



PROMISE PROJECT

Sri Lanka

Quarterly Progress and Performance Report

Implemented By:

The Asia Foundation

Submitted To:

ADPC

Reporting Period:

April – June 2010



The Asia Foundation

PROMISE - Extension Program activities in Sri Lanka- Matara Municipal Area

Quarterly Progress and Performance Report April - June 2010

1. Project Description and Objective

The most common disasters faced by urban local authorities are flash floods due to poor maintenance of drainage systems, and overflowing by unprotected river banks. In the central part of the country, the situation is aggravated by landslides. Local governments can reduce the frequency and impacts of disasters by considering disaster risk in development control, mandate is one of the functional responsibilities of local governments, local development planning and construction regulation. In the end, a safer environment will ensure the safety of city residents and appropriate preparedness and mitigation solutions will also encourage investors to come to the city. For the above reasons, PROMISE advocates that urban local government institutions undertake disaster risk reduction interventions.

Road Map for Safer Sri Lanka emphasizes the need for urban disaster risk management to reduce the losses due to natural disaster and the successful implementation of PROMISE in Kalutara is shown some of the steps that answered the need. As a result, there was a demand created for replication of similar activities in other cities prone to hydro-metrological disasters, and Matara was selected as the second PROMISE city by ADPC to undertake activities to demonstrate urban flood mitigation

Matara is a city located on the Southern coastal line of Sri Lanka and around 156 Km away from Colombo. City of Matara is an economic zone as well a rapidly developing urban commercial centre of the south. The total population in the Matara district is around 8 lakhs out of which 70,000 people live in the city. The land area spread over 21.2 sq km with 15 electoral wards. A rapidly urbanized city has its employment generation through commercial sector, industry and agriculture. One of the main rivers originating from central hills, Nilwala River is flowing through the city to meet the Indian Ocean. During the monsoon seasons, the river carries flood waters from the up country hills and freely flows over flat lands often causing severe damages to crops, agricultural lands and finally urban built up area covered by the city.

Due to the flow of Nilawala River, floods are common for Matara. In 2003, floods destroyed 1607 houses and affected 43750 people resulted by breaching of flood protection dykes constructed on the river bank. Rapid urbanization and high rate of in migration exacerbate the flood disaster risk almost every year despite the structural mitigation measures already taken.

Therefore Matara has been selected as the second city by ADPC to undertake activities under City Demonstration Project component to promote the subject of Urban Disaster Risk Reduction in Sri Lanka. PROMISE SL is implemented from October 2009 to August 2010 by the Local project partner the Asia Foundation (TAF), whose main focus is local governance and disaster risk reduction to the areas it supports.

Program Goal

Reduced vulnerability of urban communities through enhanced preparedness and mitigation of hydro-meteorological disasters in urban areas of Sri Lanka.

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 hydro-meteorological disaster mitigation in urban communities

- Strengthen networks and links among relevant risk management institutions/organizations for improving the potential and the capacity of urban local authorities for application and dissemination of lessons learned

Collaborating institutions;

- Municipal Council - City of Matara
- The Asia Foundation
- Disaster Management Center (DMC)
- District Disaster Management Coordinating Center for Matara
- Federation of Sri Lankan Local Govt Authorities
- National Building Research Organisation

Project Components

1 Hazard, Vulnerability and Risk Assessment and Development of City Hazard Map

Sub Activities:

- Activity 1.1 - Inception Meeting / Orientation workshop
- Activity 1.2 - Ward Level Community Workshops
- Activity 1.3 - City Hazard map and City Action Plan
- Activity 1.4 – Presenting draft city hazard map and City Action Planning Work Shop
- Activity 1.5 – Establishing a MOU
- Activity 1.6 - Hazard, Vulnerability, and Capacity Assessment Report
- Activity 1.7 - Analysis of City Land Use Plan in Relevance to Disaster Dimension and Recommendations
- Activity 1.8 - Training on Participatory Planning to Consolidate the Land Use plan Recommendations

2: Mitigation and Preparedness

Sub Activities:

- Activity 2.1 - Implementation of community participatory mitigation activities.
- Activity 2.2 - Developing a fire emergency response plan and training

3: Training and Public Awareness

Sub Activities:

- Activity 3.1 - School Safety Programs
- Activity 3.2 - Urban Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Training for the City Officials

4: Advocacy for Mainstreaming Risk Management

Sub Activities:

- Activity 4.1 - Review of By-laws and recommendations for reforms
- Activity 4.2 - National level symposium on DRR

2. Summary of Accomplishments for the Reporting Quarter

Project Component 1 Hazard, Vulnerability and Risk Assessment and Development of City Hazard Map

Activity 1.7 Analyze and report land use pattern in relevance to disaster dimension with Recommendations

Report on analysis of the city land use in relevance to disaster dimension and preparation of Land use plan maps have been completed by National Building Research Organization (NBRO), the technical consultant to the project. This is another planning tool under the project that will be useful for the city administration in regulating development keeping with the Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) objectives. Inputs from earlier held community workshops with community representatives of 15 Municipal Wards

have been incorporated in the land use planning recommendations. The implementation of the recommendations with community participation will be taken up as the theme of the training program on participatory planning discussed under activity 1.8.

Project Component 2: Mitigation and Preparedness

Activity 2.1 - Implementing mitigation activities with communities

Two flood mitigation projects have been identified as priority projects jointly by the city officials with city communities for implementation by the Matara Municipal Council (MMC) for mitigation of flash floods caused in highly populated areas within Matara City with community participation.

A MOU between Municipal Council and the Asia Foundation has been established for the implementation of following activities,

- Improvement of the Piladuwa Ganga Mawatha 1st cross canal over an approximate length of 100 meters
- Improvement of the canal from Vellawatta to Nawimana Road 2nd culvert, over an approximate length of 600 meters for mitigation of flash floods
- Creating community ownership and awareness on mitigation infrastructure by involving them in implementation.

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 and Emergency Training Program" held during 17th and 18th 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

Project Component 4: Advocacy for mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction

Activity 4.1 - Review of By-laws and recommendations for reforms.

Study and make recommendations to review and reform the existing Local Authority By-laws relevant to DRM has been initiated by PROMISE with the inputs of the Federation of Sri Lankan Local Government Authorities (FSLGA) and their legal consultants. This is the first ever effort in Sri Lanka to incorporate disaster dimension to the Local Authority By-laws relevant to development regulations, and will be an important initiative towards the objective of mainstreaming DRM in the LA system.

Padma Karunaratna, ADPC Project Manager and Piyal Ganepola, Program Manager of The Asia Foundation, Hon. Mayor of Matara Upul Nishantha, B V P Jayakody, and PROMISE SL Coordinator participated in the preliminary discussion and agreed on the following Terms of Reference for this assignment.

1. Review provisions in the local authority laws pertaining to disaster management.
2. Carry out preliminary discussion with Matara Local Authority to obtain preliminary information and to assess capacity.
3. Review provisions in existing by-laws pertaining to regulating the construction industry for disaster management and preparedness. These include the following:
 - a) Review standard by-laws
 - b) Review special by-laws (draft) applicable to Matara which are presently in formulation.
 - c) Review applicability of UDA regulations for regulating building construction in Matara brought into operation by Gazette Extraordinary No. 1420/17 pertaining to the Southern Expressway Corridor..
 - d) Review proposed land use plan and proposed special regulations for the development of

the construction industry in Matara along the Southern Expressway Corridor.

4. Prepare draft by-laws taking above into consideration for discussion and possible adoption by the Matara local authority in order to regulate building construction by local authorities with reference to mitigating the impacts of natural disasters.
5. Present findings to the stakeholders at a workshop.
6. Submit final draft of proposed by-laws.

The findings of the study and the draft by-laws proposed under this assignment have been presented to the stakeholders at two workshop held on 20th and 30th April 2010 at the Matara Municipal Council Auditorium. The final draft is ready and already in the process of formal approval by the Provincial Council

Photo Gallery



Presentation of findings of the study to the stakeholders at the workshop held in the Auditorium of the Matara Municipal Council

Activity 3.1 – Seminar on Urban Governance and DRR Training for city officials

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.

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.

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 14th May 2010 at the Hall De Galle at Galle covering districts of Galle, Matara and Hambanthota while Central Province Seminar was held on 17th 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 21st 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.

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, Scientist, 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

3. Planned vs Actual Achievements

As per the activity plan, following activities have been identified for the reporting quarter under each project component:

Project Component 1: Hazard, Vulnerability and Risk Assessment and Development of City Hazard Map

Activity 1.6 - Hazard, vulnerability and capacity assessment report.

Activity 1.7 - Analyzing the land use pattern and reporting

Activity 1.8 - Training on Participatory Planning to Consolidate the Land Use plan
Recommendations

Project Component 2: Mitigation and Preparedness

Activity 2.2 - Developing a fire emergency response plan and training

Activity 3.2 – Seminar on Local Governance

Project Component 3: Training and Public Awareness

Activity 3.1 – School Safety Program

Activity 3.1 - Implementing mitigation activities with communities

Project Component 4: Advocacy for mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction

Activity 4.1 - Review of By-laws and recommendations for reforms.

1 HVR Assessment and City Hazard Mapping		APR				MAY				JUN			
		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1.6	Hazard, vulnerability and capacity assessment report.					■	■						
	Achievement						■						
1.7	Analyzing the land use pattern and reporting										■		
	Achievement										■		
1.8	Training on Participatory Planning to Consolidate the Land Use plan Recommendations											■	
	Achievement											■	
2 Mitigation and Preparedness													
2.1	Implementing mitigation activities with communities											■	■
	Achievement												■
2.2	Developing a fire emergency response plan and training						■	■					
	Achievement							■					
3 Training and Public Awareness													
3.1	School Safety Program							■	■	■	■	■	■
	Achievement												
3.2	Seminar on Local Governance						■	■					
	Achievement						■	■					
4 Advocacy for Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction													
4.1	Review of By-laws and recommendations for reforms	■	■	■	■	■							
	Achievement					■	■						

4. Problems Encountered, New Opportunities and Lessons Learned

Some of these activities had to be postponed due to reasons beyond the control of the project management. The mitigation activity and school safety program have been rescheduled for early July due to the MC authorities were busy with the national evaluation of cities.

5. Achievement Towards Project Objective Indicators [use PROMISE Form 6]

Objective Indicators not developed.

6. **Planned Activities for Next Quarter**

1 HVR Assessment and City Hazard Mapping		JULY				AUG				SEPT			
		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1.8	Training on Participatory Planning to Consolidate the Land Use plan Recommendations												
2 Mitigation and Preparedness													
2.1	Implementing mitigation activities with communities Contd.												
2.2	Fire emergency response plan, Training of Fire crew												
3 Training & Public Awareness													
3.1	School safety programs												
3.2	Urban Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Training for the City Officials Contd.,												

7. **An Update on Participating Organizations and Individuals**

In addition to the participating organizations listed above, the Colombo Municipal Fire Department has been involved in Fire and Emergency Rescue Training Program. St.John’s Ambulance will be invited as a resource organization for women focused emergency response training under the activity 2.2.