against recurring disasters.

CCR provides a holistic framework to address the increasing risks from coastal hazards and vulnerable communities living in coastal areas. Several elements of coastal community resilience have emerged as the basis for integrating disaster management, coastal management, and community development paradigms into an operational framework for increasing resilience. The CCR system was developed in collaboration with international, regional, and national partners throughout the Indian Ocean region committed to reducing risks to coastal hazards and saving lives.

3. Benefits of the CCR implementation in Myanmar

Through a coordinated approach CCR implementation in Myanmar can set a process and demonstration project that would aims to:

- Create minimum standards for communities to adopt in order to become more resilient to tsunamis and other coastal hazards;
- Increase public awareness, understanding, and preparedness for tsunamis and other coastal hazards;
- Recognize communities and programs that are adopting CCR guidelines; and
- Promote community development and sustainable livelihoods for increased resilience to unexpected socio-economic, ecological, and governance challenges.

4. Implementation plan of CCR initiative in Myanmar

Keeping these issues in mind, under the UNESCAP funded and ADPC facilitated “Regional Tsunami Trust Fund phase II program”, ADPC has foreseen and incorporated the Coastal Community Resilience program implementation initiative in Myanmar.

It has also been incorporated in the work-plan of the “Regional Steering Committee of the Multi-hazard Early Warning System for Tsunami and Hydro-meteorological Hazards in Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia” where Myanmar plays the role Chairman of the Regional Steering Committee.

In a scoping mission the CCR framework and its initial plans are also shared in the 2nd Monsoon Forum held in Nay Pyi Taw in November, 2007. ADPC experts presented the CCR framework and future implementation of the CCR initiative in two vulnerable pilot communities in Myanmar. The monsoon forum member agencies have shown a great deal of interest and need for developing community resilience against coastal hazards. Subsequently, ADPC has come up with a work-plan to implement CCR initiative in Myanmar with active partnership with Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH) and active collaboration with other stakeholder agencies in Myanmar.

5. A “National Consultation” on Coastal Community Resilience Issues

In this respect, a “National Workshop on Coastal Community Resilience Issues in Myanmar” is outlined and proposed to be held on **15 February, 2008 (Friday)** at a convenient location and venue that would be set by the DMH representatives. The workshop would be a day-long workshop divided into 4 sessions.

5.1 Objectives: The objectives of the workshop are as follows:

- Share the “*major issues*” of community resilience in the coastal zone of Myanmar
- Introduction to the “*CCR framework and Tools*” and present the work-plan (ADPC experts would do this).
- Share the “*agency role and activities (projects and programs)*” that each agency play in the coastal zone of Myanmar (these will be through the agency presentations)
- Select two pilot sites for developing CCR project
- Finalize the CCR Myanmar project work-plan
- Plan a CCR assessment in the selected community
- Discussion and generate dialogue (open participation)
- Any other related issues

5.2 Guidance for the presenters: In the workshop each participating agency should make “power point presentation” on behalf of their work and aims. Following issues or sections could come into their presentations:

- Cover slide with title of the presentation and name, agency, and country of the presenter
- Agency mandates and agenda
-
- Type of activities they undertake for the resilience of coastal communities in Myanmar (e.g. DMH provides the daily and severe weather forecast for the coastal communities)
- What is the structure, framework or policy they follow to support coastal communities
- How they can contribute towards an integrated coastal zone management?
- What are the major risks and problems exist in Myanmar coast
- Any experiences of building resilience in Myanmar coast

5.3 Duration of presentation: Each presentation should not be more than **15 minutes**. If more time is needed then the workshop organizers need to be communicated prior to the event.

5.4 Presentation submission: The presentation of each agency should be given to the DMH coordinators in the morning of the workshop in soft form either in a CD or in any memory drives usable in Personal Computers.

6. **Participating agencies:** **This will be finalized by DMH**

Government Departments:

1. DMH, Ministry of Transport
2. NAVY (Myanmar Naval Hydrographic Center or Maritime Rescue Coordination Center)
3. Myanmar Port Authority, Ministry of Transport
4. Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems
5. Department of Land Survey, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
6. Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries
7. Department of Forestry, Ministry of Forestry.
8. Department of Relief and Resettlements
9. Myanmar Maritime University, Ministry of Transport
10. Department of Basic Education, Ministry of education
11. Dept of Higher Education, Ministry of education
12. Hotel and Tourism Enterprise, Ministry of Hotel and Tourism
13. Fire Services Department, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief & Resettlement
14. General Administration Department, Ministry of Home Affairs
15. Media - Myanmar Radio and Television (Ministry of Information)

NGOs and civil societies:

1. Red Cross
2. IFRC
3. IDRC
4. Union Solidarity and Development Association (USDA)
5. Myanmar Women Affairs Federation
6. Marine science and related University departments: University of Patiene, Univ. Mawlamyine, Univ. of Myeik;
7. Selected International NGOs/agencies (World Vision, UNICEF, WFP, UNDP, Save the Children, UNHCR etc.)
8. Related projects and programs those who work in the coastal area
9. DMH Representatives from Hintada, Pathein and Rakhine state.

Note: DMH is requested to update the list according to the availability and need for the workshop asking representation from three different groups:

- Disaster Management Agency
- Coastal Management Related Agencies
- Community Development related agencies.

Total participation could be 30 agencies and not more than **40** participants.

7. **Further query:**

For any arrangement or logistics related questions please contact to **DMH, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar**.
For any technical content related queries please contact to **Atiq K. Ahmed** at atigka@adpc.net or DMH nominated representative in **DMH, Nay Pyi Taw**.