

Component 2.

Regional and National Capacity-Building

2.1. Introduction

As an effort to achieve the goal of reducing vulnerability of urban communities, the PROMISE has designed a capacity building program, which progresses from the regional level to national and community levels. It is expected that enhancement of capacities of state and local government entities and other key related governmental units, NGOs and private sector institutions is achieved to ensure that practitioners and decision makers possess the tools and methodologies needed to prepare for, respond to, and develop plans for long and short-term mitigation of hydro-meteorological disasters. In addition, PROMISE partners are to impart the knowledge gained in the capacity building programs to the partners as well as to the community they work with, thus making them better able to prepare for and/or to withstand the occurrences of hydro-meteorological disasters in the region.

Capacity Building Programs at Regional Level

Capacity building program of PROMISE project comprises of developing two regional trainings courses, and institutionalizing these new courses at the national-level within training programs in the five implementing county projects. At the regional level, the regional courses will be integrated into ADPC's regular training program as fee-based courses.

Capacity Building Programs at National Level

A number of programs on specifically-selected themes on disaster management were delivered by the different country projects. The capacity building programs at national level is of three types:

- Special capacity-building programs to enhance the capacity of local partners to help implementation of Program activities
- Institutionalization of capacity building programs undertaken at Regional level at national level through identification of national-level partner training institutions
- School safety program

2.2. Status Report on Regional Courses

The two regional trainings courses were developed and conducted during the project period:

- Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction
- Hydro-Meteorological Risk Assessment and Community Preparedness.

The training modules for regional Courses were prepared by ADPC with external expertise. In addition to the development of training modules for the regional as well as national training course, ADPC assisted country partners to develop basic modules for CBDRM for urban communities.

After a careful needs assessment with partners, the target audiences selected for courses are:

- Municipality officials (elected representatives and officials)
- Volunteers selected to lead the CBDRM process Community members.

These two training programs are further institutionalized at the national levels, and delivered in the five PROMISE countries. The details are given next:

2.3.1. Regional Course on Urban Governance and Risk Management

A curriculum development workshop on Urban Governance and Risk Management was held at AIT Conference Center, Bangkok on 2-3 March 2006 in order to initiate the development of course. Participants of this 2-day workshop represented local partners and experts from the five PROMISE target countries and others in the region. This resulted in a draft curriculum of Urban Governance and Risk Management, including identification of key stakeholders who will assist in expeditious processing of institutionalizing hydro-meteorological disaster risk management into the government.

The overall objective of the course was to develop a cadre of local government professionals sensitive to issues presented by the recurrent hazards. The course intends to increase their knowledge on urban governance and risk management to be responsive to the needs of vulnerability reduction, and to create opportunities for mainstreaming risk reduction as a component of governance. Resource persons for the development of course material were identified. They were provided with the course outline and brief summary contents for each session, and they developed the training modules, presentations, reader, and reading list.

The 1st Regional Course on Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction was conducted from 25 to 30 September 2006 in Manila, the Philippines. The 2nd Regional Course on Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction took place at the Amari Don Muang Airport Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand from 17 to 21 September 2007. A secondary objective of the second course was to build the capacity of national training partner institutions, which will make an attempt to institutionalize the training program at national level.

The regional courses were attended by representatives of partner NGOs who are implementing PROMISE i.e., Aga Khan Planning and Building Services, Pakistan (AKPBSP), Bangladesh Disaster Preparedness Centre (BDPC), Lanka Jathika Sarvodaya

Shramadana Sangamaya (SARVODAYA), Centre for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI), Center for Disaster Preparedness (CDP), Representatives of urban emergency services and planning functions related to risk reduction from PROMISE cities, Hyderabad City, Pakistan, Chittagong City Corporation, Bangladesh, Kalutara City, Sri Lanka, Da Nang City, Viet Nam, Dagupan City, Philippines, Representatives of local government training institutions who will implement the course at a national level, Bangladesh National Institute of Local Governance, Sri Lanka Institute of Local Governance, Philippine Department of the Interior and Local Government, Viet Nam Disaster Management Center, CARE Bangladesh (NGO), Sri Lanka National Building Research Organization and other institutions.

2.3.2. Regional Training Course on Hydro-Meteorological Risk Management and Community Preparedness

The pilot Regional Course on “Hydro-Meteorological Risk Assessment and Community Preparedness” took place from 26 March – 6 April 2007 in Bangkok, Thailand. The training was conducted in collaboration with the International Institute for Geo-Information Science and Earth Observations (ITC) The Netherlands. ITC is an associated institution of the United Nations University (UNU) for developing and carrying out a joint program on capacity building in disaster management and in land administration.

The participants consisted of 22 participants mainly from partner training institutes, selected by ADPC and the country partners with the objective to institutionalize the course at national level. All participants from partner institutes were funded by PROMISE Project.

2.3.3. School Safety Programs

Experience from disaster events of the recent past shows the high vulnerability of school children as well as school buildings. In Pakistan around 17,000 school children lost lives during the earthquake of October 2005. The Indian Ocean tsunami event has accounted for more than 50,000 deaths of school children. Such events have demonstrated the need for School safety programs to increase the awareness of children on one hand on the other hand the need for strengthening the buildings and other structures within the school premises so that their safety is ensured in case of such events, Also schools are often used as emergency evacuation centers, or temporary shelters, field hospitals, etc. Therefore, it is cost-effective to develop and implement programs targeting schools to prepare our future citizens to face disaster events to mitigate the potential future impacts.

Under its wider program launched by ADPC in 2004, Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management into Development Policy, Planning and Implementation in Asia with the help of members of the Regional Consultative Committee (RCC); comprising of heads of National Disaster Management Offices of 25 Asian Countries; have identified priority sectors to implement mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction. Education has been recognized as one of the crucial sectors because of the following reasons:

- Children are amongst the most vulnerable groups
- Urbanization has increased the number of schools and school-going population in highly hazard-prone areas
- Multiplier effects of educating the public through education to help the community prepare for disasters
- Schools are often used as evacuation centers field hospitals during a disaster event.

2.3. Status Report of National Training Courses and Programs

The national trainings programs which have been conducted to date by PROMISE are to update and to build the capacity of partners who will be contributing their inputs in the implementation stage of the PROMISE. The national training programs intend to serve two categories of target beneficiaries:

- PROMISE partners
- The partners to other parties, e.g. city officials, partnering NGO in implementation of PROMISE, etc

In the period October 2006 to June 2008, several national trainings had been conducted in the PROMISE country projects. ADPC staff served as resource persons for some courses.

2.3.1. BANGLADESH

- PROMISE-Bangladesh organized CBDRM courses in 2007. The first was a TOT held on 14 to 16 March 2007, and then ten ward-level Community-Based Disaster Risk Management courses were held from 6 April to 28 June 2007. The two-day course gave emphasis on communities' risk assessment and the development of community action plan for reducing community's hazards and vulnerabilities. Seventeen CAs from each of the Wards were present as participants in the course. Ten action plans were developed as course outputs.
- The School Safety Program organized School Disaster Management Committees in 11 schools from April 2007 to January 2008, to promote disaster preparedness initiatives and develop school disaster management plans. Active stakeholders are the students and teachers, as well as community leaders and residents. School emergency simulation exercises involving the Fire Service and Civil Defense were conducted in Munshipara High School of Ward 37 on January 22, and in Girls High School, Chawk Bazar on 27 May 2008.
- BDPC conducted a national training course on Urban Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction jointly with the National Institute of Local Government (NILG) from September 30 to October 2, 2007. The main purpose of the course was to build capacities of the 22 participants for better understanding of governance issues in relation to disaster risk reduction at local level. PROMISE-Bangladesh team prepared

the course outline in line with the regional course curriculum and in consultation with NILG faculty. Mr. Arambepola of ADPC was present to give opening remarks.

- BDPC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the National Institute of Local Government on 13 February 2008. NILG is mandated to conduct training courses for local government functionaries, both at the urban and local level. Under the MOU, NILG will conduct the national training course on Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction. Mr. Md. Arfan Ali, Director General, NILG, and Mr. Muhammad Saidur Rahman, Director, BDPC, signed the MOU on behalf of their organizations.
- A three-day community-based emergency response course (C-BERC) was held on March 2 to 4 in Chittagong to raise the skills of 28 community volunteers and support the emergency response structure at city level. The training was conducted with the aim to support emergency response structure at city level as well as to promote skill enhancement of community volunteers. The training was facilitated by Mr. Frederick John Abo of ADPC.

2.3.2. PAKISTAN

- PROMISE-Pakistan organized a C-BERC from 24 to 28 July 2007 at Hyderabad. Twenty-four participants from six Disaster Management Committees attended. The resource persons were from FOCUS Humanitarian, Aga Khan University, and Mr. Abo of ADPC.
- Under the School Safety Program, PROMISE-Pakistan organized orientations on the basic causes of the disasters and their effects on human lives and livelihoods to school children in five primary and secondary schools in Hyderabad. The orientation programs were given between August 2007 and January 2008.
- A Resource Mobilization Training was held from 22 to 25 June 2007, for 19 members of the disaster management committees formed under the project.
- PROMISE-Pakistan organized a Health and Hygiene Program, wherein resource persons highlighted the importance of different components of hygiene in six workshops, from January 2007 to January 2008. Participants were the women of the union councils under the project.
- A two-day training workshop on 'Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction' was organized for 18 NGO representatives and officials of Taluka Municipal Administration, Latifabad on 7 to 8 September 2007.
- An advocacy and mobilization seminar was held twice in Hyderabad, on 17 December and 23 January 2008. The second seminar, in collaboration with SAFWCO, the local NGO partner, oriented stakeholders about the mandate of the District Disaster Management Authority, and to share the hazard and vulnerability analysis of Hyderabad's social groups, properties and environmental resources. District Deputy Nazim, Mr. Zafar Rajput was the Chief Guest.
- The workshop on Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction was organized in Hyderabad, Pakistan from 26-29 May 2008 in association with Aga Khan Planning and Building Service and District Administration, Hyderabad. The workshop was attended by 25 participants from District Administration, Aga Khan planning and building services, NGOs, public representatives and government officers. The

objective of the four days workshop was to introduce the concept of Disaster management planning and governance in the district of Hyderabad. Mr. Kumar observed the conduct of the course.

2.3.3. PHILIPPINES

- PROMISE-Philippines had Medical First Response (MFR) training from the Philippine Red Cross in March 2007 in preparation for the upcoming flood simulation exercise in May.
- From 17 to 19 July 2007, PROMISE-Philippines had a C-BERC with Mr. Abo and Mr. Muhibbudin bin Usammah of ADPC, and co-facilitated by Mr. Benjo Bacani and others from the Pangasinan Red Cross team. There were 29 participants representing different city offices within the City Disaster Coordinating Council, like the City Health Office, City Engineering, City Social Work Department, Public Order and Safety Office, Bureau of Fire, and Waste Management Department. The City Agriculture helped in the logistics for the said training. The training included Basic Life Support and First Aid as well as Mass Casualty Scenarios
- The PROMISE team conducted two Disaster Management Orientations for the school teachers and administrators which reinforced the School Safety Program of the different schools in Pangasinan province. The first orientation on July 19 had 90 participants while the second batch on July 20 had 60 participants. The orientation included basic information on Disaster Risk Management and different DRM activities for schools and children.
- To mainstream disaster risk reduction into the initiatives of the Local Government Unit and to share the experiences of the Dagupan City under the Program for Hydro-Meteorological Disaster Mitigation in Secondary Cities in Asia (PROMISE), a three day learning event dubbed as 1 LGU Course on Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction in Dagupan City was organized. The event aimed to promote the culture of disaster safety and resiliency putting forward the element of good governance among individuals and groups involved in the bureaucratic work. There were 13 representatives from eight neighboring municipalities, cities and province of Dagupan who attended the course.
- The National Course on GDRR was held by the PROMISE team in Sulo Hotel having 28 participants from different Local, national and international NGOs, GOs. The training team was headed by the Center for Disaster Preparedness, in coordination with national government agencies like DILG. The PROMISE team from CDP, the City of Dagupan and other expert resource persons from the NGAs and NGOs gave the participants useful information, insights and skills in GDRR. The participants and facilitators had rich discussions during the training from 3 to 6 June 2008. The last day was a study tour to PAGASA, MMDA, Marikina City and Makati City.

2.3.4. SRI LANKA

- PROMISE-Sri Lanka organized a C-BERC at Bandaragama from 21 to 25 May 2007. This workshop was participated by 25 especially from Kalutara. The course was conducted by Mr. Abo from ADPC team and 4 other instructors from community health unit of Sarvodaya. Mr. Muhibiddin Bin Usamah from ADPC attended during the whole 5 days.
- A community-based disaster response course was conducted by Medical Teams International (MTI) from 1 to 5 October 2007 in Kalutara. Twenty-five persons from Kalutara were trained.
- The Training Programme on Governance and Disaster Risk Reduction was held from 12 to 16 November 2007 under the agreement between the Sri Lanka Institute of Local Government (SLILG) and Sarvodaya Community Disaster Management Centre. In attendance were 26 participants who are working in local government institutions of Kalutara, SLILG, Sarvodaya and the National Building Research Organization. Ms. Iglesias observed the conduct of the course.
- As the first step of the School Safety Program, the first awareness program was conducted in February 2008 for three selected schools in Kalutara, with 200 selected students from each school. In March 2008, disaster management committees were formed in the schools. First Aid training was conducted for three days in May; technical inputs were provided by MTI.

2.3.5. VIETNAM

- CBDRM training classes at seven wards were conducted from April to July 2007 in collaboration with Cam Le district Red Cross association.
- The Community-Based Emergency Response Course (C-BERC) training was implemented from 10 to 12 September 2007. The training was conducted by ADPC and Da Nang City Red Cross. A total of 27 participants (nine female and 18 male) came from the city's Red Cross from seven districts.
- Thirteen Change Agents from the six wards participated in TOT training from 27 to 28 September 2007. A refresher course on lesson planning and practicum was held in December 2007.
- PROMISE-Vietnam developed picture books under the School Safety Program. Illustration for the books came from the good entries to the drawing competition on Disaster Preparedness and Living Environment Protection held for 410 pupils from 4th- and 5th-grade pupils of primary schools in the three project wards. These books were distributed to the schools to serve as a study tool for the intended integration of disaster preparedness and environment protection into the school curriculum.