

# Program for Hydro-Meteorological Disaster Mitigation in Secondary Cities in Asia (PROMISE)



## Quarterly Progress and Performance Report (April to June) 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2007

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# 1. Project Description and Objectives

## **Background**

Every year, cities throughout the world suffer human and economic losses as a result of natural hazards. In many Asian cities, these losses are compounded due to the high concentration of populations and economic assets within hazard-prone areas. Comparative economic and social losses in urban areas, which typically serve as the primary economic engine in most countries, are increasing every year. Due to recurrent natural disasters, many countries in Asia are forced to divert precious and scarce development resources for disaster response and reconstruction.

Detailed analyses of natural hazards in Asia indicate that geologically triggered hazards such as earthquakes and tsunamis are responsible for high levels of damage and loss, but have a comparatively low frequency of occurrence. Hydro-meteorological events, on the other hand, occur more frequently and are more widespread throughout South and South East Asia. Major River basins such as the Ganges, Brahmaputra, Meghna, Indus, Mekong, and Red are prone to flooding almost every year. Island countries such as Sri Lanka, Indonesia and the Philippines have monsoon seasons, which create devastating flash floods in small catchment areas. Drought is a recurring phenomenon in most parts of India, Pakistan, Laos, Viet Nam, and Thailand. Cyclones threaten coastlines of countries located in the Bay of Bengal, Arabian Sea, China Sea, Gulf of Thailand, and the Pacific region, particularly Viet Nam, the Philippines, India and Bangladesh. Landslides are frequently triggered by heavy rainfall and frequent events during prolonged monsoon periods especially in the mountain areas of India, Indonesia, Bhutan, Nepal, Philippines and Sri Lanka. It is very evident that hydro-meteorological hazards and associated secondary events are common and frequent occurrences throughout Asia. Other problems associated with hydro-meteorological events such as water shortages, water contamination, and migration of populations to urban areas due to prolonged droughts also create severe social and economic problems in urban areas.

In an effort to better prepare communities throughout South and Southeast Asia to deal with and mitigate the effects of recurring natural hazards, ADPC, through funding support from USAID/OFDA, is implementing the Program for Hydro-Meteorological Disaster Mitigation for Secondary Cities in Asia (PROMISE). PROMISE aims to promote hydro-meteorological disaster preparedness and mitigation activities in selected highly vulnerable secondary cities in South and Southeast Asia.

## **Program Goal and Objectives**

The Program will contribute to furthering the goal of, sharing lessons from and utilizing technical resources (both human and material) created during the course of the Asian Urban Disaster Mitigation Program (AUDMP).

## **Program Goal**

Reduced vulnerability of urban communities through enhanced preparedness and mitigation of hydro-meteorological disasters in South and South East Asia.

## **Program Strategy**

“Increased adoption of private and public sector mechanisms for community preparedness and mitigation of hydro-meteorological disaster risk in urban areas of South and South East Asia in

order to measurably alleviate human suffering, prevent loss of life, and reduce the potential for physical and economic damage.”

### **Program Objectives**

Adoption of specific hydro-meteorological disaster preparedness and mitigation measures to manage hydro-meteorological disaster risk by stakeholders in targeted cities

Increased stakeholder involvement and further enhancement of strategies, tools and methodologies related to community preparedness and mitigation of hydro-meteorological disasters in urban communities.

Enhanced coordination with USAID Missions to promote sustainability and ensure program activities accord with USAID country and regional strategies.

Strengthen networks and regional links among relevant risk management institutions/organizations for improving potential and capacity for application and dissemination of lessons learned.

### **Geographic areas of activity**

Five highly vulnerable secondary cities in Asia have been selected as target cities for implementation of city demonstration activities under PROMISE. The selected cities include, Chittagong, Bangladesh, Hyderabad, Pakistan, Dagupan City, Philippines, Kalutara, Sri Lanka and Da Nang, Viet Nam. These five cities are all rapidly growing urban areas in the respective countries, which have been significantly impacted by hydro-meteorological disasters in the recent past.

## 2. Summary of Accomplishments during the Reporting Period

### 2.1. City Demonstration Projects

#### 2.1.1. Bangladesh

Project Title:	PROMISE - Bangladesh
Selected City:	Chittagong
Lead Institution:	Bangladesh Disaster Preparedness Center (BDPC)

*Overview:* The goal of PROMISE-Bangladesh is to reduce vulnerability of urban communities through enhanced preparedness and mitigation of hydro-meteorological disasters in urban areas of Bangladesh. The selected city is Chittagong, which is located in the southeast part of Bangladesh and has a high annual growth rate. As a port city, Chittagong has traditionally been a major centre for trade and commerce. The economic base in Chittagong is wider than that of Dhaka and has considerable scope for expansion if appropriate measures are taken.

The coastal areas of Chittagong are highly prone to natural disasters such as cyclone and tidal surge. On the other hand, floods caused by heavy rainfall, tornado, and even water logging are common disasters in the valleys and hilly areas within city administration. These affect the livelihoods of people, especially that of the poor and the vulnerable. The lead partner for this project is BDPC whereas the associate partners are CARE-Bangladesh and Government of Bangladesh through Comprehensive Disaster Management Project (CDMP) and Disaster Management Bureau (DMB) and also the Chittagong Municipality.

The main activities planned under PROMISE-Bangladesh are hazard mapping and vulnerability assessment for basic infrastructure, critical facilities, and communities living in hazard prone areas; preparedness and mitigation action planning workshops at city level; development of small scale community level projects for enhanced preparedness and mitigation of impact of hydro-meteorological events; Establishment of community based end-to-end early warning mechanisms, Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) and development of neighborhood networks of community-based organizations to support the functioning of EOCs; training and capacity building for risk-based urban land-use planning and institutionalization of regional course on urban governance and risk management, as well as on hydro-meteorological risk management and community preparedness at the city level.

##### 2.1.1.1. Ward level CBDRM courses

After the TOT, held in March, ten Ward-level Community Based Disaster Risk Management courses were held from April 6 to June 28. The two-day course was designed to give emphasis on communities' risk assessment and the development of community action plan for reducing community's hazards and vulnerabilities. The main purpose of the course was to assess communities' risk and vulnerabilities, and develop an action plan to reduce the risks. With the assistance of BDPC, three trained change agents (CAs) facilitated each of the courses. All the programs were monitored by the members of the respective WDRMC. Project staff members informed the Ward Commissioner office about the schedule, before the course was started. Seventeen CAs from each of the Wards were present as participants in the course. Ten action plans were developed as course outputs. In most of the courses, the Ward Commissioner of the respective Wards was present during the closing session, when certificates of participation were given to the participants

### **2.1.1.2. Conduct of school awareness sessions under the school safety program**

BDPC conducted 1 school awareness session under the school safety program during this reporting quarter. The session was held on 19 April, 2007 at the hall room of the South Potenga City Corporation High School, Ward no.41. The main purpose of this session was to create awareness about the importance of having school disaster management plan in order to save lives and reduce vulnerabilities. Around 500 participants comprising students, teachers, members of the school management committees, representatives from different Community Based Organizations participated at the event. The presentations were about the activities planned for school safety program, and lectures on various hydro-meteorological hazards, the vulnerabilities of school buildings and students during disasters, and measures for school disaster risk reduction. The pocket calendars containing cyclone warning messages developed last quarter were distributed among the students. Some documents containing disaster awareness information were handed over to the school committee for keeping in the school library.

### **2.1.1.3. Emergency response by PROMISE CAS and WDRMC**

The port city of Chittagong and some of its surrounding areas experienced a devastating disaster in the morning of 11 June 2007 that left 126 people dead and hundreds of others injured. The deaths were mainly due to a series of landslides caused by torrential rains. The city also experienced unprecedented water logging which caused untold sufferings to the city dwellers. The cause of the disaster was extremely heavy downpour while the main indirect cause was indiscriminate cutting of the hills.

At the request of USIAD-Bangladesh and OFDA Regional Office, Mr. Usammah of ADPC went on mission to sites affected due to recent floods/land slides. The visit to Chittagong was conducted on Wednesday, 20 June 2007 to observe the impact of flash flood and landslide disaster, which killed at least 106 people and injured over 200 people in different areas of hilly Chittagong district. The visit was paid to three wards namely Lalkhan Bazar (Kushum Bagan area), South Pahartoli (Bayajeed Bostamy area) and Dabol Muring (Mahhub Colony area).

The visit was guided by PROMISE project's focal points in Chittagong and three change agents from South Pahortoli's. The areas were affected by the recent flash flood and landslide due to the extreme rainfall, which was total 227 mm within twenty four hours as recorded by Meteorological office in Chittagong. Those observed main hazard factors are written below:

- Temporary settlement practices by the community on the slope and foot slope of the hill
- Hill cut practices for settlement
- Steep and un-vegetated slope
- The local people have poor or no risk perception about landslide and flash flood
- Weak community structures in disaster mitigation
- No early warning set-up for flash flood and landslide

The Change Agents and all the Ward Disaster Management Committees (Warms) formed in the ten wards under PROMISE Bangladesh of the city corporation took active part in the search and rescue operation in their respective wards, and thereby proved their enhanced capacity to cope with such a disaster. In each of the respective wards the volunteers rescued the people from the waterlogged area and arranged for draining out the water with the assistance of the city corporation personnel and joint forces. The details of the activities per ward of the PROMISE change agents and volunteers are given below:

- Ward # 2 (Jalalabad): Twenty PROMISE volunteers of the ward disaster management committee rescued the people from the waterlogged area, arranged for draining the water with the assistance of the city corporation, and conducted a cleanliness drive after the water receded.
- Ward #8 (Sholokbohar and Chakbazar): The PROMISE volunteers in this ward shifted furniture and other household items from the affected ‘Kutchha’ (earth-built) houses and assisted the joint army and police forces in shifting the elderly people and children to safe places.
- Ward # 9 (Pahartoli): The PROMISE volunteers in this ward assisted the rescue team of the city corporation in removing sand and mud from the roads.
- Ward #11 (South Katrolly): The volunteers acted here with the joint forces, and also arranged for opening the sluice gate and draining out the water to ease the flooding.
- Ward #16 (Chakbazar): In this ward, the change agents held a meeting after the disaster and planned their activities. They divided into two groups. One group assisted the people in moving from one place to another by knotting strong ropes across the roads in the areas where the roads were badly damaged. The other group went to the Medical College hospital and took part in providing first aid to the injured persons.
- Ward # 26 (South Haliashahar): The volunteers of this ward shifted the marooned people from the water logged areas to the safe places, procured dry foods and distributed those amongst the affected people, and also arranged clothes and safe water for the affected people.
- Ward # 37 (North Haliashahar): The volunteers rescued the people from the flooded areas and distributed some dry foods and clothes at their own initiative.
- Ward # 39 (South Haliashahar): The change agents and volunteers moved furniture and other household items from the affected houses to the safer places. Some of the affected people were given shelter at the houses of the change agents and volunteers.
- Ward # 40n (North Potenga): The volunteers in this ward conducted their activities along with the rescue team of the city corporation. They distributed dry food and clothes among the affected people with the assistance of the local ward commissioner.
- Ward # 41 (South Potenga): The change agents and volunteers of this ward rescued and shifted the domestic animals and poultry from the affected areas to the safer places, assisted the joint forces in rebuilding the damaged houses with bamboo pillars, and protected the community’s fishponds.

The City Corporation personnel and the PROMISE Change Agents and volunteers earned the praise and appreciation of the communities through their prompt and dedicated response services. After the landslide, the people have become aware that mitigation measures are necessary to reduce the risk of landslide. The relevant Government organizations and NGOs working in the field have come forward with their own proposals and program to cope with potential landslide and flooding disasters.

### 2.1.2. Pakistan

Project Title:	PROMISE – Pakistan
Selected City:	Hyderabad
Lead Institution:	Aga Khan Planning and Building Services Pakistan (AKPBSP)

*Overview:* The selected city for PROMISE-Pakistan is Hyderabad, which is the 8th largest in Pakistan. Its population is estimated to be around 1.3 million. It is the regional headquarter of the district of Hyderabad and is the meeting point of two of Pakistan's largest highways, the Indus Highway and the National Highway. This city is vulnerable to floods, drought, extreme temperatures, heat waves and windstorms. The local partner, Aga Khan Planning and Building Services (AKPBSP) was established in 1980 as a part of Aga Khan Developmental Network in Pakistan with disaster mitigation and management as one of its key program initiatives. The project aims to focus the activities of the project in flood prone low-lying area of Hyderabad city. Hyderabad is secondary city often impacted due to drainage problems. It is located on the banks of Indus River and has a high water table in around 20-30% of the city area. During monsoon flood has become a recurrent problem due to difficulties in discharge of water using available pumping systems.

The main activities planned are namely: Hazard mapping and vulnerability assessment for basic infrastructure, critical facilities, and communities living in hazard prone areas; preparedness and mitigation action planning workshops at city level; development of small scale community level projects for enhanced preparedness and mitigation of impact of hydro-meteorological events; training and capacity building for risk-based urban land-use planning and institutionalization of regional course on urban governance and risk management as well as on hydro-meteorological risk management and community preparedness at the city level.

#### 2.1.2.1. *Disaster Management Committees*

The four disaster management committees at union councils have Mitigation Demo Projects. These projects will be implemented with the participation of local community. Community is mobilized to contribute in kind in the construction/installation work of demo projects. Projects on earth filling in the low lying colonies/areas, communal latrines, storm water drains, rehabilitation of pumping stations will be executed.

#### 2.1.2.2. *Mission to Pakistan, April 1 to 4*

Mr. Usammah went to Hyderabad and Karachi during this mission. The main purpose was to visit the PROMISE Pakistan Program office in Hyderabad for a briefing on the project area and the criteria followed to select six Union Council areas in Latifabad (sub district of Hyderabad) for implementation of the project activities and to review the vulnerability assessment report prepared by the project at the end of HVR mapping. A field visit to Ghera Basti community was also carried out to obtain first hand information of the vulnerabilities of the flood affected communities in the city.

#### 2.1.2.3. *Small-scale Disaster Mitigation Projects*

During the hazard mapping and vulnerability assessment study low lying communities were identified. The dialogue process was soon started with these communities to identify suitable projects aimed to mitigate disaster risks. Participatory need assessment process was carried out through community dialogue and parity wise ranking. Local CBOs were also invited to participate in the need analysis process. The process was followed by detailed technical survey,



architectural drawings and designing. As a result following six projects were prepared and submitted with ADPC for review.

#### **2.1.2.4. Resource Mobilization Training, June 22 to 25**

Nineteen members from six (6) disaster management committees formed under the project are participating in the training. Mr. Gopal Das Malhi, Senior Coordinator, Strengthening Participating Organizations (SPO) and Dr Bakhshal Khan Lashari, Professor, Mehran University, Jamshoro (Master Trainer from ADPC on Disaster Management) are the resource persons for the training.

### **2.1.3. Philippines**

Project Title:	PROMISE – Philippines
Selected City:	Dagupan City
Lead Institution:	Centre for Disaster Preparedness (CDP)

*Overview:* The selected city, Dagupan, has a land area of 4,008 hectares and functions as a sub-regional center for trade and commerce, finance, high-level health and education services in Northern Luzon. Flooding in Dagupan is a common problem and the situation is further aggravated by the onset of high tide. There are seven river systems that traverse Dagupan, all of which drain out to the Lingayen Gulf. Most of the rivers are at present heavily silted. The silt deposits are caused primarily by upstream riverbank erosion, and proliferation of squatters along riverbanks. The shallow river bottoms, resulting from sediment transportation and deposit on the riverbed, is the cause of heavy flood in the city in the past years. Typhoons also are experienced often and responsible for heavy rains in the upper catchments and subsequent flooding in the city.

Centre for Disaster Preparedness (CDP) is the lead partner in the project. It is one of the leading advocates of Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) in the Philippines. Philippine Disaster Management Forum (PDMF), National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) and National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) are assisting in implementation of the project.

PROMISE-Philippines would primarily focus on development of preparedness and mitigation plans using improved hazard data and information available at the municipality; Skill training for municipal planners, engineers, decision-makers as well as corporate sector planners that will be institutionalized; development of methodology for cost-benefit analysis of alternative mitigation strategies, especially land-use planning options; vulnerability assessment of existing facilities and barangays for identification and implementation of small-scale community based disaster risk management (CBDRM) projects; organization of functional Barangay disaster coordinating council; Pilot testing of community based flood forecasting and warning system in coordination with PAGASA; Development of a city level disaster management information system and training/capacity building programs, public awareness and advocacy campaigns.

#### **2.1.3.1. Conduct of a Flood Response Simulation Exercise**

The main activity for the quarter was the preparation, conduct of a Flood Response Simulation Exercise on May 31, and subsequent evaluation of the exercise. In April, the TWG and the representatives of the eight pilot barangays held a series of meetings to review their early warning and evacuation plans for the coming drill. The TWG members were assigned to the eight barangays to facilitate small group discussions to look into the plans and see what is lacking and what needs to be improved. The installation sites for the flood markers were also reviewed and

noted. An orientation for Bantay Dagupan (network of private companies and civic organizations) and for PATRIMA (tri-media network of Dagupan City) also held in April.

Most of the major preparatory meetings were made in May. The simulation control team was created to make a realistic script, organize volunteers, lead and guide other simulation committees and oversees the whole activity.

Around 300 eager individuals took part in this initiative that came from the community, city government, regional government offices, international non-government organization, religious groups, neighboring municipalities, health organizations, media and civil society. Even the usual local caterer for the project gave a huge discount for the catering services for the simulation. Red Cross provided volunteers trained in first aid for all the staging stations and actors for the staged vehicular accidents. CDP provided volunteers for the photo and process documentation.

Through PATRIMA, the tri-media organization, the whole event was heard blow by blow through the local radio (Bombo Radyo, Action Radyo). It was seen through the regional television network (ABS-CBN). Several observers attended the event and gave comments, including Mr. Karanth from ADPC, Regional Disaster Coordinating Council Director Armando Duque, and representatives of the Disaster Coordinating Councils of Baguio City, Mangaldan municipality, and Binmaley municipality. USAID representatives were invited to witness the event but they were not able to attend due to prior commitments.

There were two staging areas one in Barangay Mangin, and another in the City. Barangay Mangin Disaster Coordinating Council gave their best performance and learnt a lot on what they will improve in the future. The BDCCs of the other pilot barangays observed in Barangay Mangin. The scenario written for the exercise had a direct typhoon warning given to the city from the national meteorological agency (PAGASA), a flood forecast because of dam water release that will reach the city, accidents caused by the typhoon, constant monitoring of flood markers and subsequent evacuation of people in high-risk areas, and hospitalization of the deputized Chief of the City Disaster Coordinating Council.

The simulation has helped each sector involved to share their knowledge and skills in preparedness and response through allowing others to witness, impart comments and eventually replicate this kind of endeavor. It became a venue for them to learn from actual practice rather than relying in theoretical framework alone. Delineation of tasks, multi-sectoral participation and articulation of suitable responses were challenges that the activity have tried to address.

Separate evaluations were made for the city-level response, for the Barangay Mangin response, and for the CDCC itself. Some of the lessons and suggestions for the control team include: Invite a disaster specialist from the local government, national office and civil society who can express substantial inputs, suggest future activities and identify areas for improvement; In selecting the location of EOC, the space, staging area, placement of signage for proper identification are significant factors to consider; It is important to indicate that it is just a simulation exercise to avoid confusion among community people; have a dedicated member to oversee the script's implementation when running the exercise simultaneously in different areas; have a separate Assessment for Barangay Mangin to assess their learning and the implementation of their plans.

Lessons from the Barangay Mangin experience include: During the simulation it was seen that it is harder to have good reception if there were no external antenna; Using only one frequency can clog up the communication system; All flood markers should be installed, and water measurements should be recorded regularly; and The people in the community should know the plan, the warning signals and alert levels

Lessons and suggestions for the CDCC include: A data/ bulletin board is essential inside the EOC to monitor its activities, have a database on the number of affected families, damages incurred

and directory of focal persons; the Communication Room inside the EOC should be isolated from other rooms (meeting room, media room); A Contingency Plan for specific disasters must be prepared and made available; A topographic/ hazard map of the area is a necessity in the EOC; All flood markers should be installed and labeled, and water measurements should be recorded regularly; and The people in the community should know the plan, the warning signals and alert levels.

#### **2.1.3.2. Flood Response Communication Simulation**

The flood response communication simulation was conducted on June 7. This exercise was aimed at testing the communication flow during emergencies of the CDCC and the high risk communities in flooding, and to enhance the disaster risk reduction plan of the eight pilot barangays. Before the actual simulation, a briefing on how to use the radio, the codes, and other relevant issues were given to the eight pilot barangays. The suggestions and recommendations after the simulation included: have external antennas to have a strong signal for better communication, and the BDCCs will buy some external antennas for their two-way radios using their respective calamity funds.

#### **2.1.3.3. Workshop for reviewing and completing the CDCC Manual**

The TWG along with Project Coordinator reviewed the CDCC Manual in two meetings in April. The important parts like the structure of the CDCC and the early warning and monitoring system was scrutinized and agreed upon. Missing information was researched by members of the TWG and filled in. Ms. Maris Palencia, the Drill consultant, contributed to the Manual's development.

#### **2.1.4. Sri Lanka**

Project Title: PROMISE-Sri Lanka

Site(s): Kalutara

Lead Institution(s): Lanka Jathika Sarvodaya

*Overview:* The selected city under this program is Kalutara, a medium size urban coastal city in Sri Lanka. As the district capital and has shown a tremendous growth and development potential as a rapidly developing satellite town due to its proximity to the capital city, tourism and other export oriented industries as well as being the site for the proposed second international airport of the island. The city is prone to frequent events of riverine floods, annual flash floods (most recent was in May 2003), droughts and rain-induced landslides. The coastline of Kalutara was heavily impacted by the recent tsunami of December 2004.

The lead institute, Lanka Jathika Sarvodaya Shramadana Sangamaya, is the largest National NGO network in Sri Lanka. Disciplines of disaster management, environment and ecology have been a core area of operations of Sarvodaya since its inception. The associated partners for implementation of PROMISE in Sri Lanka will be Urban Council, Kalutara; Department of Meteorology; National Building Research Organization (NBRO); Sri Lanka Institute of Local governance; Waste Management Authority, Western Province and Water Resources Board.

PROMISE-Sri Lanka would mainly focus on activities such as Hazard mapping and vulnerability and capacity assessment for basic infrastructure, critical facilities, and communities living in hazard prone areas; Preparedness and mitigation action planning workshops at city level; Development of small scale community level projects for enhanced preparedness and mitigation of impact of hydro-meteorological events; Facilitation of micro-credit schemes as part of pre-disaster relief package to promote proper construction and improve resistance of houses to disasters; Training and capacity building for risk based urban land use planning, damage and loss

estimation and damage and loss estimation; public awareness campaigns etc. are some of the main activities that would be implemented.

#### **2.1.4.1. Kalu Ganga River Flood Forecasting and Warning System**

PROMISE Sri Lanka conducted a workshop on establishment of end to end early warning system to the community at Ratnapura district. The objective of the workshop was to introduce the function and benefits of an early warning system to the Kalu River. Participants constructed a rough sketch map of the villages and rivers that are nearest to them to understand their flooding risk. The final session of the workshop was training on how to use a rain gauge so that they can monitor the various flood and rainfall gauges on stations to be established along the Kalu River under the project.

Dr. Nandalal and Mr. Laksiri from the National Building Research Organization (NBRO) reported to the PROMISE Sri Lanka team and Mr. Usammah of ADPC on progress of the flood model that they developed on May 4. They presented the model with some demonstration, discussed the advantages and the drawbacks of the model, and the applicability of the model for the Kalu River Early Warning System.

#### **2.1.4.2. Community-level Basic Emergency Response Course, May 21 to 25**

The Community-level Basic Emergency Response Course (C-BERC) was conducted under Program for Hydro-Meteorological Disaster Mitigation in Secondary Cities in Asia (PROMISE) in Sri Lanka in partnership with Sarvodaya. The purpose of C-BERC is to provide citizens with the basic skills required to handle virtually all their own needs and then to be able to respond to the needs of the community in the aftermath of a disaster. The training was conducted in Sarvodaya Training Center in Bandaragama, Sri Lanka. C-BERC is a training program designed to enhance the capacity of the community to respond to emergencies and disasters. The program educates the community to be aware of the different hazards and trains them in lifesaving skills so that they are better prepared to respond to emergency situations in their communities.

#### **2.1.4.3. Small-scale Disaster Mitigation Projects**

PROMISE Sri Lanka had a meeting with Administrative Officer of GN officers at District Secretariat office to assess and select appropriate projects from among those generated during the CBDRM training workshops.

#### **2.1.5. Viet Nam**

Project Title: PROMISE-Viet Nam
Site(s): Da Nang
Lead Institution(s): Centre of International Studies and Cooperation (CECI)

*Overview:* The target city under PROMISE-Viet Nam is Da Nang, which is a dynamic city of the Key Economic Zone in central Viet Nam. Da Nang City is an important communications hub of the central region, with its international airport, deep-water seaports and north-south land routes and railways completely and conveniently developed. Being located on the World Heritage Route, it also has tremendous tourism development potential in addition to the potential for economic development. Da Nang is frequently subjected to flood and storm disaster events. Severe storms with strong wind are often experienced with heavy rains, causing river water level rising and flooding. Drought, which occurs almost every year, is another major threat to the local agriculture.

Centre for International studies and Cooperation of Viet Nam, the lead partner for PROMISE, has been very active in the central region of Viet Nam in providing assistance to the government

partners, UN and other international agencies and communities in the coastal areas, for hazard and vulnerability assessment and developing community-based solutions for disaster risk management, adaptation to climate change, environment protection and improvement.

PROMISE-Viet Nam would mainly focus on activities such as Hazard mapping and vulnerability and capacity assessment for basic infrastructure, critical facilities and communities living in hazard prone areas; Preparedness and mitigation action planning workshops at the ward level and identification and training of the “Change Agents”; Development of small scale community level projects for enhanced preparedness and mitigation of impact of hydro-meteorological events and; training on Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) at the ward and section level as well as revision and adaptation of the CBDRM training material for PROMISE.

Da Nang City is located in Central Viet Nam, which is a long-stretching narrow region. The area is frequently subjected to flood and storm disaster events. Storms, affecting the Central provinces, often originate from tropical storms and depressions coming from the South China Sea (East Sea), and from tropical and cold fronts. Severe storms with strong wind are often engaged with heavy rains, causing river water level rising and flooding.

Cam Le, a newly split district from former Hoà Vang district of Da Nang City, was selected to be the area for project implementation for its matching to the project objectives. The fact that urbanization is happening to most of the wards of the district inconsistently has exposed vulnerability to disasters of this district. The district is situated in the low-lying location, which has total natural area of 230 hectares. There are 6 wards in the district namely: Khue Trung, Hoa Xuan, Hoa Tho Dong, Hoa Tho Tay, Hoa Phat and Hoa An. Its total population is 71,000 people (16,612 households), out of which there are 1,231 poor households account for 6.44%. Identified potential hazards to the district include flood, storm and drought.

#### ***2.1.5.1. Improved practices in housing construction***

The project team has finalized the poster on nine construction principles resistant to typhoon and floods in consultation with the ADPC team. The poster has been sent to city authority, and is awaiting their approval. The poster will then be printed in a hundred copies and sent to ward and district people's committee district, beneficiaries of the safer housing construction program, head of sections for their dissemination of these principles in community meetings.

#### ***2.1.5.2. CBDRM Training and Disaster Preparedness Planning***

One of the key activities of Promise Vietnam in this quarter was the accomplishment of CBDRM training at section cluster level. Totally there were five training classes conducted at the community level (section clusters) in the three of the most vulnerable wards identified in the PVCA. Almost a hundred fifty persons representing community representatives such as head of sections, representatives of community-based organizations attended a three-day training on CBDRM where they were familiarized with key concepts and produced a disaster preparedness plan for their section clusters. Identified change agents (local trainers) also joined and facilitated these training classes. The training was delivered directly by the CECI team with training of trainers and monitoring by Ms. Nguyen Thi Phuc Hoa, CECI's Community Development Specialist and delivery of the training by CECI program staff including the Promise Vietnam Coordinator.

By the end of this quarter, the first three - day CBDRM training at ward level was conducted at meeting hall of PC of Hoa Tho Tay ward from June 26 to 28. Thirty persons including members of the ward CSFC and representative of the most vulnerable sections (head of sections) were to be invited to the training. An MOU was signed with Cam Le district Red Cross association (with particular help from a city Red Cross trainer) to conduct the training. The remaining two CBDRM training classes in the other two most vulnerable wards will be in August.

#### **2.1.5.3. *Revise Disaster Preparedness Plan***

Five DPPs of the section cluster were submitted and being reviewed by the project team. A sheet of proposed subproject summary was being done to serve as a basic for development of DPP and proposed subprojects at ward level.

#### **2.1.5.4. *House Programme to support Xangsane Typhoon victims (CECI's contribution)***

For this quarter Promise Vietnam continued to do follow up with houses under construction in the house program funded by fundraising from CIDA and Canadian government to implement the relief project in bid to help the community quickly recover. Up to the end of this quarter, the house program was completed with totally 21 houses being rebuilt and 10 houses repaired in Cam Le District. This activity is CECI Vietnam's counterpart contribution to PROMISE Vietnam's project activities.

#### **2.1.5.5. *Development of guidelines to raise the awareness on safe construction techniques***

Promise Vietnam continued with development of a set of guidelines to raise the community awareness on safer construction techniques. The content of the guidelines were drafted, including information on typhoons/floods and climate change, historical profiles of damages to houses caused by typhoons and floods, analysis of reasons why many houses were damaged and destroyed. Based on this analysis, the document then proposes safer construction principles and techniques in reinforcing as well as building houses. The guidelines were developed in collaboration with the Construction department of Da Nang city and the Construction Consulting Company of the Architects Union. The guidelines would be disseminated in the community.

#### **2.1.5.6. *Emergency Rescue team at city and ward level/development of "Standard Operating Procedures"***

Information on the emergency rescue system of the city was being gathered to decide on project possible interventions.

#### **2.1.5.7. *Preparations for Case Study on the Safer Construction experience***

In the middle of June 2007, Ms Iglesias, PROMISE's networking and information coordinator from ADPC has come to Vietnam to develop a case study on the above-mentioned safer housing program with the theme of mainstreaming safer construction into regulation and private practice. PROMISE Viet Nam arranged interviews and meetings with city and district urban planners, officials of the city construction department to learn about the planning, zoning and building permit process in Da Nang, get their assessment of the impact that Typhoon Xangsane had on planning, zoning and building permit. Photos of repaired and rebuilt houses were taken and interviews done to beneficiaries of the program.

### **2.1.6. Indonesia**

A proposal submitted to OFDA for the extension of PROMISE activities into one or more Indonesian cities that are flooded regularly. It is currently being reviewed by OFDA technical committees. In addition, while on mission to Indonesia Mr. N.M.S.I. Arambepola met with Mr. David Hollister, Senior Disaster Reduction Advisor of UNDP Indonesia. They discussed the possibilities of expansion of activities under a proposed PROMISE-Indonesia project through additional funding support from UNDP.

## **2.2. Regional and National Capacity Building**

For this quarter, the work at the regional level was to design and implement several runs of the Community-based Emergency Response Course and the Community-based Emergency Management Course that includes setting up an incident command system.

## **2.3. Advocacy for Mainstreaming Risk Management in Urban Governance**

### **2.3.1. Pakistan**

PROMISE Pakistan organized a school festival on April 21, 2007 in a government high school, Hali Road Hyderabad. Lectures on the Disasters, PROMISE Pakistan, and role of students in the preparedness activities were delivered to the students.

An orientation program was organized for the school children in Amir Public School was organized on 30 April 2007. The purpose was to orient the young children with basic knowledge on disasters, its implications on lives and livelihood and few tips on preventive and post disaster events. In all, 45 children participated in the orientation workshop.

The people of PROMISE Pakistan's project areas have limited livelihood alternatives, which inhibits conventional banking institutions from extending financial services to them. To create new livelihood options and to facilitate the requests from the communities for access to micro-credit, the project team contacted and invited First Microfinance Bank to provide financial services in the project areas. The bank official held a meeting with the Disaster Management Committee and potential beneficiaries and made rapid appraisals on June 6, 2007 in Ghera Basti. Consequently, the Bank has decided to start their services soon in the projects areas.

### **2.3.2. Philippines**

The Sharing of DRM Experiences with the Baguio City Disaster Coordinating Council pushed through last April 11, 2007. The TWG headed by Mr. Robert Erfe-Mejia the Deputized CDCC Officer and Mrs. Emma Molina the Focal person of Dagupan PROMISE Project along with Ms. Mayfourth Luneta the Project Coordinator met with the City Mayor Rey Bautista to discuss about the current DRM practice in Dagupan City and Baguio City. The TWG also viewed the 911 service of Baguio, and the emergency services of the Philippine Military Academy.

In preparation for the Flood Response Simulation Exercise on May 31, the TWG and Ms. Luneta held an orientation for Bantay Dagupan and for PATRIMA. Participation in the exercise was across all development partners. The whole event was broadcast through local radio (Bombo Radyo, Action Radyo) and regional TV (ABS-CBN). Several observers who are targets of the mainstreaming advocacy attended including Regional Disaster Coordinating Council Director Armando Duque, and representatives of the Disaster Coordinating Councils of Baguio City, Mangaldan municipality, and Binmaley municipality.

### **2.3.3. Viet Nam**

In June the Project Coordinator attended the training on Advocacy Skills on 7th to 9th June, funded by DIPECHO, and facilitated by ADPC team. It was a three - day training starting in Hanoi. Promise Vietnam coordinator made a presentation on Promise Vietnam activities of Component 4 "Advocacy for mainstreaming risk management in urban governance".

## **2.4. Regional Networking and Information dissemination**

### **2.4.1. Updating of the Website**

The web site has been updated with more information on project activities in 5 target countries and information on cities. Regional course descriptions are also available. Schedules of future regional and national courses will be uploaded on the new web pages for regional and national training.

### **2.4.2. Monthly Electronic Newsletter**

“Disaster Mitigation in Asia” is the monthly electronic newsletter maintained by PROMISE. For this quarter, issues 46, 47 and 48 were published both as email and online. The newsletter was sent to more than 2,000 subscribers. This electronic newspaper was posted on [adpcannounce@adpc.net](mailto:adpcannounce@adpc.net).

### **2.4.3. Safer Cities Case Studies**

The first three case studies were published this quarter, and made available online. The case studies are:

- Safer Cities 16: *Cooperation between Local Authority and Communities Reduces Flood Disaster Risk in Dagupan City, Philippines*
- Safer Cities 17: *Good Governance and Post-Tsunami Recovery in Patong*. This is based on the study developed under the Good Urban Governance in South Asia project funded by USAID India.
- Safer Cities 18: *The Boy Who Cried, “Wolf!” or Why a Community-based Alert System is a good idea*

### **2.4.4. Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, June 4 to 8**

ADPC sent a delegation to the first Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Geneva, Switzerland. ADPC’s participation in this major event was to showcase good initiatives in Asia. ADPC made several presentations during the 5-day event. Mr. Arambepola made a presentation of the PROMISE experience in two side events: (1) “Working towards community resilience in Asia: Innovative efforts of ISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) members and other stakeholders”, and (2) “Reducing Disaster Risk and Building Resilience to Disasters in Cities, Working towards Community Resilience in Asia-Pacific: innovative Efforts on IAP members and other stakeholders”. Other key ADPC presentations in the side events were: (1) the ADPC study for ISDR on the Asian implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action; (2) the implementation of the Regional Consultative Council’s policy on Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction, with a specific case in the Philippines co-presented by Gen. Glenn Rabonza of the Office of Civil Defense.

### **2.4.5. Regional Conference on Good Urban Governance in Asia, June 27 to 28**

The Good Urban Governance in South Asia project funded by USAID India is culminated in a Regional Conference and Training Workshop from June 27 to 30 in Hyderabad, India. ADPC



was invited as partner to both events, to chair one session and present the lessons learned in the Patong case study. Dr. Bhichit Rattakul, ADPC Executive Director a.i., represented ADPC at the Regional Conference on Good Urban Governance in Asia. He gave some remarks at the opening ceremony, and chaired the session on “Building a Foundation for Good Urban Governance.” Dr. Rattakul was instrumental in bringing the regional perspective to the conference, and strongly supported the initiative to form a network of the Asian cities and institutes represented at the event. In addition Ms. Iglesias and Mr. Karanth gave presentations during the training: on governance and disaster risk reduction, the vulnerability profile of South Asian cities, earthquake risk reduction measures in Asia, and to be part of the creation of a Regional Network of Local Authorities that promotes inter-agency learning.

#### **2.4.6. Community Based Disaster Risk Management & Local Governance (UNISDR)**

CDP submitted a case study to UN ISDR on the PROMISE Philippines Experience on Community-Based Disaster Risk Management and Local Governance in Dagupan City. It was included in the publication *Building Disaster Resilient Communities: Good Practices and Lessons Learned 2007* as the case from the Philippines. The case study of CDP was Mainstreaming Community-Based Mitigation in City Governance - Community Based Disaster Risk Management & Local Governance. (Please refer to attached document). The publication of the Dagupan Promise experiences will help in the promotion of CBDRM and Good Governance not only in the Philippines but also worldwide.

#### **2.4.7. Information and Education Materials from Country Partners**

No new IEC materials were developed this quarter.

#### **2.4.8. Networking Activities**

During the last quarter, ADPC and the country partners participated in several activities in the region and used the opportunity to promote PROMISE and its objectives.

##### ***2.4.8.1. Visit of United Nations Under-Secretary-General Dr. Kim Hak-Su, and Executive Secretary of ESCAP***

United Nations Under-Secretary-General Dr. Kim Hak-Su visited ADPC on 13 July 2006. Dr. Kim was accompanied by a team from ESCAP. Ms. Iglesias made a presentation on the PROMISE program thrust and updates, and other programs and projects of the Urban Disaster Risk Management Team. Other ADPC teams made their respective presentations. Dr. Kim suggested that the ADPC connect with ESCAP’s divisions dealing with urban poverty and environmental issues.

##### ***2.4.8.2. Visit by USAID representatives Walter Shepherd and Golam Kabir to Chittagong City, 11 June 2007***

A two-member team from USAID visited North Potenga, Ward # 40, Chittagong City on 16 June, 2007. Mr. Golam Kabir and Mr. Walter Shepherd were in the team. The main purpose of the visit was to inspect the overall situation and response and rescue activities accomplished by CAs after the sudden disaster of 11 June, and to see the local initiatives to reduce inundation. The team also visited some canals including one inside the Karnafuly Export Promotion Zone filled

with water hyacinths that caused flooding. The CAs made a commitment to clean up that canal on their initiative within 1 month.

During the discussion Mr. Shepherd wanted to know whether the CAs knew about this problem before. Mr. Faridul Islam, Project Manager replied that the CAs mentioned about this risk while hazard mapping in CBDRM and they also identified their capacities and vulnerabilities. Mr. Shepherd wanted to know what purpose this vulnerability and capacity assessment would serve in future. Mr. Islam informed him that a validation meeting would be held in July with Ward Commissioners and officials from Chittagong City Corporation; Mr. Shepherd expressed his desire to be present at the event.

**2.4.8.3. *15th World Congress on Disaster and Emergency Medicine, Netherlands, May 11 to 17***

Dr. Luis Jorge Perez Calderon, ADPC Deputy Executive Director, was a key participant to the 15th World Congress on Disaster and Emergency Medicine in several plenary sessions, and as a panelist in the Workshop on Partnerships. During his presentation in the panel, Dr. Perez briefed the audience on PROMISE and other major ADPC activities to make it known to a large audience that has little knowledge of this type of activities that are being carried out in Asia and South East Asia.

**2.4.8.4. *Mission to Pakistan, April 1 to 4***

Mr. Usammah had a meeting with Mr. Muhammad Hussain Syed, District Co-ordination Officer in Hyderabad to brief him on the progress of PROMISE Pakistan and the importance of coordination of project activities with the government agencies in implementing the project had been discussed in detail. Mr. Syed agreed to give his full support in implementing the project activities in Hyderabad. Also the District Co-ordination Officer showed his interest to attend the ADPC regional course on Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction in September 2007.

Mr. Usammah visited the AKPBSP office in Karachi to have a discussion with Asif Merchant, CEO, and PROMISE program staff on the project activities under Phase II, as well as on possibilities for developing an urban earthquake risk management program to cover the highly prone areas in Northern Pakistan.

**2.4.8.5. *Mission to the Philippines, May 2 to 8***

Mr. Arambepola went to Dagupan City to attend the PROMISE project Technical Coordinating committee (TCC) meeting of Dagupan city composed of all heads of city departments with Ms. Mayfourth Luneta, PROMISE County Project Coordinator. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Rafael F. Baraan, City Administrator. Ms. Emma Molina, Officer-in-charge of DRM activities, undertaken by TCC has explained the arrangements for the evacuation drill planned to be carried out on 30 May. The meeting was followed by a visit to some of the target island barangays frequently affected by typhoon and flooding, to see the implementation of community projects and meet the Barangay Disaster Management committees. Mr. Reggie Ubando, head of the city's Waste Management team, explained the projects to reduce encroachments and improve the mangrove plantations on the river banks.

Mr. Arambepola also met with CDP Executive Director Prof. Emmanuel Luna, Ms. Luneta, and the CDP finance team for discussion on the finance matters of PROMISE Philippines Phase II.

**2.4.8.6. *Mission to Cambodia, May 7 to 8***

Mr. Karanth (ADPC), Mr. Usammah (ADPC) and Anup Chum Vuthy (FEMS) traveled to Lovea Em district to understand the forecast products and the activities being undertaken by the vulnerable communities. The dialogue with the village community and the volunteers enabled to understand the community based flood preparedness at the village level, existing mechanism laid

down by the village volunteers to record the water levels and transfer of the information from site to billboard, maintenance of flood height data and utilization of the information at various levels, communication set up at the base station at the village level, information flow and issuance of flood alert and challenges in implementation of the community based EWS. PROMISE aims to pilot community-based end-to-end early warning mechanisms through setting up of systems for receiving advance early warning and dissemination at the grassroots level. The ongoing practice under the FEMS program in Cambodia is a good model for developing a flood forecasting system and to undertake/replicate similar activities with necessary modifications in Kalutara City, Sri Lanka.

#### **2.4.8.7. Mission in Iran, May 2007**

During a mission to Iran, ADPC organized a meeting on May 17 with Mr. Ali A. Mojtahed Shabestari, Head of UNOCHA Iran, and UNOCHA consultant Mr. Hamid Nazari, to investigate collaboration possibilities between UNOCHA-Iran and ADPC. It was discussed that ADPC drafts a proposal for the possible areas of collaborations in CBDRM, mainstreaming gender in emergencies, and the preparation of a Tehran Disaster Risk Reduction plan.

#### **2.4.8.8. Mission to Vietnam, May 17 to 19**

Mr. Karanth went to Da Nang to meet the PROMISE Vietnam team of CECI. The discussions revolved around the activities undertaken for the four broad components under PROMISE along with the future strategies to streamline some of the key activities such as development of early warning system, emergency preparedness and response plan, urban planning guidelines/techno legal regime for the local government, as well as development of broader guidelines for the national-level agencies/departments, school safety program, and the development of small-scale community level mitigation projects. Mr. Karanth was also supposed to observe the CBDRM training scheduled during his trip, but the training was postponed to last week of May by the People's Committee of Cam Le District due to the national elections during that week.

#### **2.4.8.9. Mission to Sri Lanka, May 17 to 26**

Mr. Usammah went on mission to Sri Lanka, primarily to conduct the C-BERC course with Mr. Frederick John Abo of ADPC. After the training, he had a series of meetings with the PROMISE Sri Lanka team, with Mr. Senaratne, Director of Specialized Services and Training of the Irrigation Department, with USAID Sri Lanka, and with Medical Team International (MTI) Sri Lanka.

A meeting was held on May 17 with PROMISE Sri Lanka team from Sarvodaya to discuss about the overall PROMISE activities this and the coming years by going through the overall project proposal and discussed in details. Deputy Executive Director of Sarvodaya, Mrs. Udeni Mendis attended the meeting together with the newly-appointed Deputy Director for the Sarvodaya Disaster Management Centre, Ms. Priyanka Mudalige. Particular emphasis of the discussion was put on execution of the community-based Early Warning System (EWS) along Kalu Ganga River.

The meeting on May 17 with Mr. Prabhath C. Senaratne, Director of Specialized Services and Training, Irrigation Department was to share detailed information on the concept of community-based Early Warning System. Mr. Senaratne explained about the plan of Irrigation Department with JICA in establishing flood gauging stations along the Kalu Ganga River and linking it with community-based initiatives. There is an opportunity for collaboration between the Irrigation Department's district or provincial office and Sarvodaya community members for flood marker installation and data management. Sarvodaya Community Members can be tapped for operating and maintaining the flood marks and bill boards, thereby enhancing the capacity of Sarvodaya Community Members while promoting the use of installed flood markers.

On May 18, a meeting was held with and Mr. Ben Kauffeld and Mr. Ivan Rasiah, Project Management Specialist, Humanitarian Assistance Program, USAID Sri Lanka. Mr. Usammah introduced ADPC projects in Sri Lanka. Representatives of USAID were eager to be regularly informed about ADPC activities in the country and support ADPC activities to as much extent as possible. USAID then requested ADPC to communicate kind of assistance that can be given in future activities.

On May 22, a meeting was held with Mr. Donnie Woodyard, EMS Manager, Medical Team International (MTI) Sri Lanka. Mr. Woodyard gave a briefing on MTI's activities in Sri Lanka, and their plan to train 1,000 Emergency Medical Technicians in the country and utilize them for emergency response, either for accident and natural disaster. In addition, MTI is planning to have 60 certified, qualified master trainers who will continue building EMS capacity in Sri Lanka. MTI is currently translating the newly finished international standard Emergency Medical Services (EMS) curriculum into two local languages (Singhalese and Tamil) to be used in their local training. MTI expressed their interest in collaboration to ADPC in working together in capacity building program for health unit, particularly for medical first responders throughout the country.

#### ***2.4.8.10. Mission to the Philippines, May 29 to June 1***

Mr. Karanth went to Dagupan to observe the Flood Response Simulation held under PROMISE Philippines. He attended the preparatory meeting, volunteer briefing for flood response simulation exercise on May 30, observed the drill, and participated in the debriefing session. He also held discussions with the PROMISE Philippines Team on their progress.

#### ***2.4.8.11. Reporting on Disasters, May 30***

Ms. Iglesias presented the PROMISE experience in CBDRM at the Print Journalism Training Course on "Reporting on Disasters", organized by the Indochina Media Memorial Foundation. The course was attended by 16 journalists from six Southeast Asian countries. After the talk, most participants signified that they would be interested to receive the PROMISE eNewsletter, *Disaster Mitigation in Asia*, and to cover CBDRM activities under PROMISE Viet Nam and PROMISE Philippines.

#### ***2.4.8.12. Mission to Viet Nam, June 2 to 15***

Ms. Iglesias went to Viet Nam as a resource person in the DIPEHCO-funded Training on Advocacy, in Hue (June 4 to 6) and Ha Noi (June 7 to 9). The training curriculum was developed by ADPC, and utilized training materials developed for the Regional Course in Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction, specifically the presentations on "Participatory approaches in governance and disaster risk reduction", "Stakeholder Analysis" (lecture and workshop), and "Generating information for local disaster risk reduction". Some slides were also adapted from presentations by UNIFEM and UNHABITAT in the governance course in Manila, September 2006. Ms. Iglesias informed CECI-Viet Nam, the country partner for PROMISE Viet Nam, of the training to send a nominee. Ms. Duong Thi Hoai Trang, the PROMISE Country Project Coordinator, was accepted as a participant in the Ha Noi training, along with Ms. Nguyễn Thị Phúc Hoà and Ms. Hoàng Hồng Hạnh of CECI, who are both members of the PROMISE Viet Nam team. Ms. Trang presented the advocacy plan for PROMISE Viet Nam during one of the sessions. The presentation was well-received by the participants, and generated interest among them to collaborate in advocacy efforts for CBDRM.

Ms. Iglesias also had a brief discussion with Ms. Dam Thi Hoa of the Disaster Management Centre on their integration of the learning modules from the Regional Course on Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction. Ms. Dam stated that they are using the materials on participatory

approaches and community-generated information within the CBDRM course conducted by DMC.

Ms. Iglesias proceeded to Da Nang to collect data for a Safer Cities case study on encouraging the construction of safer houses. She interviewed several key officials in an effort to understand the city's policies and activities for safer housing construction. The officials interviewed were: Mr. Nguyen Van Chung, Deputy Director of the Construction Planning Institute; Mr. Nguyen Huu Sy, Vice-Chief of the Urban Planning and Construction Management Department of Da Nang City; and Mr. Vo Thien Sinh, Vice Chief of the Urban Planning and Construction Management Department, Cam Le District. She also visited the homes of several trainees of the Safer Construction Workshop in November 2006 and who were also beneficiaries of the CIDA housing construction project. The purpose of the visit and interviews were to assess the impact of the training on the subsequent building behavior of these trained individuals.

#### ***2.4.8.13. Mission to Bangladesh, June 16***

During a mission to Bangladesh to conduct the Earthquake Vulnerability Reduction Course for CARE Bangladesh under their SHOUHARDO program, a brief meeting was held with BDPC Director Mr. Saidur Rahman at BDPC office on 16 June, about the PROMISE Bangladesh progress and the future activities. The discussion was targeted on the Hazard Vulnerability Risk Assessment Report and small scale community based projects to be carried out in the current financial year. A detailed discussion was held with PROMISE Bangladesh Project Coordinator on 18th June, to explain the expectations of the small scale projects and to help them in developing the proposals for the same.

#### ***2.4.8.14. Networking Events in Bangladesh***

BDPC PROMISE project personnel met Chittagong City Corporation officials on different dates in April for getting fresh permission to implement project activities in Chittagong as most of the CCC officials had been changed. Besides that project staff also consulted with education officer and rescheduled the activities under school safety program.

#### ***2.4.8.15. Networking Events in the Philippines***

##### ***Sharing of the Dagupan Experience in CDP's CBDRM Training***

On June 27- 29, Ms. Luneta shared the Dagupan PROMISE Experience in CBDRM and local governance during CDP's CBDRM training. This was attended by 20 participants representing different organizations like Mahal Inc., Caritas, Ateneo de Manila University, World Vision International Asia Pacific, Environmental Science for Social Change, Marinduque Council for Environmental Concerns, Oxford Brookes University and Food for the Hungry.

##### ***Avian Influenza Network Meeting and Forum***

There was a meeting of the Avian Influenza Network of Civil Society in Philippine Business for Social Progress where Center for Disaster Preparedness attended with other NGOs on April 19. Various strategies of member organizations on Disaster Preparedness specifically on Avian Influenza were discussed and promoted. The Project Coordinator shared the AI Preparedness proposals to the Dagupan City PROMISE Project for discussion.

##### ***Meeting with Dr. Gonzales and Ms. Carlos for Possible Coordination***

Through the suggestion of Mr. Arambepola, a meeting was set with Dr. Gonzales of UP Engineering and with Ms. Carlos and Ms. Luneta for possible coordination of CDP and the Project PROMISE with the Baguio Landslide Project of ADPC. The outcome of the meeting is that the Dagupan PROMISE partners and the Baguio Landslide Mitigation Project partners will help each other in other future activities for both projects. PROMISE project was able to

establish initial networking with Baguio City Disaster Coordinating Council through a sharing of experience, and invited them as observers of the Dagupan Flood Response Simulation.

***Workshop for Cross Cutting Development (3cd) Program in Metro Manila by Earthquake Megacities Initiative (EMI)***

In June, EMI invited stakeholders to help assess the second phase plan of EMI's 3cd. The 3cd Program in Metro Manila has Quezon City, Marikina City and Makati City as their main partners for this program and tries to involve the other 14 cities of Metro Manila. Ms. Luneta represented CDP to participate in this workshop. She gave suggestions and comments based on her experiences in CBDRM and also her PROMISE experience with the Local Government Unit. She was also able to get some ideas that can be used in Dagupan City.

***Sharing of Reports and Updates of Dagupan PROMISE Project to the USAID Country***

Last June 21, the report on the month of May focusing on the Flood Response Simulation was presented to USAID country representatives (Ms. Laura Coughlin, Mr. Kevin Donahue and Ms. Ma. Theresa Abanilla) to give updates on the Project PROMISE.

***2.4.8.16. Networking Events in Sri Lanka***

After training 25 youth from Kalutara district through the CBERC training last May, we identified that there is a necessity for EOC for area where these skills can be put in to practice. Several meetings were held with key officials to set up the emergency response for Kalutara:

- A discussion was held at the Kalutara District Centre on Functioning of the Emergency operation centre with the District office staff.
- A discussion was held with Mr. Weerakkodi, Representative of the DMC-Kalutara at the District secretariat office to gain support for the activities of the EOC and avoid the overlap of the activities.
- A meeting with Administrative Officer of GN officers at District Secretariat office to raise awareness of establishing an EOC in Kalutara and gain their support, to assess the strength of the village level "Rescue" groups formed, and to analyze gaps in the skills of the trained volunteers for future development.

### **3. Planned vs. Actual Achievements**

#### **3.1. City Demonstration Projects**

Proposals for Phase 2 of PROMISE were developed in the first part of the quarter. Small scale mitigation activities were reviewed in this quarter.

##### **3.1.1. Bangladesh**

The following activities were to be conducted during the quarter ending June 2007 as per the original work plan:

- Finalize the list of small-scale disaster mitigation projects for review by the PROMISE regional team.
- Conduct of Ward-level CBDRM courses
- Conduction of School sessions
- Conduction of School simulation

Among the above mentioned activities PROMISE-BD team has accomplished all the 10 Ward level CBDRM courses and conducted a school awareness session. The other two sessions and simulation had to be rescheduled due to summer vacation, on going examination and the recent landslide disaster in Chittagong. The school simulation will be carried over into the 3rd quarter.

##### **3.1.2. Pakistan**

Most activities planned for the last quarter were completed except for the development of a City Action Plan. One main activity completed was to finalize the list of small-scale disaster mitigation projects for review by the PROMISE regional team.

##### **3.1.3. Philippines**

Everything planned for the quarter as reflected in the Implementation Work Plan for the period April to June. Specific achievements for the quarter:

- Finalize the list of small-scale disaster mitigation projects for review by the PROMISE regional team.
- Eight pilot barangays have their disaster preparedness plan including early warning and evacuation tested through the Flood Simulation Drill.
- The City Government has done the final draft of its EW and Evacuation plan and was tested during the Flood Simulation Drill.
- Stakeholders were able to show their commitment in the Flood response Simulation by actively participating in it.
- Active participation of the TWG continued during the transition phase (election).

- There were 24 participants trained as medical first responders. Some of them were able to test their skills during the simulation
- CDP and Dagupan fostered good relationship with USAID country office. USAID were invited and were given reports to update them
- Sharing of DRM framework, methods and tools in Dagupan, Manila and throughout the world through the new publications.

#### **3.1.4. Sri Lanka**

One main activity completed was to finalize the list of small-scale disaster mitigation projects for review by the PROMISE regional team. Most activities planned for the last quarter were completed except for the following:

- Institutionalization of national course on urban governance and risk management course
- Institutionalization of national course on hydro-meteorological risk management and community preparedness
- Developing a network of local practitioners for experience sharing.

#### **3.1.5. Viet Nam**

Due to the harvest time for Winter Spring rice crop and the election for the National Assembly, there was some delay to the CBDRM training at section clusters level and submission of DPP by the Community Development Group (appointed by the community to be in charge for development of DPP). One main activity completed was to finalize the list of small-scale disaster mitigation projects for review by the PROMISE regional team.

### **3.2. Regional and National Capacity Building**

All planned activities at the regional level were carried out. Only a few national-level trainings had delays.

### **3.3. Advocacy for Mainstreaming Risk Management in Urban Governance**

No delays have been reported and work is progressing as planned.

### **3.4. Regional Networking and Information Dissemination**

The work is progressing as planned. The PROMISE website maintained by ADPC is already updated. The Flood Primer has been updated and re-published online; the printing has already begun and will be completed by July. The draft of the first of the municipal guidebooks on urban disaster risk reduction approaches has been completed and is undergoing revision.



## **4. Problems Encountered, New Opportunities and Lessons Learned**

### **4.1. Problems Encountered**

The only problem encountered by all partners is related to local political turnover.

### **4.2. New Opportunities**

The Good Urban Governance in South Asia project funded by USAID India is culminated in a Regional Conference and Training Workshop from June 27 to 30. At the end of the conference and training, ADPC was called upon to be the regional partner of the training, and to host developments and outputs of the network on the Urban Governance webpage of the team on Urban Disaster Risk Management.

For the second quarter 2007, a new development research specialist, Ms. Suramya Mihindukulasuriya, is assisting in the layout development of case studies for the Safer Cities series and the set of municipal guidebooks. Ms. Mihindukulasuriya joined as a volunteer from the UNITERRA program to help ADPC. UNITERRA is an international volunteer program created in 2004 by the World University Service of Canada (WUSC) and the Canadian Center for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI). The UNITERRA program offers many different international volunteer positions to strengthen the capacity of partner organizations to work together towards the achievement of the UN's Millennium Development Goals.

In PROMISE Pakistan, the team created a linkage with First Microfinance Bank to provide micro-credit in their project areas because the people there have limited livelihood alternatives that inhibit conventional banking institutions from extending financial services to them. Consequently, the Bank has decided to start their services soon in the projects areas.

### **4.3. Lessons Learned**

The following are lessons learned by the partners:

- Coordination between different service providing agencies, whether government or private sector or NGO, and community people makes it possible for dealing with any emergency situation or to reduce vulnerabilities.
- Collaboration and networking is necessary to cope with any potential disaster.
- Advocating to new political leaders is necessary after local political turnover.
- There is a need to change the mindset of policy level people and good governance should be ensured in policy level.
- Most of the service providing agencies do not have contingency plan.

## **5. Activities for the Next Quarter**

### **5.1. City Demonstration Projects**

#### **5.1.1. Project Coordinators Meeting**

The country project coordinators of all five countries will be coming to an organizational meeting from July 31 to August 1. They will be reporting on their project updates, and management concerns will be raised during the meeting. The small-scale disaster mitigation projects of each program site will be reviewed thoroughly during this time.

#### **5.1.2. Bangladesh**

- Compilation and validation meeting with WDRMC representatives
- Revision of HVRA report
- Finalization and start of implementation of community mitigation projects
- Ms. Maliha Ferdous, Country Project Coordinator, will attend ADPC's training course on Community-based Disaster Risk Management.

#### **5.1.3. Pakistan**

The main activities for the next quarter are:

- City Action Plan consultation with stakeholders
- Workshop with all stakeholders to share the Vulnerability Assessment results and City Plan
- Identification, finalization and start of Demo Projects
- Training on Resource Acquisition and Mobilization
- Community-level Basic Emergency Response Course
- Networking of local organizations, district government
- Mr. Masood Mahesar, Country Project Coordinator, will attend ADPC's training course on Community-based Disaster Risk Management.

#### **5.1.4. Philippines**

The main activities for the next quarter are:

- TWG meetings for Drill Planning
- City Wide Drill
- MFR Training for the City Level
- Finalization and start of implementation of community mitigation projects
- Ms. Mayfourth Luneta, Country Project Coordinator, will attend ADPC's training course on Community-based Disaster Risk Management.

### **5.1.5. Sri Lanka**

The main activities for the next quarter are:

- Community level disaster mitigation projects will be reviewed, planned and implemented
- To complete the establishment of the early warning system and provide the meteorological training to the members of upper water stream members about the usage of rain gauges and collecting the rainfall data.
- To complete the Development of the digital flood model with NBRO.
- Mrs. Priyanka Mudalinge, Country Project Manager, will attend ADPC's training course on Community-based Disaster Risk Management.

### **5.1.6. Viet Nam**

The main activities for the next quarter are:

- Training of Trainer for Change agents
- Training on CBDRM at ward level: continue with the two other wards;
- Printing and delivering of poster on construction principles;
- Finalization of guidelines on urban planning and safer construction techniques;
- Subproject selection and implementation
- Medical First Responder Training at district, ward and community level
- Preparation for Workshop in CBDRM Institutionalization.
- Finalization and start of implementation of community mitigation projects
- Ms. Duong Thi Hoai Trang, Country Project Coordinator, will attend ADPC's training course on Community-based Disaster Risk Management.

## **5.2. Regional and National Capacity Building**

The next activities for capacity building are:

- Basic Community Emergency Response Course in Pakistan, July 2007 (PROMISE Pakistan)
- Emergency Management Training in the Philippines, July 2007 (PROMISE Philippines)
- Regional Course in Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction (GDRR-2), September 2007 (PROMISE)
- PROMISE team members will serve as resource persons for three ADPC training courses, and will include the PROMISE experience in the training material and presentations. The courses are:
  - Regional Course on Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CDBRM-16) from July 16 to 27
  - Use of GIS & RS in Disaster Risk Management (GRSDM-1) from Aug. 27 to Sept. 7
  - Regional Course on Flood Disaster Risk Management (FDRM-8) from Oct. 8 to 19

### **5.3. Advocacy for Mainstreaming Risk Management in Urban Governance**

Activities for the next quarter will be carried out by country partners:

#### **5.3.1. Bangladesh**

The advocacy activities are:

- Awareness-raising activities at schools
- Initiatives for the development of School Disaster Management Plans
- Simulation Exercises at school level

#### **5.3.2. Philippines**

The advocacy activities for the quarter include public information campaigns for:

- Disaster Safety Day
- DM Training for Schools, PATRIMA (TRI media), Bantay Dagupan
- Preparation and Actual Sharing of Learning in Disaster Risk Management with Baguio Disaster Coordinating Council
- Consultative meetings and Planning for the pilot barangays, other 23 barangays, neighboring municipalities, BANTAY-Dagupan and the local Media

#### **5.3.3. Viet Nam**

- Campaign for raising public awareness, School programs

### **5.4. Regional Networking and Information Dissemination**

- The development of 2 case studies is planned by September 2007.
- Country partners will be briefed on how to develop case studies during the organizational meeting next quarter.
- The development of the four municipal guidebooks for urban disaster risk reduction approaches should be completed by September 2007.
- The PROMISE team will assist in developing the ADPC Newsletter *Asian Disaster Management News*, Vol. 13. No. 2, with the theme “Emerging risk and approaches for reducing the vulnerability of the Urban Built Environment” by providing the theme article, looking for contributors, and reviewing the technical content of submissions
- Mr. Arambepola will attend the Rockefeller Foundation’s Global Urban Summit in Milan, Italy from July 9 to 13, to discuss what successful innovations in adaptation to climate change are. Mr. Arambepola was sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation.
- ADPC will organize a study trip to the Philippines for Bangladesh local government officials, officials from the Slum Development Committees, and managers from CARE Bangladesh and partner NGOS. This activity is under CARE Bangladesh’s SHOUHARDO program. The study trip will bring the participants to the PROMISE Philippines site of Dagupan City.