



**PROMISE PROJECT**

*Sri Lanka*

**NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT**

**Implemented By:**

*The Asia Foundation*

**Submitted To:**

**ADPC**

**Reporting Period:  
MAY 2010**



**The Asia Foundation**

## **A. Activity Summary**

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The activities for the month of May 2010 are as follows:

### **Project Component 4: Advocacy for Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction**

#### **Activity 3.1 – Seminar on Local Governance**

Series of Regional Seminars on Local Governance under PROMISE project component of “Advocacy for mainstreaming disaster risk reduction” has been organized by the Federation of Sri Lanka Local Government Authorities (FSLGA), with the support of Office of the Commissioner of Local Government (OCLG), The Asia Foundation (TAF), National Building Research Organization (NBRO) and the Disaster Management Center (DMC) with the following objectives.

- Drawing the attention of Provincial policy makers and local authority officials on the importance of incorporating disaster risk management in local planning
- Highlighting the important role to be played by the Local Authorities in disaster risk reduction as the local planning authority
- Creating awareness on available legal provisions to engage in disaster risk management activities by introducing By-laws
- Improving the capacity of Local Authorities to perform better in their mandated role in Sustainable Development and Environmental management by improved awareness.

In addition to the above seminars, The Asia Foundation has organized the third seminar under this series for the Eastern Province with the support of the program titled Creation of Opportunities for Economic Revival and Development (CORD).

Southern provincial seminar was held on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at the Hall De Galle at Galle covering districts of Galle, Matara and Hambanthota while Central Province Seminar was held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at the Cooperative Training Center at Polgolla in Kandy covering districts of Kandy, Matale and Nuwara Eliya. The third program was held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2010 at the Municipal Hall, Baticaloa covering the districts of Trincomalee, Ampara and Baticaloa.

Three officials from each Local Authority comprising Chairman or his representative, Secretary and a Technical officer and key officials from CLG staff and District Administrations including District Secretaries have participated. Hon. Chief Ministers for the Provinces have graced the occasions.

### **Component 2: Mitigation and Preparedness**

#### **Activity 2.1 - Implementing mitigation activities with communities**

DRR and mitigation activities prioritized at the city consultation workshop have been carefully reviewed by the city officials and three important flood control projects have been selected for implementation under the PROMISE SL. Detailed materials and engineering estimates have been prepared and submitted for approval. Construction and mitigation activities to be commenced soon with the community participation, once the MOU between Municipal Council and the Asia Foundation are established

## **Activity 2.2 - Developing a fire emergency response plan and training**

### ***Training of Community Respondents on Fire Safety and Emergency Response***

30 respondents on fire safety and emergency response, selected from vulnerable location within Matara City, have been trained during 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of May 2010 at the Colombo Municipal Council Fire Department Training Centre of the Colombo. The participants include representation of operational crew of both MC and District Disaster Management Unit (10) in addition to the community members (20) from the vulnerable communities. Selected community respondents are youthful, reasonably educated males who could eventually train others within their communities and those who can take leadership in an emergency situation.

## **B. Activity Reports**

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### **Project Component 4: Advocacy for mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction**

#### **Activity 3.1 – Seminar on Local Governance**

Under the PROMISE a series of one day Provincial seminars for Southern and Central provinces have been organized by the Federation of Sri Lanka Local Government Authorities (FSLGA), with the support of Office of the Commissioner of Local Government (OCLG), The Asia Foundation (TAF), National Building Research organization (NBRO) and the Disaster Management Center (DMC).

PROMISE has already initiated work on the amendment of municipal by-laws with the FSLGA and Southern Provincial Council with the Chief Secretary's initiatives. These seminars have been organized as a follow up activity with the intension of demonstrating the ways of integrating DRR in local government system and thereby advocating implementing DRR as a part of mandated role of Local Government under sustainable development and environmental management.

These seminars have created awareness of officers of both central government institutions and Local Authorities in managing the disaster risks in local areas by working together to integrate DRM at local level, as there was no clear understanding in the available legal provisions facilitating them to perform their DRR mandate. DRM has been identified as a function of Local Authorities by the National Policy on Local Authorities approved by the Parliament in last December.

Southern provincial seminar was held on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at the Hall De Gall at Galle covering districts of Galle, Matara and Hambanthota while Central Province Seminar was held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at the Cooperative Training Center at Polgolla in Kandy covering districts of Kandy, Matale and Nuwara Eliya. In addition to this the Asia Foundation has organized the third seminar under this series for the Eastern Province under program titled Creation of Opportunities for Economic Revival and Development (CORD) which was held on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2010 at the Municipal Hall, Batticaloa covering the districts of Trincomalee, Ampara and Batticaloa.

Three officials from each Local Authority comprising Chairman or his representative, Secretary and a Technical officer and key officials from CLG staff and District Administrations including District Secretaries have participated. Hon. Chief Ministers for the Provinces have graced the occasions.

**The technical session consisted on the following presentations and fruitful discussions**

**Key Note Address at the inaugural seminar at Galle: Mainstreaming options of DRM into Local Government,** (Prof. Willie Mendis, Senior Prof. University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka)

**General vulnerability conditions of Provinces,** (Kishan Sugathapala, Dy. Director/ R M S Bandara, Dy Director, / L J Prasanna, Scienist, National Building Research Organisation)

**Expected role of Local Governments within the DRM system of Sri Lanka,** (W U L Chandradasa, Director, Technology and Mitigation/ Lalani Imbulana, Director, Preparedness and Planning, Disaster Management Center)

**Legal provisions under the LG ordinance and relevant acts,** (H G C Jayatissa, Senior Consultant, Federation of Sri Lanka Local Government Authorities)

**Options for mainstreaming DRR in to Local Government system,** ( N M S I Arambepola, Director, UDRM, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center/ Padma Karunaratna, Program Manager, UDRM, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, Thailand)

## Photo Gallery



Photo [1], Participants at Kandy seminar, [2] Participants at Galle seminar, [3] Hon. Chief Minister addressing the audience at Baticaloa seminar, [4] ADPC Director, N M S I Arambepola delivering his lecture at Galle seminar

## **Component 2: Mitigation and Preparedness**

### **Activity 2.1 - Implementing mitigation activities with communities**

DRR and mitigation activities prioritized at the city consultation workshop have been carefully reviewed by the city officials and three important flood control projects have been selected for implementation under the PROMISE SL. Detailed materials and engineering estimates have been prepared and submitted for approval. Construction and mitigation activities to be commenced soon with the community participation, once the MOU between Municipal Council and the Asia Foundation are established

Activities identified for implementation are as follows

- Improvement of Piladuwa Ganga Mawatha, 1st cross drain- Excavation and concreting
- Improvement of canal across 2nd culvert-Velewatta Nawimana Road
- Side drain along Matara Dharmarathna Mawatha

### **Activity 2.2 - Developing a fire emergency response plan and training**

#### **Training of Community Respondents on Fire Safety and Emergency Response**

A group of respondents on fire safety and emergency response has been trained under the "fire emergency response plan and training" during 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of May 2010 at the Colombo Municipal Council Fire Department Training Centre.

The participants include representation of operational crew of both MC and District Disaster Management Unit (10) in addition to the community members (20) from the vulnerable communities. They were youthful, reasonably educated males who could eventually train others within their communities and those who will take leadership in an emergency situation.

This two day residential program included theory and practical relating to the following subject areas: Fire - Knowledge including chemistry of fire, type of fire and method of heat transmission, extinction of fire, fire fighting agents and fire extinguishers, fire prevention techniques, means of escape, preparing for emergencies, emergency service liaison, First Aid- Safety procedure, incident management plan (AMEGA), casualty management plan (DRABC), Recovery position, CPR(adults), Burns, Bleeding arresting, faint, epilepsy, fractures, immobilization, bandaging, slings.

After successful completion of this training, certificates have been awarded for the participants by the Fire Department of Colombo Municipal Council.

## Photo Gallery



Training of community respondents on fire safety and emergency response

### C. Next month activities Planned

- Hazard, Vulnerability, and Capacity Assessment Report
- Analysis of City Land Use Plan in Relevance to Disaster Dimension and Recommendations
- Implementation of mitigation activities.
- School Safety Programs

### D. Issues encountered and solutions

Nil