

General Program

>> Executive Summary

Natural hazards and disasters that result in human suffering and economic losses have increased in frequency and the magnitude as observed during the last two decades. Whilst geological hazard events have a higher impact in terms of damage, hydro-meteorological events are more frequent and widespread affecting livelihoods and economic infrastructure almost every year. Flooding in major river basins, cyclones in coastal regions, landslides triggered by heavy rainfall and snowmelts, droughts and even health hazards such as vector-borne diseases are the frequently occurring hydro-meteorological events that impinge on the sustainable development in the region.

During the implementation of the Asian Urban Disaster Mitigation Program (AUDMP), ADPC recognized the importance of interventions in urban areas and accordingly identified Urban Disaster Risk Management as one of its five core thematic areas of work, experiences from which have also guided the selection of the target secondary cities. ADPC has developed 'Strategy 2020 for Urban Disaster Risk Mitigation in Asia' which aims to reach 200 cities by the year 2020.

The need to minimize the destructive impacts of these hydro-meteorological events on the vulnerable communities, particularly the urban communities and the economic infrastructure through enhanced preparedness and Mitigation is therefore the main thrust of the present intervention in implementation of the Program for hydro-meteorological disaster Mitigation in Secondary Cities in Asia (PROMISE).

ADPC considers PROMISE program as an opportunity to associate with many communities living in Asian cities vulnerable to hydro-meteorological hazards with the aim of reducing the impacts of such events and demonstrate innovative applications for community preparedness and mitigation.

Program Goal

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

Program Strategy

ADPC proposes the following strategy for the proposed program: *"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 which will measurably alleviate human suffering, prevent loss of life, and reduce the potential for physical and economic damage"*.

Program Objectives

The proposed project will build on the activities undertaken and strategies developed under the AUDMP for achieving the above goal through:

- 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

ADPC proposes five highly vulnerable secondary cities in Asia for implementation of demonstration project activities under the current APS, namely Chittagong in Bangladesh, Rawalpindi in Pakistan, Dagupan city in the Philippines, Kalutara in Sri Lanka and Da Nang in Vietnam. ADPC's rationale is that the geographically dispersed demonstration projects initiated under the program should yield easily replicable cost effective methods and mechanisms for widespread dissemination of

Country	Targeted City
Bangladesh	Chittagong
Pakistan	Hyderabad
Philippines	Dagupan city
Sri Lanka	Kalutara
Vietnam	Da Nang

mitigation and preparedness practices at local, national, sub-regional and regional levels. The five target secondary cities proposed are rapidly growing urban areas in their respective countries, which have had significant impacts from hydro-meteorological disaster events during the past 5 years. The Program will be implemented over a period of three years in the selected five cities in Asia with a total estimated budget of U.S.\$ 1,651,248.00. OFDA/USAID has agreed to provide U.S.\$ 1.5 million in support of this intervention.

ADPC proposes to employ a '*cluster cities' approach* to enhance the program outreach and effectiveness. Through this approach the intervention in the target city will reach a cluster of other cities which share a common watershed or coastline with common type of vulnerabilities to hydro-meteorological hazards. The Program will use the opportunity to replicate the success through the existing ADPC institutional linkages in the region for networking and sharing of experiences. ADPC, through its Regional Consultative Committee and network of about 5,000 alumni, will ensure sustainability of capacity building activities. This approach will be meaningful when additional resources are generated. ADPC will endeavor to mobilize additional funds by contributions from other ongoing ADPC program initiatives in South and South East Asia and from new initiatives designed and implemented to leverage funding. In addition to the integration of these activities into nationally funded programs funds will be requested from Urban Sector Programs of other donors.

>> Goals, Objectives and Results of PROMISE

A. Background

The Asian Region suffers each year from a multitude of recurring natural calamities which threaten millions of lives and cause heavy economic, financial, infrastructural, agricultural and productivity losses. The impacts of these disasters not only reverse years of development, but also set back the efforts of achieving the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

It has been observed that damage due to natural disasters is more serious and significant in the rapidly growing urban centers of this region, given the scale of the unplanned urban and industrial growth and also the exponential increase in population, particularly resulting from rural-urban migration. The more frequent occurrence and the widespread effects of hydro-meteorological disasters such as floods, cyclones, landslides, droughts, and even health hazards such as vector-borne diseases, have become a major development issue in the region vis-à-vis geological hazards such as earthquakes that have a higher impact in terms of damage, loss and disruption. As a higher percentage of urban population is forced to settle in marginal lands in these cities, their vulnerability to natural hazards is a serious concern that needs immediate intervention. Despite the advances made during the last ten years in reducing disaster risk through planning and implementation of mitigation measures, community-based disaster risk management and emergency management, a lot more remains to be done to reduce the potential risk posed on urban communities at risk in Asian countries.

B. The Program

The Program for Hydro-meteorological Disaster Risk Mitigation in Secondary Cities in Asia (PROMISE) is designed to address the above concern. It aims at promoting hydro-meteorological disaster preparedness and mitigation activities in selected highly vulnerable secondary cities in South and Southeast Asia in order to reduce the eminent risks of these natural events. More specifically, the desired goal of the PROMISE is to:

“Reduce vulnerability of urban communities through enhanced preparedness and mitigation of hydro-meteorological disasters in South and Southeast Asia.”

The achievements of the Asian Urban Disaster Mitigation Program (AUDMP) implemented by ADPC with funding support of USAID/DCHA/OFDA in shifting the disaster management paradigm within the Asian urban context provided sound pillars to build PROMISE. The Program therefore will contribute to achieve the above goal through the following key objectives. These objectives, developed into four components of the PROMISE, are shown below:

Objective 1: Adoption of specific hydro-meteorological disaster preparedness and mitigation measures to manage hydro-meteorological disaster risk by stakeholders in targeted cities -

Component 1 - City Demonstration Projects

Objective 2: Increased stakeholder involvement and further enhancement of strategies, tools and methodologies related to community preparedness and mitigation of hydro-meteorological disasters in urban communities –

Component 2 - Regional and National Capacity Building

Objective 3: Enhanced coordination with USAID to promote sustainability and to ensure program activities accord with USAID country and regional strategies -

Component 3 – Advocacy for Mainstreaming Risk Management in Urban Governance

Objective 4: Strengthened networks and regional links among relevant risk management institutions/organizations for improved capacity for application and dissemination of lessons learned –

Component 4 – Regional Networking and Information Dissemination

The PROMISE is designed to implement a set of mutually supportive activities at the spatially identified locations to derive carefully developed positive results as given below;

C. Objectives, Results and Activities

Objectives	Results	Targeted Activities
1	<p>Increased resilience of communities to hydro-meteorological disasters</p> <p>Improved capabilities of public and private sector practitioners to apply skills & technologies for community preparedness and mitigation and to manage hydro-meteorological disaster risks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 small scale community based risk mgt. project • 5 com. based EWS in five cities • 5 community responder teams with minimum 25 trained members per team with equipment • Two training courses - i. Urban governance & risk mgt. ii. Com. preparedness and mitigation of Hydro-met risks • 100 practitioners trained in regional & national courses <p>hkhkh</p>
2	<p>2.1 Increased adoption of tools and methodologies for community preparedness and mitigation of hydro-meteorological disasters by stakeholders in the selected countries</p> <p>2.2 Improved practices (techniques, methodologies & tools) and strategies for hazard mitigation and community preparedness throughout the region</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 Emergency Response & Mitigation plans • RM with Governance developed and linked with at least 1 national course and institutionalized • Develop 3 new methodologies - i. Flood hazard assessment, ii. Vulnerability assessment, iii. Loss estimation • Establish 5 EOCs and make them functional

3	<p>3.1 Enhanced coordination and linkages between USAID country and regional offices and program partners at national & regional level to ensure program activities accord with USAID country & regional strategies</p> <p>3.2 Increased visibility of USAID humanitarian assistance at risk communities in five target countries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two new opportunities for mainstreaming RM in other USAID funded projects • Five new collaborations with USAID dev. partners (i.e. CARE, World Vision) • 30 communities in selected cities in five countries benefiting from USAID support
4	<p>4.1 Increased collaboration and partnership among stakeholders at city and national levels</p> <p>4.2 Increased collaboration and partnership with regional and international institutions for wider dissemination and enhanced capacity for adoption of tools and methodologies for community preparedness and mitigation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New collaborations with national partner institutions • 10 new case studies • New partnerships with national, regional and international institutions • 3 opportunities for sharing experience and lessons learned for cities, national, regional and international institutions participating in implementing program activities

Please note that the activities reflect **Indicators** that were developed at the design stage of the PROMISE. These indicators will be used for measuring the achievements of the program as a monitoring tool.