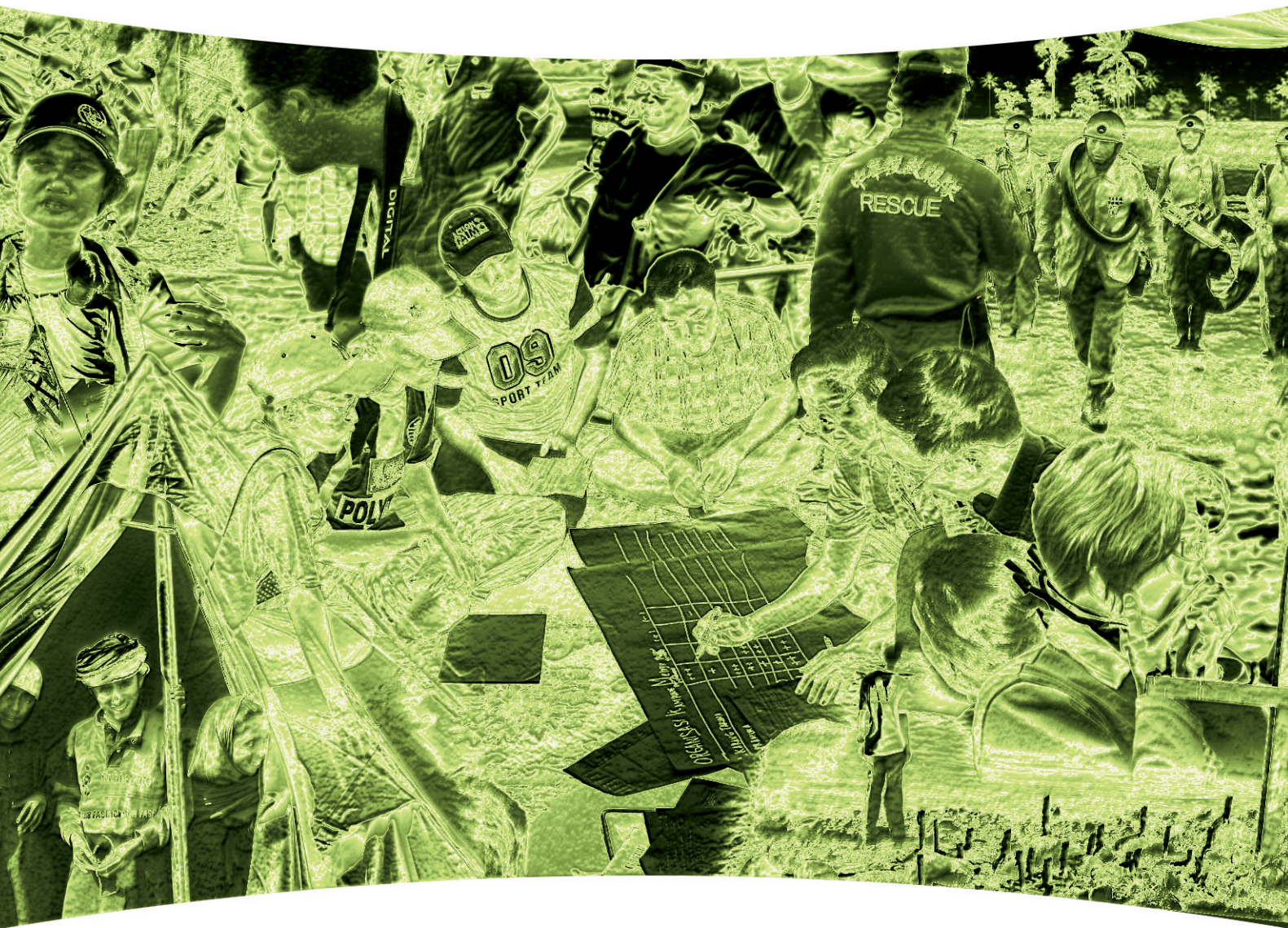


THE FOURTH DISASTER MANAGEMENT PRACTITIONERS' WORKSHOP FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA

LEARNING FROM COMMUNITY-BASED PRACTICES:
STRENGTHENING POLICY AND PARTNERSHIPS



The Partnerships for Disaster Reduction - South East Asia Phase 3 (PDRSEA3) program is jointly implemented by (ADPC) and the UNESCAP with funding support from the European Commission Humanitarian Aid Department (ECHO) under its 'Fourth DIPECHO Action Plan for Southeast Asia'. The one-year project, which commenced in February 2005, aims to establish an improved, enabling environment for CBDRM through promoting ownership in national programs and local entities, enhancing the capabilities of CBDRM practitioners and the expansion of new and strengthening of existing partnerships in Southeast Asia particularly in the target countries Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Timor Leste and Vietnam.



The Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), established in 1986 is a regional, inter-governmental, non-profit organization and resource center based in Bangkok, Thailand. ADPC is mandated to promote safer communities and sustainable development through the reduction of the impact of disasters in response to the needs of countries and communities in Asia and the Pacific by raising awareness, helping to establish and strengthen sustainable institutional mechanisms, enhancing knowledge and skills, and facilitating the exchange of information, experience and expertise.

Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)

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United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific is the regional arm of the United Nations Secretariat for the Asian and Pacific regions, located in Bangkok, Thailand. UNESCAP is committed to materialize the visions of the United Nations Millennium Declaration, which was adopted by the UN General Assembly in September 2000. The current PDR-SEA project is being implemented jointly by UNESCAP and ADPC at the regional level.

For more information, please contact:

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The European Commission Humanitarian Aid Department (ECHO) oversees and coordinates the European Union's humanitarian operations in non-member countries, in partnership with non-governmental organizations, specialized agencies of the United Nations, and other international bodies. DIPECHO is the Disaster Preparedness program set up by ECHO in 1996 to prevent and prepare for natural disasters.

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The United Nations - International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) for Asia and Pacific Islands works through a growing network of national platforms to mobilize governmental actions in disaster risk reduction as well as directly with the governments in the region, as mandated through the Hyogo Framework for Action, to assist them in identifying their priorities and in formulating their national action plan on disaster risk reduction towards its integration in national development plans. It also makes an effective use of regional partners' networks at the national level, in particular the UN Country Team members, to facilitate the effective implementation of DRR strategies.

For more information, please contact:

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PROCEEDINGS

**THE FOURTH DISASTER MANAGEMENT
PRACTITIONERS' WORKSHOP
FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA**

**LEARNING FROM COMMUNITY-BASED PRACTICES:
STRENGTHENING POLICY AND PARTNERSHIPS**

**PROCEEDINGS
THE FOURTH Disaster Management
Practitioners' Workshop for Southeast Asia**

**Learning from Community-based Practices:
Strengthening Policy and Partnerships**

Published by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center through its Partnerships for Disaster Reduction - Southeast Asia Phase 3 (PDRSEA3) Project jointly implemented by ADPC and UNESCAP with funding support from DIPECHO

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Electronic copies of the presentations made during the workshop are also available on CD.

For more information on this publication and to order a copy, write to:

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preface

20 years of commitment to safer communities and sustainable development through disaster reduction

years

The Asian Disaster Preparedness Center celebrates its 20 year anniversary in 2006. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to all its partner institutions, national governments, numerous UN organizations and other international organizations for their collaboration and support to ADPC during the past two decades. The work of all stakeholders in disaster management, including ADPC staff and alumni have contributed to making communities and countries better prepared, safer, and more resilient in face of disasters. ADPC is proud to have been a pioneer in some of the significant changes-in paradigm, concepts, and practices paving the way to reduction of the impacts of natural disasters.

ADPC was established in 1986 under late Colonel Brian Ward's illustrious leadership to address the disaster management needs of countries in Asia. In its twenty years ADPC responded dynamically to the paradigm shift in disaster management, readily and actively adjusting its operational strengths to address the evolving developments in disaster risk management by structuring its technical focus on climate risk management, disaster management systems, urban disaster risk management and public health in emergencies. This vigorous and comprehensive approach is further reinforced by ensuring that ADPC's projects and programs enhance institutional capacities, apply community-based disaster risk management practices, and promote and support mainstreaming of disaster management into the development processes. These activities complement ADPC's involvement in building national and provincial disaster management systems, identifying disaster risk management needs, and developing strategic solutions. ADPC's standing and twenty years of experience in the region is confirmed by the substantive encouragement and support from various multi-lateral and bi-lateral development and donor agencies; as manifested in the implementation of our extensive array of projects and programs.

As it moves forward beyond its twenty years of operations, ADPC will continue to build upon its operational and technical strengths and to evolve in its role as a regional resource center, and to act as a regional early warning center. ADPC will further pursue operational partnerships and collaborations with all stakeholders in disaster risk management into sustainable development policies and practices throughout the Asia and Pacific regions.

In closing, permit me to express my gratitude to our staff and consultants who have shared commitment, dedication and loyalty to ADPC's goals and mission.

As its Executive Director, it is my honor to be part of this fine organization. I am confident that ADPC will continue to be responsive to the priorities of our key stakeholders in governments and the international community overcoming challenges to serve the region and beyond.

Message From Dr. Suvit Yodmani
Executive Director, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center

introduction

This document brings together the Proceedings and Outcomes of the “Fourth Disaster Management Practitioners’ Workshop for Southeast Asia” (DMP SEA) held on 8-10 March 2006 in Bangkok, Thailand.

The main theme of the workshop was “Learning from Community Based Practices: Strengthening Policy and Partnerships”. It is hoped that this document will be a reference point for future initiatives in community-based disaster risk management. This is the fourth time practitioners’ in CBDRM gathered to discuss the status of CBDRM, issues and solutions for making communities more resilient to disaster impacts leading to poverty alleviation and sustainable development. It also presents papers on the different themes and country reports on CBDRM and outcomes of the group discussion.

The three day workshop was attended by more than 70 participants from over 12 countries within and outside this region. Participants included representatives from the government, local and international NGOs, community leaders, donor agencies, regional bodies and the United Nations.

background

The Disaster Management Practitioners' Workshop for Southeast Asia (DMP SEA) provides an opportunity for disaster management practitioners to gather on a periodic basis to share experiences and lessons, identify emerging issues and strategies, and develop partnerships to promote community-based approaches to disaster risk management on a regional basis. To date, three DMP SEA workshops have been held, the first in Hanoi, October 1999, the second in Da Nang, Vietnam and the third in Bangkok. Participants at the workshop are traditionally, practitioners from Governments, NGOs, International organizations, UN agencies and Donors, from the South East Asian region.

The 4th DMP SEA Workshop is being held in the aftermath of the great Asian tsunami and other large scale disasters in the region and worldwide; e.g. the earthquakes in the Nias Island, Indonesia and Pakistan, and the hurricane Katrina in the United States of America. Such events have significantly changed perceptions about vulnerability, have taken place both in policy and practice of disaster risk management. For example, the Hyogo Framework of Action (HFA), which aims to build resilience of communities and nations to disasters, was a landmark achieved by the UN-World Conference on Disaster Reduction. Countries affected by the tsunami and other major disasters are going through a process of review and reform in the disaster related policies and institutional mechanisms. The relevance of community-based approaches to disaster risk reduction has been underlined both by the disastrous events and the response needs. Likewise is the increasing need for establishing and strengthening multi-sectoral partnerships and networking to promote integration of community based approaches into broader socio-economic development processes. In this context, a number of innovative programs have been and are being implemented in Southeast Asian countries by NGOs and international organizations to promote community based approaches and strengthen partnerships with support from the European Commission, General Directorate for Humanitarian Aid. One important initiative being implemented by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, in partnership with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, is the Partnerships for Disaster Reduction Southeast Asia, currently in its third phase (PDRSEA 3). It seeks to promote National Strategic Planning for Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) in five Southeast Asian countries: Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Timor L este and Viet Nam. The 4th DMP SEA Workshop is one of the many activities being implemented under PDRSEA 3 and it provides a forum to discuss experiences.

Workshop Theme

“Learning from Community Based Practices: Strengthening Policy and Partnerships”, the theme for this year’s workshop, emphasizes the need for continued learning about community based approaches to disaster risk reduction and underlines the importance of formulating policy and strengthening partnerships for wider integration of CBDRM into the social and economic development processes.

Workshop Objectives

In the longer term the Southeast Asia Regional Disaster Management Practitioners’ Workshop aims to serve as a multi-sectoral regional forum on community based approaches to disaster risk management. Within this broader context, the Fourth Workshop intends to:

- Share innovative experiences of DIPECHO partners and other key stakeholders on community based approaches;
- Discuss frameworks and tools to enhance CBDRM practice; e.g. strategic planning, accountability, mapping and building capacity, mapping good practices;
- Review activities and measures already undertaken in recent years to strengthen networking on CBDRM;
- Identify strategies to strengthen multi-sectoral partnerships to integrate CBDRM into social and economic development processes; and
- Establish priority program of actions to further strengthen regional networking of CBDRM practitioners.

Workshop Sessions

1. Innovative Approaches to Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction: Experiences of DIPECHO Partners and Other Stakeholders
2. Integrating CBDRM into the Social and Economic Development Process
3. Partnerships and Networking to Enhance CBDRM: Regional Strategies and Priority Programs of Action

Displays and Materials

The workshop also gave an opportunity for participants to showcase their project outputs, publications, brochures, programs, photographs in CBDRM in an exhibition that was held parallel on all four days of the workshop.

workshop program

> 4th Disaster Management Practitioners Workshop South East Asia

Century Park Hotel • 8-10 March 2006 • Bangkok, Thailand

Day 1: Wednesday, 8 March

0800-0900	Registration of Delegates
0900-0930	Opening Ceremony
	Welcome Address Dr Suvit Yodmani, Executive Director, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center
	Keynote Address Excellency Dr. Friedrich Hamburger, Head of the Delegation of the European Union in Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia and Lao PDR,
	Address (UNESCAP) Mr. Rae Kwon Chung, Director, Environment and Sustainable Development Division, UNESCAP
	Address (UNISDR) Mr. Joe Chung, Senior Regional Officer, UNISDR
0930-0945	Group Photo
0945-1015	<i>Tea and Coffee Break / Introductions</i>
1015-1030	Workshop Overview (Mr Zubair Murshed, ADPC)

THEME 1 Innovative Approaches to Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction: Experiences of DIPECHO Partners and Other Stakeholders	
1030-1130	Financial Services to Support Community Initiatives for Disaster Reduction Facilitator: Rajib Shaw <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microfinance and Disaster Preparedness: How to Finance Disaster Prevention at the Household Level - An Experience in Vietnam (Mr Guillaume Chantry, DWF Vietnam) • Microcredits for Natural Disaster Risk Reduction (Dr Shadadt Hahmud, Directorate of Relief and Rehabilitation, Bangladesh) • Community Cooperative in Talumpok, Batangas, Philippines (Ms Zenaida Willison, UNDP Bangkok) • Corporate / Private Sector Community Interface in Microfinance (Mr Rajib Shaw, Kyoto University Japan) • Micro-Credit for Disaster Preparedness at the Community Level (Mr Habibullah Bahar, Manab Mukti Sangstha Bangladesh)
1130-1200	Key Learning from the Cases (Plenary Discussion)
1200-1300	<i>Lunch</i>
1300-1400	Strengthening Local Government System to Support Community Initiatives Parallel Session 1 : Facilitator: Ian Wilderspin (Grand Ballroom) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Govt Capacity Building Initiatives: Philippine Red Cross Experience (Ms Emmeline Managbanag, PNRC Philippines) • Local Govt Capacity Building Initiatives: IIDP Indonesia Experience (Ms Chandra Lukitasari, IIDP Indonesia) • Local Government Capacity Building Initiatives in CRM Indonesia Project (Ms Lolita Bildan, ADPC) Parallel Session 2 : Facilitator: Zubair Murshed (Ayutthaya IV Room, 3rd Floor) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safer Community Plans: Integrating Risk Reduction into Local Development Planning in Vietnam (Ms Kathleen McLaughlin, CECI Vietnam) • ADPC - MRC Capacity Building Project: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Vietnam (Ms Hnin Nwe Win and Mr Aslam Perwaiz, ADPC) • Local Govt Capacity Building Initiatives: CDP Philippines Experience (Ms Lorna Victoria, Center for Disaster Preparedness Philippines)
1400-1430	Key Learning from the Cases (Group Work)
1430-1500	Key Learning from the Cases (Reporting in Plenary)
1500-1520	<i>Tea and Coffee Break</i>
1520-1620	Community Level Information and Early Warning Systems Facilitator: Joe Chung <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of ACF Cambodia (Ms Sandrine Roussy, ACF Cambodia) • Experience of ZOA Cambodia (Ms Bernie O'Neill, ZOA Cambodia) • Experience of CARE Indonesia (Ms Henny Dwi Vidiarina, CARE Indonesia)

Day 2: Thursday, 9 March	
0800-0930	Other Innovative Experiences in CBDRM Facilitator: Zubair Murshed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village Emergency Response Teams (Mr Karim Nayani, Focus Humanitarian Pakistan) • Child Centered Emergency Preparedness (Mr Do Hai Dang, Save the Children Vietnam) • Reclamation of Flood Damaged Areas through Community Based Agro-forestry: A Case Study from Nepal (Mr Shesh Kanta Kafle, ADPC)
0930-0945	CBDRM: What Didn't Work? Key Issues, Challenges and Recommendations Facilitators: Zubair Murshed, Joe Chung, Zenaida Willison, Kusuma Adinugroho <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenges in Working with Communities in Urban Areas – ACF Experience (Ms Henny Dwi Vidiarina, CARE Indonesia)
0945-1000	<i>Tea and Coffee Break</i>
1000-1100	Group Work
1100-1200	Plenary Reporting & Discussion
1200-1300	<i>Lunch</i>
THEME 2 Integrating CBDRM into the Social and Economic Development Process Facilitator: Zubair Murshed	
1300-1315	National Strategic Collaborative Action Planning for CBDRM (Mr Zubair Murshed, ADPC)
1315-1330	Governmental Capacities to Implement CBDRM (Mr Aman Mehta, ADPC)
1330-1350	Critical Guidelines on Community Based Disaster Risk Management (Mr Zubair Murshed, ADPC)
1350-1400	CBDRM Curriculum for Local Authorities (Mr Shesh Kanta Kafle, ADPC)
1400-1415	Mapping Good Practices: Regional Database on CBDRM (Ms Vicky Diopenes, ADPC)
1415-1425	Mobilizing and Orienting the Media for CBDRM (Ms Vicky Diopenes, ADPC)
1425-1435	Integration of CBDRM into Vietnam's National Strategy (Mr Dang Quang Tinh, DMC Vietnam)
1435-1445	Plenary Discussion
1445-1500	<i>Tea and Coffee Break</i>
1500-1700	Policy and Strategy Options for the Effective Dissemination and Expansion of CBDRM Facilitator: Dr Le Huu Ti

Day 3: Friday, 10 March	
THEME 3 Partnerships and Networking to Enhance CBDRM: Regional Strategies and Priority Programs of Action	
0830-1000	National Networking Initiatives and Opportunities Facilitator: Aloysius Rego <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cambodia Disaster Risk Reduction Forum (Ms Bernie O'Neil, ZOA Cambodia) • Disaster Management Working Group in Vietnam (Ms Pham Tham Hang, UNDP Vietnam) • Networking Among CBDRM/Disaster Practitioners in the Philippines: NGO Perspective (Ms Lorna Victoria, CDP Philippines) • Indonesian Society for Disaster Management (MPBI) (Ms Theresia Wuryantari, MPBI Indonesia)
1000-1030	<i>Tea and Coffee Break</i>
1030-1100	Key Learnings and Plenary Discussion
1100-1140	Regional Networking Initiatives and Opportunities Facilitator: Aloysius Rego <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AZEECON Network of the Lutheran World Foundation (Mr David Mueller, LWF Cambodia) • Asian Disaster Risk Reduction Network (Mr Manu Gupta, SEEDS India)
1140-1200	Key Learnings and Plenary Discussion
1200-1300	<i>Lunch</i>
1300-1340	Activities and Measures Undertaken to Strengthen Networking for CBDRM Facilitator: Dr Le Huu Ti <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcomes of the Joint Meeting of the Four Regional Committees - ACDM, ASOEN-HTTF, MRC, Typhoon Committee (Dr Kai Kim Chiang, ADPC)
1340-1400	<i>Tea and Coffee Break</i>
1400-1600	Establishing a Program of Action to Strengthen Regional Networking for CBDRM Facilitator: Dr Le Huu Ti
1600-1630	Closing of the Workshop
1745	<i>Boat Dinner (Assembly at the Lobby)</i>

summary of proceedings

> Day One: Wednesday, 8 March 2006

Opening Ceremony

The workshop began with keynote addresses from eminent individuals such as Dr Suvit Yodmani, Executive Director, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC); His Excellency Dr. Friedrich Hamburger, Head of the Delegation of the European Union in Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia and Lao PDR; Mr. Rae Kwon Chung, Director, Environment and Sustainable Development Division, UNESCAP; and Mr. Joe Chung, Senior Regional Officer, UNISDR.

Mr. Zubair Murshed, Manager for Community-based Disaster Risk Management Group at ADPC was the Master of the Ceremony. The workshop proceeded with the presenting of the aims, objectives, outputs, methodology of the workshop.

Theme 1: Innovative Approaches to Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction: Experiences of DIPECHO Partners and Other Stakeholders

Session 1: Financial Services to Support Community Initiatives for Disaster Reduction

How to Finance Disaster Prevention at Household level: An Experience in Vietnam

Mr. Guillaume Chantry, Development Workshop France (DWF)
Thua Thien Hue, Viet Nam

The topic was explained through the example of a project to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters in central Vietnam, implemented by DWF and CDC and funded by DIPECHO. An overview of the impacts of disasters in Vietnam and their management was presented. In 2005, Vietnam lost 1% of its GDP through disasters. House construction in rural areas is normally financed through personal savings, borrowings and state support. The DIPECHO project activities included loans and subsidies for reinforcement of existing houses, and construction of new houses. Short term affordable loans and subsidy for reinforcement/improvement of houses, is essential for the success of such projects. Household vulnerability reduction should be a national priority for disaster prevention.

Financial Services to Support Community Initiatives for Disaster Reduction: Bangladesh Experience

Dr. Mohd. Shahadt Hossain Mahmud, Deputy Director, Directorate of Relief and Rehabilitation
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Bangladesh is one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world. The country has adapted to it with a resilient disaster management culture. To improve disaster management in the country, the Government has adopted a holistic approach that is need based. One of the key programmes under this is the micro credit programme to support small-scale entrepreneurs. The institutional infrastructure has also been set in place and streamlined. There are major challenges in the implementation of the micro-credit programme. Improper selection of beneficiaries and the income generating schemes, have led to misfits and failures. There have also been failures in monitoring and follow-ups, leading to misuse of loans and failure in repayments. Greater political commitment and support is required to overcome these failures.

A Road Towards Building Disaster Resilient Communities

Ms. Zenaida Delica Willison, Advisor, South-South Cooperation, Regional Center Bangkok, UNDP

The Talumpok Silangan Multipurpose Cooperative (TASIMPCO), a micro-credit cooperative, was formed by a group of 50 villagers, modeled on a successful multipurpose cooperative in a neighboring community. It started off as a scheme at the consumer level, but later expanded to a multi-purpose programme. Women have played a key role in the success of this cooperative, by aptly managing the finances of the family. The micro-credit program has helped to improve the resilience of the community to face disasters and emergencies. Though the main target beneficiaries were the members of the program, non-members were allowed to transact business without dividend and patronage refund. The main challenges facing the program include the collection of payments, competition from nearby stores and the difficulty in expanding its membership base. The project has provided valuable lessons, which include the need to learn from other success stories, regular training and to start small according to the capacity of the community.

Corporate Sector Role in Disaster Management-Beyond CSR

Mr. Rajib Shaw, Kyoto University, Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies

The presentation started with an introduction to the concept of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). The importance of the private sector's involvement in social projects with long-term benefits was emphasized. CBDRM is one of the areas where the private sector could contribute. This could be in issues of governance, education and technology. The results of a survey of CSR activities by the corporate sector in Mumbai, was also presented. The results showed that 24 % of the interventions were for environment and disaster management related issues.

Micro Credit For Disaster Preparedness At The Community Level

Mr. Habibullah Bahar, Director, Manab Mukti Sangstha (MMS), Bangladesh

The Manab Mukti Sangstha (MMS) was established in 1984 as an NGO and has been working in 381 villages in Sirajgonj district of Bangladesh. Their major themes include disaster management, gender and development, agriculture and livestock, primary health care, water and sanitation and income generating activities. Mr. Bahar elaborated a micro-credit program that was implemented by MMS as part of their disaster preparedness programme. The project has resulted in better flood preparedness, sufficient emergency stock, reduced water borne diseases, and secure home-based income sources. They have also ensured the sustainability of the project by integrating it in development planning, creation of a disaster fund, and capacity building of the beneficiaries. High

staff turnover, lack of proper transport and communication infrastructure, funds and know-how, are some key challenges faced by the project.

Conclusions from Plenary Discussions

The following key factors were identified as contributory to the success of microfinance programs in relation to disaster risk management:

- Today, disaster risk finance is rarely addressed before a disaster occurs. There is a need to engage financial services at the community level to make disaster risk finance more available
- Education/Awareness: Attitudes and incentives must be put in place
- Governance: Legal and regulatory frameworks must be established
- Partnership: Clearly defined partner roles must be developed
- Marketplace: Sustainable products that microfinance clients demand must be offered

Session 2: Strengthening Local Government to Support Community Initiatives

The Philippine National Red Cross Experience on Strengthening Local Government System to Support Community Initiatives'

Ms. Emmeline U. Managbanag, National Field Representative, PNRC, Philippines

The PNRC is playing a key role in disaster management efforts in the Philippines. The disaster management programme of PNRC focuses on disaster preparedness, capacity building, disaster risk reduction, disaster relief and post-disaster rehabilitation. The activities under this broad framework were described. Strategies to integrate and sustain CBDRM in the local government system include: identification of focal persons, support for training, integration of risk reduction program in the work plan, and integrating sanitation and public works in risk reduction. The challenges facing the programme include: frequent change in leadership, political conflicts, finances and security issues.

Strengthening Local Government System to Support Community Initiatives

Ms. Chandra Lukitasari, Executive Director, Indonesian Institute for Disaster Preparedness (IIDP), Indonesia

The key strategies for integrating CBDRM in the Local Government System includes: a clear concept and strategy; simplified methodologies; support and participation of National Government Institutions and local government. For achieving this, the immediate enabling steps to be undertaken include: decentralization of disaster / emergency Management, revitalisation of the Institutional Structure and formulation of a Disaster / Emergency Management law. The achievements of IIDP in CBDRM were detailed. The lessons learnt include: tendency among NGO's to adopt unsustainable but effective short cuts to avoid the beaurocracy; ignorance of donors of the budgeting procedures in government and the difficulty in implementation; the local governments cooperate better, if national level institutions are involved; CBDRM is not well known within the government; governments give more importance to inputs and events, while NGO's concentrate on the outcomes, both approaches being important; non-uniform structures between local governments, creates confusion among the NGO's; difficulties arise due to different funding mechanisms between government and NGO's; and the presence of a large percentage of non-CBDRM activities within CBDRM projects.

Safer Community Plans: Integrating Risk Reduction into Local Development Planning

Ms Kathleen McLaughlin, CECI Vietnam

Three projects were highlighted in this presentation on Safer Community Plans (SCP): Capacity-building for Adaptation to Climate Change project covering 1000 households in 9 villages; Water Disaster Risk Reduction project in Danang and Binh Dinh for 6000 households in 67 villages; and a project for Enhancing Human Security and the Environment through Disaster Management covering 1200 households in 19 villages. The strategy for a Safer Community Plan involves: vulnerability reduction, mainstreaming risk reduction and capacity-building of local government and villagers. The methodology for achieving a SCP includes: situation assessment, developing emergency response/disaster preparedness, infrastructure development, mobilising social organisations and identifying their training needs, and developing Safer Production Plans. The strategies for funding, and capacity building were also explained. The challenges include: institutionalizing the bottom-up planning process, funding, application of skills after the end of project and a long-term perspective for livelihood adaptation. Future work would aim at scaling-up the project, mainstreaming disaster mitigation, strengthening participatory approach and capacity development through implementation

Capacity Building in Flood Preparedness Planning at Provincial and District Levels

Ms Hnin New Win and Mr Aslam Perwaiz, ADPC

This presentation was on the Flood Management and Mitigation Program (FMMP, jointly implemented by MRC and ADPC in Cambodia, Lao and Vietnam. It consisted of 2 projects: "Flood Emergency Management Strengthening" carried out in Cambodia and Vietnam, and the "Capacity Building Project Phase II" in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Vietnam. The objectives, partners, project outreach, activities and achievements were mentioned. The challenges being faced include: limited resources, too many unsustainable projects, difficulties in mainstreaming DM and delays in implementation. The lessons learnt include: need for country specific programs, need for greater collaboration and information sharing between partners, flexibility in approaches and the need to utilize local capacity. The future plans include: finalization and implementation of the FP plan, capacity building of DM officers, sharing the FP plan with other NGO's and assist in replicating the project in other areas.

Local Government Capacity Building Initiatives: CDP Philippines Experience

Ms Lorna P. Victoria, Center for Disaster Preparedness, Philippines

The presentation introduced the disaster management activities of the Center for Disaster Preparedness in the Philippines. It uses a multi-level disaster management system, partnering with communities, NGOs and the government. Recent activities include capacity building activities and a study on non-structural disaster prevention measures in the Province of Camiguin. The lessons learned through their activities were mentioned. The importance of a participatory, holistic and integrated approach and the need to promote good governance and accountability was emphasised.

Managing Climate-Related Risks in Agriculture: The Climate Field School Initiative

Ms Lolita Bildan, ADPC

The presentation outlined the climate risk management intervention carried out in Indramayu in West Java, through the Climate Field School (CFS) initiative. Historical trends of rice production loss in Indramayu, due to floods and droughts were presented. The delays due to the long, centralized channels of communication for climate information were highlighted. An alternate end-to-end climate information generation and application system and its supporting institutional

framework, was illustrated. The CFS was implemented in 2003 to facilitate communication of climate information. It helped to build the capacity of the local government and the farming community and provided learning experiences for the forecast information generation community. Capacity building was done mainly through learning by doing methods. It was implemented in 2 phases. The first phase, lasting 2 planting seasons, concentrated on enhancing the farmers' knowledge of climate and use of climate information. The 2nd phase, lasting 8 planting seasons, aimed to institutionalize knowledge applications in farming operations. Details of the training methodology and content were also presented. The steps taken to institutionalize CFS in the local Government system and the success achieved in expanding the programme was mentioned.

Session 3: Community Level Information and Early Warning System

Flood Preparedness Project-Kampong Cham Province, Cambodia

Ms. Sandrine Roussy, ACF Cambodia

The presentation details 4 flood preparedness projects that ACF implemented in the Kampong Cham Province of Cambodia, since 1998. The objective was to reduce the regions vulnerability to floods from the Mekong river by building up the capacity of stakeholders. The 3 main components of the project were the development of local disaster management structures and planning, flood information management and flood early warning system. For this purpose they set up a Red Cross Volunteers (RCV) network and undertook capacity building activities. The project partners included the Committee of Disaster Management (NCDM Phnom Penh and PCDM Kampong Cham) and the Cambodia Red Cross (CRC Phnom Penh and PRC Kampong Cham). It was funded by DipECHO, MRC and ACF. The project has improved the flood information system and the management of risk. It has also resulted in better participation from the community and coordination among the authorities. Future challenges include: improvement of the EWS, replication of the EWS in other communities and coordination and collaboration with stakeholders

Reducing the impact of Drought in Oddar Meanchey: Drought Early Warning System

Ms Bernie O'Neill, ZOA, Cambodia

The Drought Early system (DEWS) was established in Oddar Meanchey province in Cambodia, in partnership with the Provincial Committee for Disaster Management (PCDM). An erratic rainfall pattern and lack of proper irrigation system has had a negative impact on agriculture, far from their villages, and are unaware of proper agricultural practices. The key elements of the DEWS include rain gauges installed in each commune, regular monitoring of rainfall by volunteers and relaying of data to the PCDM, who maintains central database. The data is analyzed at the PCDM Secretariat, and the alerts and suggestions are relayed back to the community by the DRM. The services provided by DEWS include trend mapping of rainfall patterns, highlighting hot spots, where drought is likely to occur, update maps showing drought status and inter comparison of rainfall data between stations. Lack of properly trained volunteers and improper communication systems are some obstacles in the smooth functioning of the DEWS.

Community Level Information & Early Warning System

Ms. Henny Dwi Vidiarina, CARE Indonesia

The SIAP project deals with disaster risk reduction for peat land areas in Central and East Kalimantan, Indonesia, through implementing a community level information and early warning system. The system employs a mix of sophisticated technologies, like remote sensing and GIS, and simple equipments. Community based approaches have been employed to make this system effective. This has been backed up by proper protocols, implementation plans and training. The Government is supporting this program through budgetary support and enabling policies and actions. The project has taught the importance of using a combination of simple, low

cost technologies, along with high technology. The importance of community participation and appropriate training, was also highlighted.

Day Two: Thursday, 9 March 2006

Session 4: Other Innovative Experiences in CBDRM

Fostering Disaster - Resilient Communities in Disaster Prone Areas

A.Karim Nayani, Executive Officer, FHA, Pakistan

The CBDRM project in Pakistan is based on the fact that 'Communities are the first and the most effective responders to a disaster'. The main objective of the CBDRM project is to enhance target communities ability to help each other to survive and cope during and after a disaster. The strategies used to accomplish this objective includes awareness training to local community, technical training to specialized group of volunteers in the community, establishing and training a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and providing stockpiles of essential survival items on need/ emergency basis. As of December 2005, the CBDRM project has trained 25,020 volunteers and provided 77 community/ regional stockpiles in 124 clusters. The key challenges faced in the government level are a lack of proper agency for disaster risk management. The civil society has to foster CBDRM at the village, union and district level. Sustainability of the CERTs, volunteer management, lack of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure are some of the key issues in the community level. Advocating mainstreaming of DRM, capacity building through replication of CBDRM model, information sharing, recognition of trained volunteers, as the first responders are some recommendations suggested.

Capacity Building On Child-Focused Disaster Risk Management

Do Hai Dang, Save the Children, Vietnam

About 70 % of casualties during disasters are children, but children specific issues are not well addressed in the normal DRM plans. The International Convention on the rights of the child, adopted by the UN in 1989, has 4 groups of rights for the children: rights to survival, development, protection and participation. Vietnam is the 2nd country to ratify this convention. 'Save the Children' is executing this project in Vietnam with the objective to improve and implement community-based and child-focused annual disaster preparedness and response plans. This is being done through a strategy comprising: research, capacity building, direct support and advocacy. This project ensures that children's rights are mainstreamed into the process of DRM (planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation). For such a project to succeed, support and cooperation from all the stakeholders is crucial. Lack of funding, sense of ownership, quality of the trainers, slow progress of the project and adapting to new concepts of children's participation, are some of the challenges. For the success of the project, better training and advocacy and greater participation of children and the government in this process, is recommended.

Session 5: CBDRM: What Didn't Work? Key Issues, Challenges and Recommendations

Challenge in Working with Communities in Urban Areas

(ACF Experience in Kampung Melayu)

Ms Henny Dwi Vidiarina, CARE Indonesia

The project area is a densely populated urban slum, frequently affected by flooding. The one-year project in 2003-04 period had the objective of vulnerability reduction of the people to floods and capacity building for disaster preparedness. Baseline and KAP reports were prepared. The HVCA

matrix for 18 groups is also ready. The activities have spread awareness among the community groups, leaders and Lurah, and made them eager to know more. The capacity of the ACF staff has also increased. On the negative side, the project has not been able to sustain itself at the community level and the community depends too much on government initiatives. The reason for this is the lack of capacity among the implementing organizations, relief oriented attitudes within the community and lack of integration of DM and development planning. The lessons learnt are: the underlying causes of vulnerability has to be addressed by integrating CBDRM into development planning; political, technical and financial support required for a long-term multi-hazard approach for CBDRM .

Group Work

Participants were divided into groups to discuss issues on “CBDRM: What Didn’t Work?”

Common Issues/Points Raised

- Understanding CBDRM concepts and methodologies with regards to its applicability/ approaches, role of different stakeholders, integration into sustainable development planning, paradigm shifting, staging and mainstreaming process.
- Lack of legal framework of CBDRM and appreciation of policy makers for its implementation which results to absence of laws, or if existing, different interpretation of the law, lack of policies, formulation and enforcement, and no or least priority for fund allocations. Also, hindering factors are government bureaucracy such as changes of leadership and lack of political will from government line agencies.
- Awareness of government/policy makers on the role of the communities in disaster risk reduction (DRR) contributing to lack of community participation/ involvement. Lack of coordination between project staff and government people.
- Donor-driven programs that are short termed projects/commitment, visibility/high projection-type of projects, unclear phasing out strategies, and issues on funding mechanisms, accountability and transparency.
- Sustainability which necessitates mobilization of local resources to support programs, avoid depending on external donors, develop appropriate phase out strategies, and ownership.
- Other issues:
 - Lack of women’s participation and awareness of other vulnerable groups (other differently able people)
 - No focal person for specific program (staffing, multi tasking problem)
 - Selecting a community

THEME 2: Integrating CBDRM into the Social and Economic Development Process

Session 6: Integrating CBDRM into the Social and Economic Development Process

National Strategic Collaborative Action Planning for CBDRM

Mr. Zubair Murshed, ADPC

The ADPC project on Integrating CBDRM into Social-Economic Development was introduced through this presentation. The main areas of work include the development of tools for a Regional Framework on CBDRM, the process of integrating CBDRM into the socio-economic process and other supporting activities. The activities under each area and their implementation were then detailed through the example of the Cambodian National Strategic Plans on CBDRM.

Governmental Capacities to Implement CBDRM

Mr. Aman Mehta, ADPC

The preliminary findings of the study of the capacity of disaster preparedness institutions in South East Asia were presented. National level researchers carried out baseline information collection in Lao PDR, Cambodia, Vietnam and Timor Leste. The study covered a single province each in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Vietnam, and 4 provinces in Timor Leste. Based on the baseline information, a brief national level assessment was done. All 4 countries suffered from inadequate capacity in terms of human resources, financial resources, technical skills and material resources. There was also a shortage of transportation and communication equipment. The DM institutional structure at the provincial and district level was found to be well conceived in Vietnam, Cambodia and Lao PDR. Suggestions to improve the study methodology were also mentioned.

Critical Guidelines of CBDRM

Mr. Zubair Murshed, ADPC

The Critical Guidelines of CBDRM informs decision makers on the minimum requirements for good practices and helps in project planning, design, evaluation, impact assessment, advocacy and policy formulation. The rationale, process followed in development and the target users of the guideline were mentioned. The process and outcome indicators of CBDRM were then described. The presentation then focused on the guidelines for achieving one of the key outcome indicators of CBDRM: the Community Based Organization (CBO).

CBDRM Curriculum for Local Authorities

Mr. Shesh Kante Kafle, ADPC

The CBDRM Curriculum for Local Authorities, prepared by ADPC, was introduced through this presentation. The objective was to build capacity of the local government officials and to speed up the process of integrating CBDRM into local governance. The methodology used for making the curricula, and the contents, was detailed. Future steps include the adaptation and endorsement of the curriculum by local authorities and building up a strategic plan for implementation

Mapping Good Practices: Regional Database on CBDRM

Ms Vicky Diopenes, ADPC

The CBDRM Database is an effective tool to organize information for effective decision-making. It is web-based and can be accessed at <http://www.adpc.net/pdrsea/>. It comprises of eight themes: good practices and tools, Community-based early warning systems, Structural mitigation measures, Academic and training courses, Experts, Organizations, Programs and projects, Policies, legislation, Plans and institutional arrangements. At present the database has 300 records. The procedure for accessing and using the database was also mentioned

Mobilizing and Orienting the Media for CBDRM

Ms Vicky Diopenes, ADPC

The potential role of Media in CBDRM was highlighted through this presentation. The media through its activities could contribute to greater awareness and promotion of disaster risk, early warning, preparedness and relief. The PDRSEA strategy for media included one day workshops in target countries (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Indonesia, Timor Leste and Vietnam) and preparation of media kit on CBDRM. The details of the national workshops and the contents of the media kit were then presented. Future plans include the development of an intensive course on "CBDRM and the Media" and integrate and emphasize the role of media in CBDRM in future training programs organized by the media.

Integration of CBDRM into Vietnam' National Strategy

Mr. Dang Quang Tinh Director, DMC, Vietnam

The presentation started with a short introduction to Vietnam and disaster trends in the country. Vietnam is affected by floods, typhoons, drought, landslide, storm surges and flash floods. The strategy employed for disaster mitigation involved setting up of the basic legal and institutional framework and the integration of CBDRM activities into Vietnams national strategic plans. The activities carried out for promoting CBDRM include: setting up of committees for flood and storm control throughout the country, establishing resettlement clusters for flood affected families, setting up of community based kindergartens and encouraging participation of community members in dike construction and maintenance. Since CBDRM is a new concept, the activities are still on a small scale with limited coverage. Lack of self-reliance and public participation, are key challenges for the communities.

Session 7: Policy and Strategy Options for the Effective Dissemination and Expansion of CBDRM

Group Work

Participants were divided into groups to discuss Policy and Strategy Options for the Effective Dissemination and Expansion of CBDRM

Common Issues/Points Raised

What policy and strategy elements do you find significant in the work of PDRSEA3 on the integration of CBDRM into the socio-economic process? What other policy or strategy elements would you recommend to facilitate integration of CBDRM in socio-economic development process?

Key Policy Elements:

- Inclusion of the LGO in the planning process
- Continuing involvement of government at all levels in dialogue, education and training.
- Planning Process should be bottom-up approach.
- Consider local characteristics.

Key Strategy Elements:

- Institutional capacity building for the government both in the national and local levels.
- Application and monitoring of the Hyogo Framework Action Plans per country.
- Legal framework for laws, regulations, political commitment and financial support/resource mobilization or allocation from national budget for disaster risk reduction.
- Integrating CBDRM in development plan, socio-economic/national poverty reduction strategy.
- Participation and capability building of all stakeholders

On the basis of the above, identify policy and strategy options for the for integration of CBDRM into development process

Policy/Strategy Options:

- Conduct national consultations involving participatory planning process.
- Institutionalizing CBDRM in all levels of the government and consequently facilitate the community to do CBDRM.

Recommended Options at the national and sub-regional level.

- Integrate CBDRM in the development plan and national policy
- Synchronize development program with risk reduction
- Increase capacity and participation of the business sector and scientific research

Day Three: Friday, 10 March 2006

Theme 3: Partnerships and Networking to Enhance CBDRM: Regional Strategies and Priority Programs of Action

Session 9: National Networking Initiatives and Opportunities

The Cambodian Disaster Risk Reduction (CDRR) Forum

Ms Bernie O,Neil,, ZOA, Cambodia

The CDRR forum was formed in 2005 in Cambodia by Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) agencies, supported by DIPECHO. The main objectives of the forum were knowledge sharing and coordination among DRR practitioners in Cambodia. The promotion of CBDRM has been a main focus of the forum. 4 meetings have been held since its inception and the membership has been increasing steadily. The main challenges facing the forum are funding and the formation of a cohesive, productive group.

Disaster Management Working Group in Viet Nam (DMWG)

Ms Pham Tham Hang, UNDP, Vietnam

The DMWG was initiated by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. Its primary objective was to coordinate emergency relief during the historical 1999 floods in 7 Central provinces. It also helped in networking of the key national agencies in emergency relief. It later shifted focus from relief to long-term DRM practices. The work done by the DMWG with CBDRM includes a Joint Assessment (JA) of disaster damages and needs, training of the JA members, translating the Sphere Handbook, research on gender mainstreaming in DRM actions and policy advocacy. The key achievements of the DMWG include several CBDRM initiatives, successful awareness building on CBDRM and mainstreaming CBDRM in development planning. The lessons learnt include the need for coherent messages/practices in CBDRM initiatives and the need for commitments and contribution by agencies/individuals. The challenges include the need for capacity building on CBDRM, improved national participation, stronger policy advocacy, better partnerships, institutionalization and promotion of CBDRM, and coordination between the DMWG and the NDM-P (Natural Disaster Mitigation Partnership).

Networking for CBDRM among DM Practitioners in the Phillipines-NGO Perspective

Ms. Lorna P.Victoria, Centre for Disaster Preparedness (CDP), Philippines

An overview of disaster management activities in Philippines and the role of NGO's was described. The Centre for Disaster Preparedness was formed with the objective to mainstream CBDRM through training, consultancies, research, networking and advocacy. The CDP spearheaded the formation of the Philippines Disaster Management Forum and have organized many workshops and meetings on CBDRM. It also has been advocating an alternative Disaster Management Bill. The lessons learned include: need for participatory, and integrated approach; need for better coordination among the different actors; importance of legislative advocacy work; ensure sustainability of the CBDRM networks; there should be a network of trainers in CBDRM, as a sub-group among DM practitioners.

National Networking Initiatives and Opportunities in Indonesia

Ms Theresia Wuryantari, Indonesian Society for Disaster Management (MPBI), Indonesia

The society was formed in 2001 and currently has 150 members, of whom 50 are active. The objectives were: creating a safe and prosperous community by promoting disaster management;

and creating professional partnerships with stakeholders to implement disaster management. The main activities carried out include: awareness and dissemination activities; capacity building through trainings and workshops; providing community based shelter for the affected population in Aceh; formulating guidelines and models for DM; and facilitating the formulation and analysis of a draft disaster management bill. The challenges include: knowledge gaps; difference in perspectives among members and partners; need to outreach to other partners like media and private sector; and limited time and human resources.

Session 10: Regional Networking Initiatives and Opportunities

The Asian Disaster Reduction & Response Network

Mr. Manu Gupta, Asian Disaster Reduction & Response Network (ADRRN), SEEDS India

The presentation started with an explanation on the needs for the network. The network was formed in February 2002 and now has a membership of 28 NGO's from 15 Asian countries. The objectives are: sharing of information and capacity building of the NGO's; raise the relevant concerns with the global network of NGO's; and promotion of best practices and standards. The activities carried out by the network were also presented. The challenges include: sustaining the network, gaining recognition & acceptance by other stakeholders; setting commonly acceptable principles and standards; and building a road map for the network.

AZEECON Network of the Lutheran World Foundation

Mr. David Mueller, LWF, Cambodia

The Asia Zone Emergency and Environment Network (AZEECON) is an informal, voluntary, network of the Lutheran World Federation, operating in Cambodia, Bangladesh, India and Nepal. AZEECON is primarily involved in capacity building of local communities for disaster management and preparedness and environmental management. An overview of the activities of AZEECON in the 4 countries was presented. The challenges facing AZEECON include shortage of funds, lack of a focal person, and sustaining an interest among the members. The importance of knowledge sharing among the different country programmes was highlighted.

Session 11: Activities and Measures Undertaken to Strengthen Networking for CBDRM

Outcomes of the Joint Meeting of the Four Regional Committees

Dr Kai Kim Chiang, ADPC

This presentation summarized the informal discussions held between the four committees (ACDM, ASOEN-HTTF, UNESCAP/WMO, Typhoon Committee and the MRC) during the 3rd Disaster Management Practitioners' Workshop in South East Asia in 2004. The objective was to enable better coordination and integration of their activities in DRM in South East Asia. 11 participants attended the meeting, representing the 4 committees, the ASEAN Secretariat, MRC and including 2 observers. Specific areas and activities were identified for collaboration. ACDM invited the Typhoon Committee and the MRC to participate in its Joint Simulation Exercise on Flood Emergency Response (ARDEX-06), and the ASEAN secretariat agreed to facilitate it. ADPC would coordinate the CBDRM activities. ADPC and UNESCAP agreed to take the lead in capacity building on "Disaster Risk Assessment" and "Disaster Impact Assessment". The committees agreed to share information through their websites, through their disaster management databases (OSADI (ACDM), Haze Online (HTTF), CBDRM (ADPC) and one being developed by TC) and through 2 Joint Meetings under PDRSEA 2 & 3. To facilitate interaction, focal points were identified for the committees, ADPC, and UNESCAP

Session 12: Establishing a Program of Action to Strengthen Regional Networking for CBDRM

Group Work:

Regional Networking for CBDRM: Priority Program of Action

Common Issues/Points Raised

On Importance of National & Regional Networking

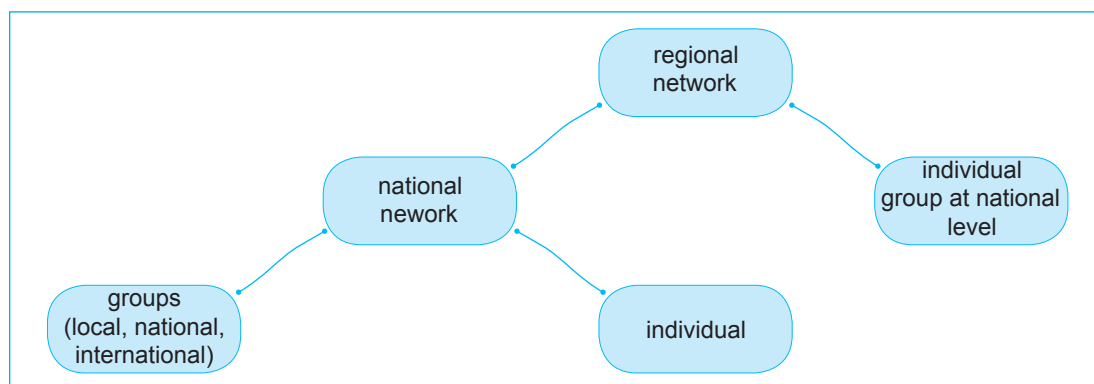
There is a need to share experience, expertise, information. It also involves joint efforts of different actors such as government, non-government, business sectors, media, civil society, donors, and communities.

On Networking in CBDRM

It requires policy and strategy on a common framework and platform and strong advocacy, secondly, ensure its implementation for common tools/ materials, coordination (avoid overlap) and sharing information/experiences/ technology and resources.

On Strengthening & Key Elements for Network

- Common interest and direction
- Commitment and participation (joint effort) and sharing of experiences and expertise
- Projection (visibility/PR)
- Inclusiveness (multi-stakeholders)
- Regular meetings and cross visit
- Funding



- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Type of Network | - Platform |
| | - Professional's Association |
| 2. Scope Of Network | - Advocacy |
| | - Practical |
| 3. Member Of Network | - Individual |
| | - Groups |
| 4. Benefits of Network | - For members |

On Implementation Strategy

- Founders meeting
- Criteria for representation in the regional network
- National networking policy formulation and implementation
- Implementation of government policies

papers



Microfinance and Disaster Preparedness: How to Finance Disaster Prevention at Household Level? An Innovative Approach in Vietnam

Mr Guillaume Chantry
DWF Vietnam

> Over the past decade, Vietnam has been emerging from years of poverty. Economic reforms have had a largely positive effect on many families, and many activities are increasingly monetised. This growth and change is vital if families and the community are to achieve more stable and better living conditions. In turn, the improvement of family economies is vital for local and regional development. But the often-tenuous improvement in family and commune conditions is frequently eradicated by the destruction caused by the annual round of storms, typhoons and flooding.

In effect, amongst the many changes in the past decade, a tangible change has been the increase in private expenditure in housing and small-scale rural infrastructure. Families have rebuilt some 80% of rural housing over recent years to replace previous thatch and bamboo houses. Regrettably, this investment in new homes has not been matched by a parallel increase in their resistance to the effects of floods and storms. This weakness is largely because storm resistant building details have been neglected.

This level of vulnerability is both unnecessary and one that can be addressed without great difficulty.

How? Through preventive strengthening. Preventive action to strengthen community and

An example of an initial loan

cost of works	DWF subsidy	family contribution	credit	duration (months)	interest (by month)	repayment (by month)
4 600 000 Dgs	2 000 000 Dgs	600 000 Dgs	2 000 000 Dgs	18	0,3 %	114 000 Dgs
300 USD	130 USD	40 USD	130 USD			7.5 USD

domestic buildings is an effective and cost efficient manner of reducing economic and material vulnerability, and families and communities can do it themselves.

Development Workshop France (DWF) has implemented projects in Thua Thien Hue Province - central Vietnam - since 1999, in order to raise the level of 'prevention awareness' among both the population and decision makers, through community animation activities, through training and the demonstration of reinforcing housing and small public facilities ahead of the next storm.

For strengthening existing housing, at the outset DWF provided a subsidy combined with the cash participation from the family. But it has become clear that poorer families actually turned to local moneylenders in order to engage in strengthening their home. Whilst this was a positive sign of commitment, it has also created

pressure on some families because of high rates of interest exacted by informal lenders, charging up to 20% monthly interest.

In 2002 DWF started a credit system for the families, combined with a partial subsidy of reinforcement works, in 4 communes of Thua Thien Hue Province. This system was then extended to 6 communes. The credit scheme is organised, managed, and developed at commune level by the Commune Damage Prevention Committee (mainly with Women's Union or with the Farmers' Union).

Until December 2005, the number and amount of loans disbursed have totalled 50 000 USD:

	Families	Amount of loans
Initial loan form project	380	695 000 000 VN Dongs
Loan from revolving fund	50	95 000 000 VN Dongs

Housing financing in rural areas

If some credit schemes exist in the formal sector in urban areas (example for civil servants, loan for 10-15 years to purchase apartment), nothing exists in rural areas to contribute to housing improvement or delivery.

In Thua Thien Hue, families have to save money - in cash or in building materials- during several years (average 5) before starting the construction of their new house.

A typical house (5x7m and 2x7 m veranda) costs about 15-20 millions VN Dongs to build. Due to a lack of available funds, and also to the lack of awareness about resistance to storms, the family often live in a unfinished house and thus in insecure conditions (commonly, no wall plaster, no doors and window, poor fixing of the roof covering).

Since 2003-4, an important programme of temporary houses eradication has been launched, with subsidy from 7 or 15 millions Dongs from national authorities (with a contribution of family of 5-10 millions).

In case of natural disaster (flood, cyclones) the family could receive, as support from authorities, up to 3 millions VN Dongs for a destroyed house, and 1 millions VN Dongs for damaged house (data based on damage in 2005).

In 2005, some Communes decided to increase the level of subsidy to 2/3 - with credit 1/3 - of the amount of reinforcement works. In a typical poor commune it is generally considered that until the poorer and most vulnerable families have been helped, a subsidy will go on being needed to enable these families to strengthen their homes.

The repayment level has been good (80% and more, albeit with some delays in many cases), and successful - taking into consideration the innovative approach and the situation of families - although there have been some specific cases where people have had difficulties due to:

- credit management problems at Commune level;
- extreme financial difficulties in the case of some families.

The credit system for housing reinforcement has contributed to a real progress amongst families. It has demonstrated that people repay short term affordable loans for house strengthening even though this does not have a direct connection to income generation, because families recognise that the safety of the houses and the reduction of vulnerability do indeed represent a key component in economic security. Families make the connection between a safe house and income generation capacity, and are prepared to put their own money into achieving this.

Future projects need to continue to demonstrate a credit system for those in most need, which

can in turn encourage other donors and banks to make credit available. During a round table workshop organised by DWF in Hue on the occasion of the International Day for Disaster Reduction (12 October 2005 / Campaign on microfinance and disaster), this situation has been discussed by representatives of the banking and insurance system. The development of insurance mechanisms is new in Vietnam, and concentrate on life assurance. The Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has now expressed its interest in partially funding an expanded programme of loans for housing strengthening and improvement - with guarantees from organisation like DW and a donor agency).

The target is to achieve loan rates up to 80% with low subsidy, (taking account of subsidies written into the loan system as well), but so far the programme has shown that families are prepared to invest seriously in making their homes more disaster resistant and through this, their lives less vulnerable. For the long term success of preventive strengthening and similar actions, financial mechanisms supported by local and national institutions are a critical step towards sustainable disaster reduction.

Projects funded by

- CIDA (Canadian International Development Agency), Alternatives(Canada) and FACV (Fondation d'Aide Canada-Vietnam) 2000-2002
- ECHO-DIPECHO (European Commission) 2003-2006
Average family income : 30 USD by month - January 2006
1 USD = 15 900 VN Dongs

Financial Services to Support Community Initiatives for Disaster Reduction: Bangladesh Experience

Dr Mohd. Shahadt Hossain Mahmud
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of Bangladesh

> Introduction

Bangladesh is the largest deltaic island in the world formed by the deposits of mud and sand left behind by three gigantic river system viz the Ganges, the Brahmaputra and the Meghna. Owing to exceptional geographical location and topography, this country is also characterized as one of the densely populated and most disaster-prone countries in the world. Accordingly, this country has been experiencing various types of natural calamities more than its share since historical past. It is recorded that since independence in 1971, the country has endured almost 200 disaster events such as river erosion, drought, flood, storm surges, cyclone and tornado etc causing more than 500,000 deaths and leaving prolonged damage to quality of life, livelihoods and the economy. However, among the natural calamities, flood and river erosion are occurring there quite frequently. Bangladesh, as an agro-based country, is benefited by normal floods while abnormal flood causes enormous damages to its infrastructures, agriculture, transportation, industries, non-farm activities, economy and livelihood. Fortunately, Bangladesh has a resilient disaster management culture that continues to strengthen through determined efforts of the Government and other stakeholders at all levels and the Government is expanding its disaster management efforts towards a holistic approach emphasizing risk reduction. But the

alarming fact is that, incidence of devastating floods has increased there over the recent years and during last 16 years this country experienced four devastating floods in 1987, 1988, 1998 and 2004. The latest one severely affected the livelihood of 3.8 million people; damaged properties valued USD 6.6 billion and lost lives of 747 human beings.

The vulnerable state of the people affected by natural disaster is a vital concern of the Government of Bangladesh (GoB). As a matter of fact, following the central thrust of poverty reduction, GoB is trying to address this problem through various initiatives. For instances, GoB uses to distribute huge amount of food grains and money as Gratuitous Relief (GR), House Building Grant (HBG) and Food Assistance under Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) Programme among the vulnerable people affected by natural disaster in addition to the normal allocation under Vulnerable Group Development (VGD) Programme. But unfortunately all the said relief based poverty reduction initiatives adopted by the GoB are seemed futile to accomplish sustainable development in the livelihood of the natural disaster affected people. Further, it is revealed from different study reports that due to natural calamity every year the scope and magnitude of poverty are expanding alarmingly among the severely affected people. We can reasonably assume that NGOs, bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as the civil society can play an important role before, during and after such disasters by providing resources and technical assistance for relief and rehabilitation of the disaster affected people.

Why and How the Micro-credit Programmes for DP Established?

Natural calamities such as flood, river erosion, drought, cyclone and tornado are very old and common problems for the people living in Bangladesh. But, the magnitudes of those problems are violently perceived in ecologically vulnerable districts of Bangladesh, where huge people usually face tremendous sufferings almost every year. It is clearly evident that the GoB, being well aware of the unyielding consequences of those problems started enhanced relief

operation in the natural disaster-prone areas. In addition to GoBs interventions, the leading NGOs and voluntary organizations of national and international levels have also extended various programmes in natural disaster-prone areas to alleviate the sufferings of disaster affected people. These activities complement the GoB's efforts, considering the primary and central role accorded by the United Nations General Assembly to national governments in the response of natural disasters. But sorry to say, all these initiatives are proved ineffective in establishing there a permanent solution. As the researchers, policy makers and development managers are well aware of the problems relating to natural disasters have recognized that these problems will be automatically addressed in a sustainable manner if a need based, integrated and multidimensional problem solving approach is adopted. Analyzing the extent of problems, their major consequences and probable prospects to get rid of them, they have also outlined that the increasing sufferings of the disaster affected people may be solved through development of their coping mechanism capacity as well as creation of income generating employment opportunity in the affected areas.

Owing to this GoB, has adopted a micro-credit programme for reducing vulnerabilities of the poor to the effects of natural, environmental and human-induced hazards to a manageable and accepted level. With this end, GoB, in the previous annual budget (fiscal year: 2004-2005), allocated 750 million taka as natural risk reduction fund. Out of the said fund, 475 million taka as micro credit was released among 61,298 beneficiaries against their specific schemes. GoB, in the current 2005-2006 fiscal year, has further allocated 750 million taka under this programme and another 500 million taka for the reduction of seasonal unemployment of the most poverty-stricken areas. Out of the said amount, 645 million taka has already been disbursed in favour of disaster-prone areas for distributing as micro credit among the affected people under Natural Risk Reduction Fund while the fund allocated for Reduction of Seasonal Unemployment is under the process of disbursement in favour of poverty-stricken areas for distributing among the affected people.

How the Microcredit Programme Works?

In Bangladesh, government has adopted various micro credit programmes and some of those programmes have got recognition for reducing poverty of the targeted poor people. But, still there is no micro credit programme other than “Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Programme” launched by the government to the end of reducing risk or mitigating loss of natural calamities. Actually, GoB through the Ministry of Food and Disaster Management (MoFDM) has initiated a range of significant strategies aimed to ensuring disaster management programmes within the country. With this end government has adopted this programme, the objective of which is to rehabilitate the low earning people of the rural areas who are not ultra poor but has fallen into tremendous hardship due to natural calamity by losing their income generating asset. This group of people normally fails to get the opportunity available in the society to uplift their position. They neither succeeded in receiving loans from the government nor provided with loans from any leading NGO. They cannot regain their income generating assets, if once destroyed by sudden disaster. As a result, they fail to contribute in production and become frustrated in managing their livelihood. On the basis of this fact, the said programme has been launching by the government since 2004-2005 fiscal year. In this connection it may be further noted that the said programme is implemented followed by a guideline prepared by the MoFDM.

According the this guideline, the beneficiaries of this programme will be a member of such a family where per capita monthly income is not exceeding tk.3500. If a person belonging to this category is fallen on hardship due to loss of his/her income generating asset by fire or any other sudden natural calamity, will be provided a grant for subsistence along with a loan for the rehabilitation of income generating asset. The guideline also refers the following schemes as the major fields for granting loan:

- Scheme on Handloom/cottage industry;
- Scheme on Boat/Rickshaw/Cycle-van/ other Non-motor vehicles;
- Scheme on Nursery/Small garden of fruits;

- Scheme on Poultry/Cow rearing;
- Scheme on small scale pisciculture;
- Any scheme of small trading having self-employment opportunity for the women.

However, the amount of fund given to each beneficiary under this programme in terms of grant and loan ranges tk. 5000 to 20000. It is provided that 25 percent of the given money will be considered as grant if the total amount received by the beneficiary is up to tk.10000 and it will be 20 percent in case of amount received by the beneficiary is exceeded tk.10000. Further, the disaster management committee of the lowest tier has given the authority to sanction fund in favour of the each beneficiary on the basis of the income generating schemes as proposed by the beneficiaries. The guideline also states that the beneficiary will have to pay the principal loan amount on monthly or bi-monthly or quarterly installment as fitted to him/her along with four percent service charge for the whole period. Further, the beneficiary has to start the repayment installment after six month of receiving the loan and ought to finish the repayment within next twenty four months. Provided that, if any beneficiary fails to repay three consequent installment or use the fund in any activity other than the scheme proposed by him/her and approved by the disaster management committee, the entire fund received by him/her in terms of grant and loan will be turned as loan and shall be repayable with eight percent annual interest of complex nature.

What Efforts have been Made to Make it Sustainable?

To make the “Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Programme” sustainable, the Government of Bangladesh has formed various committees for disaster management at different levels. Those are: National Steering Committee for Disaster Management headed by the Secretary of MoFDM, District Disaster Management Committee headed by the Deputy Commissioner, Upazila (Sub-district) Disaster Management Committee headed by the Upazila Nirbahi Officer, Union Disaster Management Committee headed by the Union Parishad Chairman. The functions of the said committees are well defined in the guideline, where they are given authority

to arrange training for income generating schemes as well as supervise the programme for determining necessary steps to make the programme successful and sustainable. The Minister, MoFDM is assigned as advisor to the National Steering Committee while the Members of Parliament are assigned as advisor to the concerned Upazila (Sub-district) Disaster Management Committee. Further, with a view to evaluate the programme for formulating development strategies of the said programme, provision of appointing external counsellors is also adopted in the guideline.

Challenges and Lessons Learned Issues

The GoB through Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme (CDMP) under MoFDM has developed a “Corporate Plan” to achieve a paradigm shift in national disaster management strategies from conventional response and recovery to a more comprehensive risk reduction culture, and to promote food security as an important factor in ensuring the resilience of communities to hazards. The said Corporate Plan also provides “A framework for Action” that clearly articulates the strategies for achieving the paradigm shift considering all hazards of all

sectors in all geographical areas. Yet, “Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Programme” is adopted by the government as a special type of micro credit programme based on hypothetical assumption. Hence, we can reasonably apprehend that this programme will face lot of challenges. However, in the way of programme execution, we have already identified the following challenges:

- a) Want of reliable data on per capita monthly income of the people living in the disaster prone areas hinder beneficiaries’ selection procedure;
- b) Failure in selecting fitted income generating trades and want of training on it lead the schemes completely unsuccessful and turned the loan into a burden;
- c) Lack of supervision leads the beneficiaries misusing loan that deteriorates their coping mechanism to live with disaster as well as capacity of regaining the economic solvency;
- d) Repayment of loan instalment will not be ensured unless competent person/ persons are engaged for realization of loan from the beneficiaries;
- e) The programme will not succeed and sustain in future until commitment of the political leaders engaged as advisor in disaster management committees are ensured.

Establishing a Community Cooperative: Case of Talumpok, Batangas City, Philippines Towards Building a Disaster Resilient Community

Ms Zenaida Delica-Willison
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> **W**e need to organize a cooperative to help us collectively address our needs when a crisis occurs” said Petronilo Baes, an elder in Talumpok East, a rural village in Batangas City, south of Manila, Philippines. His sentiment was shared by many other farmers in the village. This was how the Talumpok Silangan Multipurpose Cooperative (TASIMPCO) was initiated and organized on 1 May 1988. The initial meeting was chaired by a development worker and attended by fifty village residents. An officer of the Philippine Bureau of Cooperatives and from another government agency also attended the meeting. This led to a decision to organize a cooperative. The residents pledged in writing to pay a share of Php100 and a membership fee of Php20, or Php 120.00 per person (USD 2.10) which amounted to a total of Php5,000 (USD 92.5). This amount was used to buy consumer goods. (Php 54=USD 1)

Spirit of Volunteerism

As there was no capital yet at the beginning to finance rental space, the family of Mr. & Mrs. Luiz Perez, local residents in the area, volunteered their house for the conduct of the business of the cooperative. After one month, the residents grouped together to construct a building for the cooperative in the spirit of “bayanihan” (voluntary cooperation in the community usually by providing labor). Able-bodied men offered

their share of bamboo, wood, nails and tools to help erect the structure. Women came with food for lunch and refreshments. Not a single hour was wasted so that the construction could be finished and business could be conducted as soon as possible. Young people volunteered to take charge of the cooperative.

Where It Is Now

To date, after 16 years of operation, the total assets of TASIMPCO has reached at least Php 5,650,000 (USD 113,000). Although it still engages in selling consumer goods up to the present, the cooperative has also evolved into a more complex microfinance enterprise which provides a credit facility management and animal dispersal. A total of 145 families are benefiting from the cooperative today, and they speak highly of their participation in the development of this small collective business venture.

The Making of a Disaster Resilient Community Talumpok is often visited by strong typhoons, but the village have not requested relief assistance in times of crisis. It was only when the roofs of the village elementary school were destroyed by strong winds did village officials request assistance from the local city government's calamity fund to strengthen the school. Truly, Talumpok can be considered a "resilient community". Many people agree that the cooperative was a contributory factor to this resiliency. The cooperative is a reliable instrument for financial sustainability and disaster risk reduction. Members receive important benefits from the cooperative, such as annual dividend shares and patronage refunds. However, they do not avail of these benefits when they have sufficient resources for the year so that these funds can be reserved for emergencies. The cooperative's credit facilities are made available to members during crisis or emergencies. The credit system used is based on procedures formulated by the Board and approved by the general membership. Repayment comes from the sale of animals

raised through TASIMPCO's microfinance scheme. There are also indirect benefits such as the money saved by members who no longer need to travel to the city to purchase prime commodities which are now readily available through the cooperative. Women in this village hold the purse of the family. Husbands surrender all their income to their wives who manage it for the family's subsistence.

Partnership to Move Forward

TASIMPCO is considered a huge success by its members. They also recognize that this success is partly owed to the support of many partner NGOs, such as the Citizens' Disaster Response Center (CDRC), which provided a loan at the early stage of the cooperative, and the Center for Disaster Preparedness (CDP) which provided a training on community based disaster preparedness. A government cooperative agency also helped TASIMPCO by providing guidance in policy development and operation. TASIMPCO has already received several citations from this cooperative agency.

Reflections and Lessons Identified

Some factors that contributed to the success of this cooperative include: the persistence, cooperation and volunteerism of members; the facilitation of a development worker who guided the initial set-up and listened to the voice of the farmers; sound policy development and making sure that policies are followed and implemented; and the cooperation of NGOs and government agencies. Continued support and patronage to the activities of the cooperative are likewise guaranteed by members themselves to ensure the success of their financial investments. They have a stake!

For more information, please contact Ms. Zenaida Delica-Willison, Disaster Response Advisor under the South-South Cooperation of the UNDP Regional Office in Bangkok at zenaida.willison@undp.org

Corporate Community Interface in Disaster Management - Beyond Corporate Social Responsibility

> Introduction

Natural disasters have increased its frequency and magnitude in the 1990s, as records of disasters since 1970 has indicated. And it is needless to describe the recent history of disaster and its damage in the disaster prone countries and regions particularly in Asia, which highlights the importance of disaster management. Moreover, many of the natural disasters are found to be directly related to environmental degradation and climate change, marking the importance of the linkage between environment and disaster management.

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The proposed concept of “Corporate-Community Interface (CCI)” focuses on the relationship of the corporate sector and local community with regard to their collaborative and environment and disaster management, aiming toward achieving safety and sustainability of community in the hazard-prone countries.

Corporate Sector and Community

Considering billions of economic losses and impact from natural disaster to the corporate sector, it is imperative that they keep tackling with such disaster risk, and they have the potential for strengthening and promoting its own safety and protection against natural catastrophes as

well as in assisting the community at large in reducing its vulnerability to disasters.

‘Community’ is more of a sense of belonging and is comprised of other stakeholders, and it includes education sector, NGOs, government, and businesses. Because the people at the community level have more to lose as they are the ones directly hit by disasters, regardless of its intensity, community is an indispensable component in considering environment and disaster management. And they have the most to gain if they can reduce the impact of disaster from the community level.

Thinking of its places of operation, the corporate sector is strongly bonded with community and its people. Companies have started to contribute to their communities, especially to local communities, by providing jobs, wages and benefits, and tax revenues. On the other hand, companies depend on the health, stability, and prosperity of the communities in which they operate. They are the inseparable stakeholders in the community.

Corporate Social Responsibility

The concept and momentum of “CSR” (Corporate Social Responsibility) has been rapidly gaining its influence particularly among the developed nations and as well as developing countries, and various kinds of CSR activities were reported in environment and disaster management field. Just recently, we have witnessed the unprecedented degree of the corporate sector’s reaction and support to the Indian Ocean Tsunami in 2004.

But there are three kinds of traits through which such CSR activities can further be enhanced. First, most of the CSR activities are found to be a short-term, one-off type of intervention. Second, current CSR initiatives mainly focus on post-disaster activities, rather than proactive, pre-disaster measures, and third, it is often the case that corporations develop CSR activities without much involving local community.

Corporate Community Interface Program

Reflecting the importance of the corporate-community relationship, and the current traits of CSR activities, what is needed is the learning program and environment where the corporate sector can involve themselves in taking much more effective measures for environment and disaster management from the community level in a longer term, taking measures beyond CSR. And such learning opportunity is to be systematically developed under the CCI program while developing a guidelines and handbook documentation as output materials.

Companies of particular relevance and needs of the CCI program are those with: (1) direct operations in areas impacted by the disaster; (2) investment in these areas; (3) supply and distribution chains, and; (4) impacts on employees from the disaster.

Characteristics of CCI Program

The characteristics of the concept of CCI are as follows:

- 1. Working closely with corporate sector:** In order to develop the best user interface in regards to Corporate Community Interface, a handbook is to be developed through cooperating closely with the corporate sector themselves.
- 2. Co-learning:** Instead of an individual corporation’s trying to develop disaster mitigation intervention by itself, through sharing lessons together, one can achieve much more and realize effective interventions. Lessons will be shared regionally and internationally through a series of distance learning programs.
- 3. Wider stakeholder involvement:** The program of Corporate Community Interface will bring learning environment where wide range of stakeholders will share and discuss their opinions and types of corporate strategies on environment and disaster management.
- 4. Time- and field-tested:** a number of case studies from Indian Tsunami affected communities and other hazard-prone regions will be conducted. By learning what is going

on currently, it will become clearer to know what more can be done to help communities. All of these case studies are to be done at the field level, and through which actual voices from corporations and communities will be heard.

- 5. Layer-specific:** By focusing on each of these people and layers, the program will be much more tailored and can depict a clear picture on how each layer of the corporate sector, including CEOs, mid-level managers, and local employees, can improve their mode of behavior and action.

The Corporate Community Interface program will be facilitated by Kyoto University Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies (GSGES) and Global Forum on Disaster Reduction, in cooperation with the World Bank and Tokyo Development Learning Center, and other international and local partners.

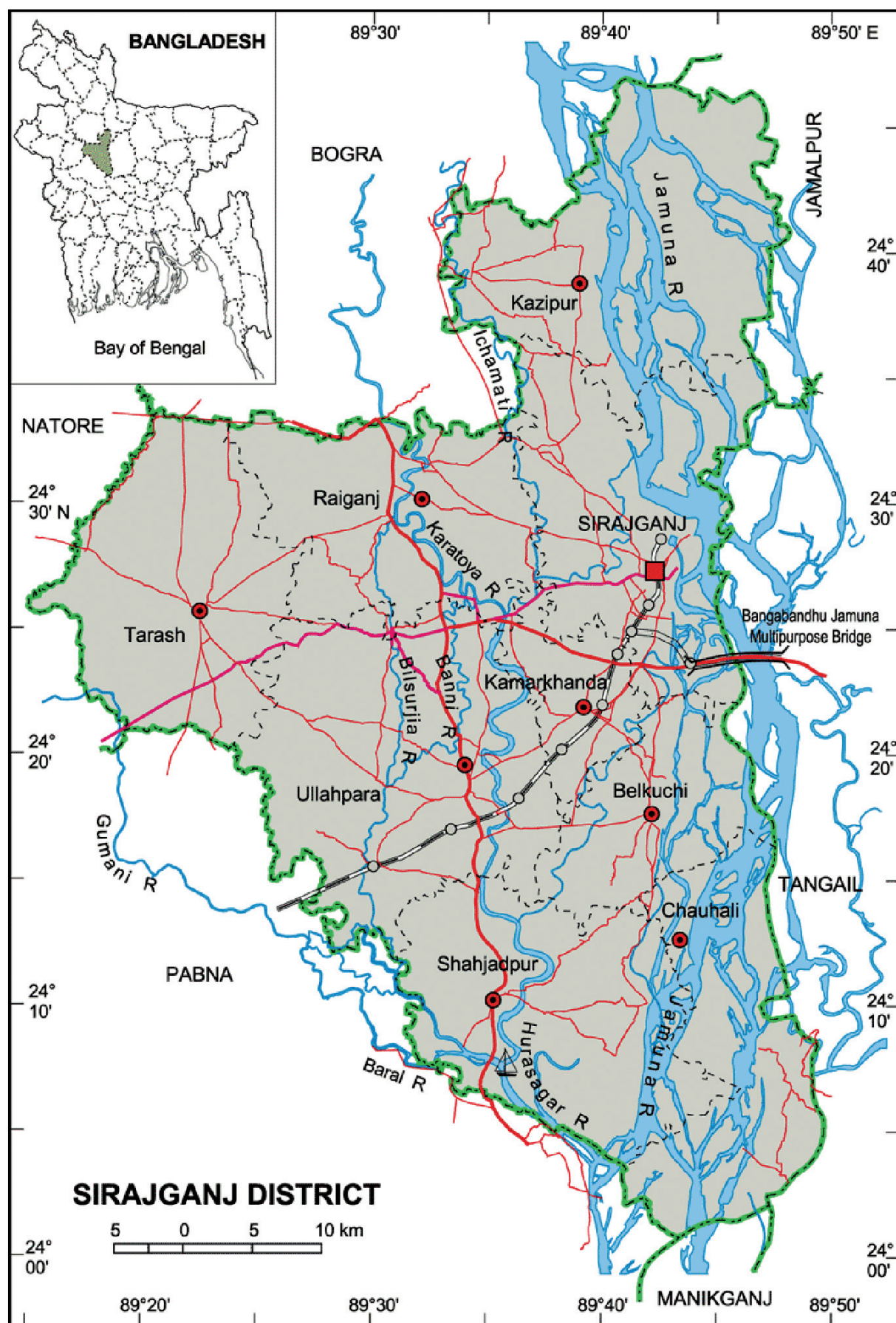
Micro Credit for Disaster Preparedness (Initiatives to reduce vulnerability due to disaster)

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> Introduction

Manab Mukti Sangstha (MMS) is a non-government development organization (NGO) working since 1984 in the Jamuna river basin areas of Sirajganj district. The working area of MMS is one of the most disaster prone and poverty stricken area of Bangladesh. The lives of the people of all level in the area affected and devastated more than once in a year due to various disaster like continuous river erosion, flood, nor'wester (seasonal storm), drought, cold wave etc. Normal lives especially poor communities are disrupted by disaster and they become more vulnerable. They are to become depended on other support. Due to remoteness, lack of communication, the people of the area are to remain out of conventional development initiatives. They have no access in basic services providing by the Government or any other Non-Governmental initiatives. There is no possibility to reduce vulnerability with out providing support for disaster preparedness.

Considering the situation disaster preparedness is integrated as one of major component with other development issues of MMS. Provided support (soft were and hared were both) to increase disaster preparedness capacity of poor community and support provided as grant. Considering sustainability of Disaster Preparedness program and to relate this issue



with development issues, providing micro credit has been started since 1999.

Micro Credit Program for DP is one of seasonal credit system under Micro Finance Program, implementing by MMS. Micro Finance Program of MMS is one of core and largest program focused on Income Generating at individual family level. Micro credit for DP is the part of Micro Finance Program.

MMS has revised its micro credit policy and have taken decision to make provision for providing micro credit for DP, round the year. It has received necessary approval from the Executive Committee of the organization. Necessary accounts with supporting documents are duly maintained for micro credit for DP with Micro credit of other normal development programs.

The Main causes why Micro Credit for DP Initiated

With a view to reduce vulnerability situation initiatives were taken to increase capacity of the people to cope with the situation, regarding disaster especially flood and river erosion and distributed micro credit for DP. Most of the families were not able to take preparedness. MMS used to provide micro credit for development for more then 15 years in its working areas. It was found that most of the families needed support to repair their houses, raise their homesteads, storing some food for flood period, installation of tube well and latrine. Some time they needed some credit money to run a small business suitable during flood. But nobody was providing credit for the mentioned interventions. But these were essential and important for DP as well as for development. If no support is provided for DP there will be more difficult to save lives and assets as well as to start or implement development programs. On the other hand there are no other alternative sources for getting support in the form of credit. That was why MMS has established micro credit support system for DP side by side with other development programs.

How the program works (lending, repayment and for what purpose recipients could use it)

- Micro credit fund is generated from donors as a part of general micro credit.

- Disaster savings is collected from the micro credit group members for DP that has been included in the micro credit policy.

Lending Process

MMS provide micro credit for DP through self help primary group at community level which consists of 20 to 30 members. In the weekly meeting they propose for micro credit for DP. Then other members analyze the possibilities or feasibility of the proposed interventions/activities. If it is viable then the group takes decision for providing credit for the activities. Group leader forward an application to the authority for providing credit. Then the responsible Field Organizer, Supervisor and Manager verify the process and make recommendations for providing loan. While it is approved by the authority, finance department and responsible field worker decide a suitable time for the disbursement of the approved credit money and inform to the applicants to receive the credit money in time. Applicants come with proper witness and response with the payment procedure with finance department and receive the credit money in cash. The duration of most of the credit is about one year and the amount per person is below or up to a maximum of Tk.5,000.00

Repayment

Depending on the interventions and the vulnerability of the program participants, different types of repayment systems are followed. The repayment systems are weekly, monthly or at a time after completion of the interventions.

Purpose

Program participants use the micro credit in different ways. It depends on level of participants/ vulnerability of participants. It is found that most of the families need to repair their houses, raise their homesteads, storage some food for flood period, installation of tube well and latrines, fodder preservation, vegetable cultivation, boat repair and rebuilding, storage of essential items like dry food, essential medicines, shifting houses with livestock and assets. etc. Some time they need some capital money to run an intervention suitable during flood time.

Target Beneficiaries of Micro Credit for DP

Criteria of Target beneficiaries of micro credit for DP are as below :

- Poor or extreme poor family
- Land less farmers, fishermen, day labours.
- Poor and share cropper, marginal farmer
- Family with large size
- Small/ petty business men and women
- Minority ethnic family
- Family with Disability/ elderly/ sick for long time
- Women headed poor family

Sustainability of the micro credit for DP

- Regarding sustainability of micro credit for DP at organization level MMS is going to organize its micro credit policy which will be the policy document to run it for long time.
- At beneficiaries level MMS always relate the DP with the development programs, so that the program can run for long time
- MMS has been providing credit support, so that the participants are able to repay the credit money and other people get opportunity to get the credit according their need.
- Disaster fund has been created especially for disaster preparedness and response.
- Capacity and practice of the beneficiaries has been developed so that they can implement any DP activities by themselves.

Impact of the Micro Credit for DP

- About 20% household could be protected and survived from flood
- The spread of water borne diseases reduced
- Human lives as well livestock could be saved for emergency food stock
- Homestead based income sources were safe during flood
- Transport system made easier during flood
- International, UN organization and donor communities are showing interest and have

started to provide support to the char's people.

Challenges and Issues

- Natural disaster is the big challenge of disaster prone areas like river erosion and flood, cold wave, drought etc.
- Disrupted communication/ bad transportation/ remoteness
- Staff drop out
- Lack of available fund and technical support
- Landlessness

Lesson Learned

- Micro Credit for disaster preparedness should give priority for reducing vulnerability of disaster prone areas.
- Other technical support and development program support should be provided in the same time.
- Basic service should be ensured for the poor family
- It should be an issue of Government of the country

Conclusion

This presentation has been prepared on the basis of the experiences gained by Manab Mukti Shangstha (MMS) for a couple of years based on the policy paper, practices and principles of the organization. According to the reality of the working areas, capacity of the organization, it has been implementing and practicing the micro credit system as a main focus for reducing the vulnerability of the poor people and ultimately alleviating their poverty level. MMS is always ready to improve the systems/practices if any better ideas or experiences from any other sources are available. It is hoped it will come up in the better interest of reducing vulnerability caused by disasters.

Opportunities for Businesses to Support Disaster Preparedness in Vietnam

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➤ Business and the Socio-economic Development of Vietnam

Vietnam is going through rapid economic development and transition since the establishment of economic openness policy in 1986. This rapid economic development can be attributed to the contributions from the industrial (40.1%) and services (38.1%) sectors to the GDP. Whilst enhancing the nations economic prosperity, Vietnam's business sector additionally plays a significant role in the socio-economic development of the country through providing employment to a large number of people, improving income levels and raising living standards.

Threats of Disasters to Businesses and Development

Because of its geographic location, Vietnam is prone to a range of natural disasters, particularly typhoons and floods but also tropical storms, droughts, landslides, forest fires, and occasional earthquakes resulting in huge losses of life, property and infrastructure. These pose a significant obstacle to sustainable economic development, poverty reduction and environmental preservation in Vietnam. This was demonstrated in 1999 when natural disasters claimed more than 800 lives and resulted in

approximately USD300 million in property losses. Close to 1,000 lives were also lost during three consecutive years of flooding in the Mekong River Delta.

These catastrophes also cause huge losses to business operations in Vietnam not only through damage to the physical assets of business located in high-risk areas but from disruption to daily operations due to loss of and injury to the workforce, damage to critical utilities such as the provision of electricity and water, and transportation infrastructure and services.

Each year, disasters result in serious economic and social setbacks to development and poverty reduction, negating efforts of all stakeholders working towards sustainable development. Likewise, developmental initiatives which are not risk conscious may often introduce new hazards, risks and or create vulnerabilities. This necessitates that disaster risk reduction be considered as an essential prerequisite in the sustainable development process.

Thus, the negative impact of disasters on business and industrial sector does not only disrupt the working of business, and reduce the profits but it also has adverse implications on the economic and social development of the country.

Impact of Business Activities on Disasters

Sometimes unplanned business activities may also contribute to potential disaster risks. These may occur due to the direct impact of business activities on the immediate environment or the surrounding community. Technological disasters may occur due to the use, transportation, storage, and disposal of dangerous chemicals and industrial wastes. These technological disasters may include fire, leakage of dangerous gases, spread of disease etc.

Benefits of Disaster Preparedness

The success of any business is highly dependent on its ability to avoid economic crisis and

shocks. Thus the management of risks is a routine consideration in business strategies. The principles used in the management of economic risks, can also be applied to reduce risks from natural disasters to business.

This involves risk identification, analysis and preparedness activities. The implementation of these strategies will secure your physical assets and also lead to a positive impression about company amongst their employees and the surrounding community as a caring employer and organization.

Company can derive additional benefits by supporting disaster preparedness in the community in vicinity of their business from where most of their labor force might belong. The involvement of business in disaster preparedness of communities can also strengthen the relationship, generate support from consumers and government and can actually increase their consumer-base, not only on a local but also on a global scale.

Disaster Preparedness: A Role for the Business Sector

The government has the primary responsibility to take actions for disaster preparedness and community awareness in order to reduce potential losses. However, given the limited resources of the government and the fast changing development situation in the country, the government efforts are not enough.

Modern businesses possess more resources and in certain cases, more influence than the government. Bearing in mind the role of business in social and economic development of society, the threat of disasters to businesses, and the benefits of disaster preparedness, it is clear that businesses can play an important role in saving losses from disasters to their own assets as well as those of the community.

Opportunities to Support Disaster Preparedness in Vietnam

In recognition of the importance of the business sector to the socio-economic development of Vietnam, and the significant set backs that

disasters impact on both businesses and the sustainable socio-economic development of Vietnam, businesses can support disaster preparedness in any of the following manner by:

- promoting the safety of employees through disaster preparedness and awareness raising activities,
- supporting and improve the education of the community in which most of employees reside and businesses are located through community preparedness programs,
- support community-based disaster preparedness in most vulnerable and poor communities in disaster prone regions in the country as part of a company's corporate social responsibility initiative.
- formation of business alliance to enhance awareness of business sector on disaster risks and how to reduce to reduce economic losses to the business sector as well as to support national risk reduction initiatives.

Supporting Disaster Preparedness Through Raising Employee and Local Awareness of Disaster Risks

Taking into account that 40% of businesses that have been suffered disaster impacts never recover, emphasizes that the key to surviving and recovering from adverse catastrophes is for businesses to exercise disaster preparedness through a business contingency plan.

Part of this plan should incorporate an emergency response procedure which seeks first and foremost to ensure the safety of employees. This entails raising employee awareness of disaster risks by alerting them to potential hazards both at and outside the workplace.

At the work place, successful implementation of these emergency response procedures requires active involvement of the employees in the development of the plans and procedures. This approach recommends that employees participate in:

- Identifying hazards, risks and vulnerabilities,
- Analyzing the nature of risks,
- Development of emergency response plans (e.g. procedures and evacuation plans),
- Implementing risk reduction measures (e.g. the establishment of an emergency team),

- Advocating the benefits of disaster preparedness through awareness raising activities, and
- Monitoring and evaluation

Employees also face hazard risks outside of the workplace and in order minimize disruption to employee attendance during or after natural hazard events, it is important to ensure that employees are aware of disaster risks and have the mechanism to cope with these risks. As with the participation of employees in the preparation of the emergency response procedures, their involvement in their local disaster management plans should be encouraged.

Building the capacity of employees to cope with potential disasters increases their resilience and empowers them to manage disaster risks both at and outside the workplace (e.g. in their homes). These employees can serve as important advocates of disaster preparedness and act as leaders within their communities, transferring their capacity to their relatives and neighbors.

Likewise, this initiative can be expanded to include the local community in which employees reside or where the business is located to minimize impacts that might disrupt or lead to prolonged suspension daily operations and the local markets, ensuring the stability of the local economic environment.

Supporting Disaster Resilient Communities

Community-based disaster risk management (CBDRM) is a process in which at risk communities are actively engaged in the identification, analysis, treatment, monitoring and evaluation of disaster risks in order to reduce their vulnerabilities and enhance their capacities. This means that people are in the heart of decision making and implementation of disaster risk management activities. The involvement of most vulnerable social groups is considered as paramount in this process, while the support of the least vulnerable groups is necessary.

Disaster risk management at the local-level helps people form an understanding of the risks that may occur in their community by creating

an environment to initiate discussions on their vulnerability. It enhances the capacity and self-reliance of the communities by providing them with a step by step process to identify community risks, assess and acknowledge their inherent capacities, select appropriate preparedness and mitigation actions and establish mechanisms to put risk reduction actions into practice. It also acts to create awareness amongst people to take ownership and responsibility, to advocate and lobby for risk reduction activities and mobilize the community.

In recognition of these circumstances, local and international NGOs and a small number of UN and donor agencies in South East Asia have been supporting the communities at the grass roots level by strengthening their capacity on disaster risk management. The benefit of this approach derives from the active involvement of at risk communities in the identification, analysis, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of disaster risks. The approach aims to empower the communities to undertake pro-active local action to reduce vulnerabilities and cope with and respond to disasters, thus ensuring the sustainability of national disaster risk reduction initiatives. Community based disaster risk management approach has close linkages with the sustainable livelihoods framework. Thus, the CBDRM approach contributes significantly towards poverty reduction and improving the overall wellbeing of target groups.

Opportunities to Support CBDRM Initiatives in Vietnam

1. Director Support to Disaster Prone Communities (See Community Profiles)
2. Supporting Local and National Disaster Reduction Organizations (See Exhibition by Participating NGOs)

Examples of Activities:

- Establishment of a community-based early warning system through the provision of appropriate communication and warning equipment as well as equipment for emergency response,
- Translation and dissemination of public awareness materials and activities, (e.g. school competitions and conduct of evacuation drills),

- Supporting Media involvement and reporting on Disaster Risk Management initiatives,
- Forums for local communities and organizations to share experiences, and
- Representation in the National Platform for Disaster Reduction to ensure involvement in decision-making processes

Formation of a Business Alliance for Disaster Reduction

The formation of a business alliance for disaster reduction can serve purposes that are mutually beneficial to the private sector as well as the community at large. These include:

1. The establishment of a common platform for the business community to reduce the impacts of disaster risks to businesses and the economic environment, and
2. The establishment of a mechanism to facilitate the effective and responsive involvement of the private sector in national relief, recovery and preparedness efforts.

Potential business alliances would seek to:

- Galvanize organizations representing the business community,
- Establish the formation of enduring multi-sectoral partnerships,
- Formalized a mandate which outlines a clear role in which businesses can play, and
- Ensure representation in decision-making process

Reducing the Impact of Disasters on Businesses

Reducing the impact of disasters on business entails the adoption of a comprehensive, proactive approach that focuses on disaster preparedness and mitigation initiatives. This includes:

- Creation of a venue to raise and enhance awareness of disaster risk to businesses through information sharing on topics such as the location/siting of facilities, its design and construction and the development of business contingency plans,
- Provision of technical assistance in the development of disaster preparedness plans for implementation,
- Advocating for the development and implementation of policies such as building

codes and standards, land-use planning and incentives for mitigation,

- Transferring awareness to the supply chain (e.g. Small and Medium Enterprises) through the provision of pre-disaster mitigation loans
- Initiate and publish research on disaster mitigation for the business community
- Training and capacity building for employees, communities, civil society organizations, local government,
- Establishing a Business Disaster Reduction Trust Fund through fund raising activities to finance disaster mitigation efforts of businesses, particularly small business and key economic assets; fund economic recovery of small businesses and key economic assets; support risk transfer mechanisms; and fund national disaster response (rescue and relief) initiatives, and
- Preparation of a long-term action plan including the establishment of a think tank of business leaders, conduct of consultations with all stakeholders, and preparation and implement of a collaborative corporate action plan for programs, projects and advocacy.

Examples of this exist in different countries; e.g. Corporate Disaster Response Network (CDRN) Philippines, and the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation in India (ICICI).

Direct Support of National Disaster Reduction Initiatives

Bearing in mind the wealth of resources within and available to the business community, direct private sector support to national disaster reduction initiatives must not be overlooked. The formation of a Business Alliance for Disaster Reduction can also serve as a mechanism to facilitate the effective and responsive involvement of the private sector in national relief, recovery and preparedness efforts.

In disaster response (relief and recovery), activities could include the provision of personnel, logistical support, supply of building materials, technology, management, coordination of distribution of relief goods and efforts in coordination with national disaster management practitioners based in the disaster stricken areas, disaster monitoring, volunteer mobilization during emergencies, formation of disaster volunteer teams, publication

of emergency response guidelines, conduct of donors' forum, and the provision of food and non-relief items.

Examples of Potential Activities in Vietnam

1. Business Representation in the Disaster Management Working Group

The Disaster Management Working Group in Vietnam is comprised of government, UN agencies, local, regional and international non-government organizations and members of the donor community who are active stakeholders in managing disaster risks in Vietnam. Established through an initiative of the United Nations Development Program in Vietnam, it serves as a unique platform for disaster risk management practitioners. Monthly meetings are held and regular e-mail alerts

Benefits derived from membership in the Disaster Management Working Group include access to expertise in disaster preparedness (e.g. Direct information provided by the World Health Organization on Avian Flu and other communicable diseases.) and up to date information on disaster impacts and relief and recovery efforts.

2. Formation of a Business Alliance for Disaster Reduction

The important role played by business in Vietnam to the socio-economic development of the country is well recognized and acknowledged through the business sector involvement in the revision of the socio-economic plan for Vietnam. As such, initiatives have been undertaken to increase their involvement through the signing of the co-operation agreement on Private Sector Liaison Officer (PSLO) program in Vietnam with the World Bank Group to help the business community, especially the private sector, as well as to attract the involvement of enterprises to development and poverty reduction issues.

The formation of a Business Alliance for Disaster Reduction would be a substantial contribution to this initiative as disaster reduction is a

crucial component of development and poverty alleviation agenda. The formation of such an alliance would involve the organization of a stakeholder consultation to formally establish the Alliance and determine organizational structure, Terms of Reference and potential support mechanisms.

The three pillars of a democratic society - the government, the market and civil society- have respective strengths and limitations. Disasters put the resilience of each one to the test. Operating alone, each one would have limited chances of success. Operating together increases the chance of success substantially.

The Contribution of the Philippine National Red Cross in Capacity Building for Disaster Management in Vulnerable Communities in Partnership with the Local Government Units in the Philippines

Ms Emmeline U Managbanag, RN
National Field Representative
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PNRC Philippines

> **T**he Philippine National Red Cross holds a very strong foundation with regard to developing and implementing disaster management program. The Mandate that governs its existence speaks truly of the confidence bestowed upon by the government.

Over the years, the organization has evolved from not just being a relief agency but rather to a more proactive, development oriented institution that caters beyond providing relief and looks forward in instilling sense of self-reliance among its clientele and helps in the pursue of a sustainable community development. That is why, innovative approaches and strategies have been developed by the organization in pursuit to such objective.

For the past eleven years, PNRC has endeavored to develop tools and guidelines and this is evidenced by the ICDPP which has emerged from being a special project to a Model for community-based approach in disaster management.

The ICDPP, becoming a model of the PNRC in developing and implementing community-based disaster management program had been very helpful in the implementation of our programs in many communities not just in the Philippines but now also in other countries.

The first special project after ICDPP that followed the successes and adhered to the suggested guidelines in CBDM (CBDRM) project implementation was the CBDP Project with funding support from DIPECHO through the Spanish Red Cross Society.

With the latest CBDM program under DIPECHO and SRC, the PNRC has worked successfully in the following areas in partnership with their respective Local Government Units. To wit:

1. Province of Camarines Sur –
Municipality of Sangay
Municipality of Caramoan
Municipality of Siruma
2. Province of Antique -
Municipality of Hamtic
Municipality of Sibalom

Nature of Work on capacity building of the local government

1. Training and organization of the Barangay Disaster Action Teams (BDATs)

The BDATs are community volunteers elected by the community through community assemblies and they undergo a comprehensive Community Disaster Management Course that includes disaster management orientation, hazard mapping and analysis, planning for disaster mitigation and first aid.

The BDAT serves as the partners of the Barangay Disaster Coordinating Council (a government body) in the implementation various disaster management programs in the community. In the long run, they are expected to assist in the planning and implementation of disaster mitigation projects, respond to emergency situations in the community, and conduct local community training in first aid and hazard awareness in partnership with their respective LGU.

2. Implementation of community preparedness and mitigation projects

The BDATs and the BDCC work together in identifying vulnerable areas and identify risk and plan out possible actions to reduce

threats. Locally produced hazard maps are utilized by the communities in the planning process. The agreed plan is transformed into Project Proposals.

In our DIPECHO Project with the provinces/ municipalities identified above, funding was provided to address their need for structural mitigation projects. It was beyond the expectation of the project to generate support of around 20% to 40% of the total cost of the mitigation projects and these were treated as LGU counterpart. The counter-parting did not solely come in the form of financial allocation but also it included technical as well as manpower support from the engineers and other community members.

3. Development of the Barangay Disaster Action Plan (BDAP)

Part of the roles and functions of the BDAT is to develop the BDAP in close coordination with the BDCC and in consultation with the communities. The BDAP encompasses the various disaster response and preparedness activities that communities will have to implement. By virtue of a Resolution, the BDAP becomes an integral part of the overall Barangay Development Plan as well as the Municipal Development Plan.

4. Development, printing and distribution of information, education campaign materials like flyers, brochures, posters and flip charts

Analysis of the Ownership and Integration of CBDRR into Local Government System

Initial steps undertaken in the implementation of CBDM in the communities include ground preparation or the so-called social preparation by the project staff. They arrange coordination meetings among all stakeholders including the LGU to present the project, its' components, the benefits, the expectations as well as the challenges. The partnership between the communities, LGU and the PNRC is forged into a Memorandum of Understanding stating the responsibilities of each participating unit/ agency.

There exist a strong involvement and participation among the three entities, from the initial planning stage, to the actual implementation of the program components, to monitoring, supervision and evaluation of the project inputs and outputs. At the last stage of the project implementation, sustainability plans are put in place and the management of the various project components are turned over to the LGU and communities for sustenance.

CBDRR measures are integrated in the over-all development planning. DRR in the country has become fundamental even in the formulation and passage of new laws in the Philippines.

Financial Sustainability of the CBDRR Work in the Local Government

CBDRR remains to be a challenge to all of us, both in the context of governance and Red Cross as an advocate to this. The accompanying requirement to make CBDRR is overwhelming. While the need for financial allocation for some major services in the country including health, education, infrastructure and poverty alleviation are still unmet, the financial requirement to advance the agenda on CBDRR will be something we need to work hard for, much more, get commitment from the LGU to allocate funds to address the need for risk reduction. However, initial steps can be done now like institutionalizing CBDRR. This can be dealt as a take off point for all of us who are involved in the DM practice.

Activities/initiatives Undertaken by the Local Government Units to Provide Assistance to Communities in DRR

The LGU has so many support institutions which they can mobilize. Social support funds are earmarked and are disbursed under the prerogative of the leaders, either by the President, Senators, Congressmen, Governors as well as the Local Chief Executives (LCEs).

The General Appropriations Act of the Government provides a leeway for community leaders to allocate funds for risk reduction programs. Social Development Funds also exist under the discretion of the LCEs.

In our experience with our DIPECHO projects especially in the province of Antique, the Provincial Governor and the LCEs of the project municipalities approved the release of financial counterpart to support the community mitigation projects which came from the Social Development Fund/Social Action Fund.

The mitigation projects include the construction of a protection wall to prevent erosion, drainage canal, and hanging foot bridge.

In the province of Camarines Sur, the mitigation projects that were put in place with the funds from DIPECHO include the construction of Evacuation Center cum Multi-purpose Center, sea wall extension and landslide protection wall.

All these projects generated financial counterpart ranging from 20 to 40 percent of the total project cost.

Integrating CBDRM into Local Government's Development Strategy, A Field Experience of IIDP in Indonesia

Ms Chandra Lukitasari
IIDP Indonesia

> Background

CBDRM - PRBBM has become the flagship program of the Indonesian Institute for Disaster Preparedness (IIDP) in the last three years, because of the following reasons: 1) Indonesia is one of the disaster prone areas in the region (natural and man made as well). There are increasing number of disaster events all over the country; 2) Community roles in the disaster response have been found to be ignored or less involved; 3) From past experiences, it was evident that the government lacked the capacity and coordination in many disaster responses 4) IIDP believes that the community should be put upfront in any disaster event as they are the ones who understand their area in terms of risk and existing capacities. Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) is one of the best strategy to dig up community potentialities and develop their capacity in disaster response and proven to be effective in changing of paradigm in disaster response management of both community and the government. CBDRM can be used to increase community responsibility in disaster mitigation and risks reductions at the same time changing government attitude from response to preparedness and from government to community centric.

In the last couple of years, IIDP, in collaboration with multi-stakeholders i.e. BAKORNAS PB, IOM,

ECHO/DIPECHO and ADPC has put intensive efforts in mainstreaming CBDRM in Indonesia and integrating CBDRM into local government policy and development strategy. Mainstreaming efforts are important but not effective without integrating CBDRM into common development program of government especially the local levels (districts and provinces). Based on IIDP experiences in mainstreaming and integrating CBDRM into the local government development strategy, here is some lessons to be learnt.

Key elements to integrate & sustain CBDRM

In order to integrate and sustain CBDRM into the local government policy and strategy, several key elements are required, i.e general issues, planning aspects, programming and financial aspects.

The following are the important requirements:

1. Clear concept and strategy. What and why CBDRM are two basic issues that need further clarification to make people and government easier to understand and buy in the concept and strategy
2. Simple and applicable methodology. So far CBDRM methodology has been very large and comprehensive that difficult to be understood and applied. So, simplification of the methodology needs to be done to make it applicable.
3. In order to effectively effect to the local government, there is important to receive political supports from relevant National Government Institution (s) i.e BAKORNAS, BAPPENAS, Ministry of Home Affairs, Social Affairs, etc. Therefore important to as much as possible involving one of the National Government Institution in the Orientation workshop and other activities. However to get their support, we need to convince them about the importance of involving the community putting them at the frontline of disaster response and preparedness.
4. Further steps at the planning stage are among others to discuss the concept and strategy with National Institution (s) to get political supports & recommendations, at the same time simultaneously we need to obtain commitment and financial support indications from a donor because we can not expect or rely government at this early stage. Once IIDP got political supports and funding commitment, begin to approach the local government and explain about CBDRM
5. Involve the local government officials in all phase of the programs (Identification of location, selection of participants, the venue, etc). After the high level officials give green-lights, further technical discussion conducted to develop plan & strategy. IIDP act as a facilitator.
6. Make the local government as the organizer and the one responsible on implementation. (it took a longer time and require additional funds that sometimes did not included in the approved budget). SO we need to begin with an orientation workshop for decision and policy makers, continued with TOT for government officials. (To get political supports and buying in of local leaders to the concept and strategy, and to ensure availability of gov't facilitators involvement in further activities)
7. To sustain the CBDRM implementation, as much as possible involving the local facilitators in the training/workshop, to ensure their sense of belonging to the program and develop new initiatives to make the people is easier to understand CBDRM (cards, games, drawing competitions, etc). At the same time keeps IIDP as facilitator & supporter, maintain quality standard and provide help if needed.
8. In the financial aspect we do not have to provide everything; the local government should be requested to contribute in kind as well as cash. For example: venue and facilities, pocket money or transportation. Also important to get flexibility from donor to change activities or components agreed in the proposal to suit the local situation and conditions.
9. We need to be open and transparent about financial matters (fund availability, allocations, donor requirements etc). The local government is happy to provide support when they really know what is provided. Be ready to provide pre-financing as many times the donor funds are late, especially if the project/ activities involve big amount of money. (be aware about administrative requirements and bureaucracy).

10. There is a tendency for short term commitment from donor(s). We need to develop a comprehensive strategy and openly propose to several donors, let them choose how they will take part. For example: Orientation, TOT for gov't officials & grassroots level supported by IOM while training for children & youth, Satlak Nias and South Nias supported by Save the Children.

The challenges :

There are two main challenges in mainstreaming and integrating CBDRM into the local government policy and programming, i.e. change of paradigm and fulfilling immediate needs

The paradigms need to be changed are:

- From Conventional to Holistic Paradigm
- From Responsive to Prevention
- From Reactive to Pro-active
- From Relief approach to Mitigation
- From Centralization to Decentralization
- From Government Based to Community Based (CBDRM!)

While the Immediate needs to be fulfilled are:

- Decentralization of Disaster / Emergency Management, by :
 - Change of paradigms (as stated in previous slide)
 - Strengthen Local Institution (SATKORLAK at Province and SATLAK at District levels)
 - Improve capacity and skills of Human Resources
 - Infrastructure and equipment
- Revitalize Institutional Structure on Disaster Management at levels (coordination vs organization). Presidential Instruction no 83 year 2005, changed the nature (more organization than coordination), the structure (3 Deputies plus Secretary) and the coordination mechanism (more operational with higher authority)
- Formulation of Disaster / Emergency Management Law. (In the process, Legislature using the initiative rights with support of NGOs i.e. MPBI)

IIDP's programs on CBDRM

Having the requirements and considering the challenges and immediate needs mentioned

above, IIDP has developed a comprehensive program strategy which consists of :

1. Training and Orientation workshops
2. Technical Assistance and facilitation on risk assessments and development of contingency plans
3. Publications and development of modules and related materials

Training and orientation workshops

Trainings and workshops are one of the key activities in socializing CBDRM, and is the first step in convincing the multi-stakeholders on CBDRM. Hence, IIDP developed various modules for different audiences, such as:

1. Orientation for Policy and Decision Makers (High rank government officers, members of Parliaments,

Leaders of NGOs and Board of Directors of Private Sectors). The aims of the workshop are: a). Develop same understanding among of the local leaders on the importance of CBDRM implementation in their respective areas. b) Mainstreaming CBDRM into local governance (government, civil society and private sectors) policy and operationalization of Disaster Management. c) To get commitment among of the local stakeholders towards implementation of CBDRM

Why is orientation to the policy and decision makers important?

- a. CBDRM concept and strategy is relatively new for the executive and legislative in Indonesia and many of them do not really understand the basic principles, concept and strategy, and the advantages of implementation of CBDRM
- b. Greater needs to shift paradigm of the disaster management. In general GOI implementing centralized, responsive, reactive, government centric/based, piecemeal and relief oriented approaches.
- c. Budgeting procedures: The Executive develop programs and propose to Legislative for approval (Nat'l, Provincial and District levels). So, mainstreaming should be done for both Executive and Legislative.

2. Training of Trainers for Local Facilitators and Local Government Officials, specifically for Disaster Management Coordination office at Provincial and District levels (Satkorlak and Satlak)
 3. CBDRM training at the grassroots level
- Key Issues and recommendations:
1. Concept and methodology. As a new concept, CBDRM was not widely shared yet to various government institutions at all levels. We need to explain and explain
 2. Differences of paradigm. Nowadays paradigm shift is undertaking at various government institutions but not well organized. We need to convince and convince
 3. Approaches. There are differences of approaches between NGO and government. The government tend to focus on the inputs and event to be conducted while NGOs tend to observe the effects and outcomes. Both approaches are important to be observed
 4. Structure and Bureaucracy. Under the decentralization era, each local government has flexibility to set up their structure, type and number of sectors. This un-uniform sectors sometimes create confusion when an NGO would like to deal with disaster management in a local government
 5. Funding mechanism. The government and NGO/donor has different funding mechanism that sometimes difficult to combine it. We need to really careful in setting up a shared costs mechanism where both government and NGO provides funding for a collaborative event/activity.
 6. Implementation strategy. In many cases, government labeled their activities with "CBDRM" but when we carefully checked the contains and substance, many non-CBDRM component take up more time than I should be. For example, a TOT of CBDRM combined with technical training on accountability and reporting of national budget, etc.
 7. Sustainability. This is a term that easy to say but difficult to achieve it. There is no automatic formula to ensure CBDRM program is sustainable, though government buying in the concept and actively involved in all stages (planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation) even when they used their own money.
- IIDP expects that these lessons learned will be useful to improve effectiveness of mainstreaming and integrating CBDRM into local government development goal and strategy. There are many rooms for improvement of CBDRM concept and strategy.

Safer Community Plans: Integrating Disaster Mitigation into Local Development Planning

> Introduction

Ms Kathleen McLaughlin
CECI Vietnam

The 2004 Tsunami heightened awareness of the extreme vulnerability of populations living in dense and often poor conditions along coastal areas in many countries of Asia. With its long coastline and proximity to the typhoon center of the Western Pacific, Vietnam has long been one of the most disaster prone countries in the world. Between 1994 and 2004, more than 6000 people lost their lives to disasters, and total capital losses reached \$2.4 billion US. The over-exploitation of natural resources, loss of natural protection from erosion along coasts and riverbanks, and sea level rise is increasing vulnerability to natural disasters every year.

In its Comprehensive Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy (equivalent of PRSP), the government identified repeated disasters as a major constraint to economic development and a cause for continuing cycle of poverty for vulnerable populations. The government's Second National Strategy for Disaster Management (2001-2010) emphasizes the link between disasters, poverty and sustainable development. It sets out strategic directions for a comprehensive approach, which include improving community awareness and local participation to promote disaster-safe communities.

These strategic directions set a policy framework conducive to community-based approaches and mainstreaming disaster mitigation. However, in order to move beyond the policy level it is necessary to have models for implementing community-based approaches to disaster mitigation that consider the capacity levels and responsibilities of different levels of government. In its programming in Central Vietnam, CECI, in partnership with the Vietnamese government and different international organizations, has developed an model, centered around “Safer Community Plans”, which aims to build capacity of communities and local government to integrate risk reduction into local development planning. This paper will describe this process as it has been applied in different projects across three provinces. It will present some of the lessons learned, and propose recommendations for how to advance on mainstreaming disaster mitigation into development planning.

Project Overview

The major flood in Central Vietnam in 1999 increased awareness of government, communities, NGOs and donors of the need for longer-term strategies for disaster mitigation that moved beyond the concept of ‘preparedness’ to more comprehensive approaches to reducing vulnerability to poverty and disaster risks. In this context, CECI initiated the project Capacity-building for Adaptation to Climate Change (CACC) financed under CIDA’s Canada Climate Change Development Fund (see Annex 1 for project details).

The goal of this project was to: Strengthen capacity of communities, local government and policy-makers to plan and implement community-based anticipatory adaptation strategies through disaster preparedness and integration of risk reduction and mitigation into local development planning.

Community-based disaster management emphasizes the importance for communities to analyze disaster risks within the context of their vulnerability to poverty and experience of other types of shocks. The CACC project introduced a model for ‘safer community planning’, which combined training on disaster risk awareness

with participatory techniques for development planning. Essentially, the project provided a framework for local governments and village members to work together to assess their vulnerability to natural disasters and other factors of poverty and to plan solutions based on their own priorities and existing capacities.

This model has been replicated in two other follow-up projects: the Water Disaster Risk Reduction project in Danang and Binh Dinh and the Enhancing Human Security and the Environment through Disaster Management project (see Annex 1 for project details). CECI also provided technical assistance to other international organizations such as CARE and the World Bank to extend the model across other disaster mitigation initiatives.

Safer Community Planning

The aim of the approach is to initiate a process for communities to decide priorities that would reduce their risks and improve their overall livelihood conditions. The steps are the following:

1. Capacity development needs assessment at district and commune level to develop training on CBDRM that complements existing knowledge and systems.
2. Vulnerability assessment in target communes and villages with involvement of local officials.
3. Development of local government training plan which includes: CBDRM, Environmental Assessment, Project Management, Financial Management, and sector-related training in extension, hygiene and other related areas.
4. Recruitment and capacity assessment of local trainers to facilitate hazard, vulnerability, capacity assessment and ‘safer community planning’ at the village level.
5. Establishment of a fund to co-finance priorities identified in safer community plans. The criteria, decision-making process and system for fixing allocations are developed with a committee of local government partners.
6. Facilitation of safer community planning by local trainers with monitoring and refresher training by the project team.
7. Review of safer community plans by commune authorities and submission of compiled commune-level plans to a local

government committee established for the fund management.

8. Committee meetings to allocate CAF, commune and district funds to priorities identified in the safer community plans.
9. Completion of government approval and feasibility analyses, project environmental analyses, and other steps to implement activities identified in the plans.
10. Implementation of activities in partnership with district, commune officials and village development groups.
11. Ongoing training in areas relevant to safer community plans: emergency response drills, disaster preparedness plans, disaster resistant building techniques, environmental management, hygiene, land-use planning, and extension training on techniques for reducing crop loss and diversifying livelihood activities.

Safer Community Plans are developed as a comprehensive plan for the local area that prioritizes actions for reducing risks to natural disasters. It include the following sections:

1. Situation assessment
 - Basic socio-economic data
 - Hazard assessment
2. Emergency Response/Disaster Preparedness Plan
3. Infrastructure Development Plan: existing resources and planned improvements.
4. Social organizations, capacity assessment and training needs
5. Safer Production Plan
 - Agriculture / Aquaculture: situation analysis and planned improvements
 - Current land-use and planned land-use changes
6. Priority Actions for Investment

The actions prioritized by communities and local government for funding through this process reflect their overall needs for livelihood improvement. As well as more traditional 'disaster preparedness and mitigation' investments such as emergency equipment, shelters, repairing dykes and embankments, the projects have funded inter-village roads, drainage and irrigation, water and sanitation, pre-schools, and extension training. However, all investments must be linked

to risk reduction. For example:

- Inter-village roads lead to safer areas and are part of an evacuation plan.
- Latrines are designed to prevent spread of waste during floods.
- Technical assistance on disaster resistant techniques are provided for the design of roads, bridges and schools.
- Schools are constructed on higher ground or are two-story to promote safety of children and to act as shelters during emergencies.

The aim is to demonstrate the importance of integrating measures for risk reduction into local development activities and to provide tools, techniques and building-practices for risk reduction that are designed within the local context.

The replication of this model within the Water Disaster Risk Reduction project in Danang and Binh Dinh, lead by UNDP and provincial authorities, piloted another innovation in promoting community-based disaster mitigation. The WDRR project financed a number of structural disaster mitigation investments (upgrading dyke systems, sluice gates, repairing irrigation canals). At the same time, the project included a non-structural component on community-based disaster management with technical assistance from CECI.

The WDRR project demonstrates to communities and provincial and local government officials the advantages of investing in both structural and non-structural solutions to disaster management. The province, districts and communes have been encouraged to invest their resources in activities from the safer community plans to reinforce the impact of the structural projects in reducing risks of vulnerable communities. At the same time, communities are being mobilized to play a role in the operation and maintenance of the structural projects to ensure that these investments in their safety are maintained in proper condition.

In all of these activities, the aim is to engage directly with communities and local governments to build capacity for disaster mitigation through analyzing problems and solutions within an overall community development framework. The training and planning cycles introduced by these

projects demonstrate to all stakeholders that disaster mitigation is not a separate activity but a filter for assessing, prioritizing and designing local development investments.

Challenges and Lessons Learned

In providing local governments with a central role in reviewing and allocating funds to priorities identified at the village level, the safer community planning process demonstrated how community-based disaster management could be integrated into the government planning and budgeting cycle. In general, local governments were supportive of this process because they acquired tools and resources to invest in community priorities for both disaster mitigation and poverty reduction.

However, the process encountered challenges from which a number of lessons have been drawn:

1. Responsibilities for planning, in particular for infrastructure development and land-use is divided between different levels of government. In many of these areas information flow between levels of government and down to communities is limited. In addition, practices for the use of land and natural resources does not always follow official policies and regulations. Consequently, local governments and communities are not in a position to assess and mitigate all the factors that impact on their vulnerability. The projects held a number of policy forums with other international partners to raise awareness on issues related to the impact of land-use and exploitation of natural resource on disaster mitigation. However, promoting more sustainable approaches in these areas requires greater co-ordination, transparency and accountability across government systems and between international donors and NGOs.
2. In principle, national and provincial governments endorse bottom-up planning as an essential component of the country's disaster mitigation and poverty reduction strategies. In practice, bottom-up planning is not fully institutionalized and the capacity and political will to follow this approach vary considerably across provinces, districts and communes. Demonstrating new approaches to community-disaster management builds-up political will to a certain extent but resistance to change tends to be higher where capacity for community consultation is lower. Higher levels of government need to be more directly engaged in institutionalizing participatory planning for greater consistency in approaches across local areas.
3. Building local government capacity requires training, accompaniment and providing resources that allow new skills and techniques to be applied. Local government officials need to be actively engaged in deciding their capacity development plan so that skills and training are relevant to their overall mandate and not to specific project objectives.
4. Participatory planning and CBDRM do increase the effectiveness of investments in disaster mitigation and poverty reduction. At the same time, these approaches mobilize a great deal of time and resources of both communities and local governments. In order to develop approaches that can be applied on a wide scale, techniques for analysis and planning need to be simplified as much as possible and adapted to the local context with the participation of the local trainers who will apply them. External projects need to focus on building the capacity to understand and adapt participatory tools rather than imposing fixed methodologies and approaches.
5. Despite efforts to integrate the planning process into local government systems, and building ownership around the training and planning tools, it is difficult for projects to entirely avoid the typical 'project' downfalls. Post-project evaluations from CACC have found that local trainers have had little opportunity to apply their new skills following the end of the project due to lack of resources to implement community awareness and training events. While governments invested their own resources in safer community plans during and immediately after the project, the use of these plans in prioritizing investments has gradually diminished. However, villages are still applying the disaster preparedness plans developed through the safer community planning.
6. Developing and testing techniques for reducing crop loss, improving aquaculture techniques, and diversifying income-generating activities

are key areas for reducing vulnerability to natural disasters. And yet, much of the investment of resources from these projects was allocated to infrastructure development as these activities fall most directly under local government responsibility. Vietnamese and international research centers have developed many techniques for disaster resistance cropping patterns but dissemination of these techniques through extension systems is very limited. The short-project durations were a constraint in developing more effective research linkages and extension models for reducing risks in agriculture and aquaculture production. In future, new initiatives for safer community planning must focus more on extension outreach for disaster resistant production techniques.

Future Work: Scaling-up Community-based Approaches

Five years ago experiences with community-based disaster management were relatively limited in Vietnam and piloting these models contributed to building a body of knowledge for how to implement effective approaches that could be adopted by local governments and communities. The key challenge now is to shift away from a project approach of implementing CDBRM training and investments in targeted areas to applying the lessons learned from these pilots on a wider-scale. Below are some potential paths for scaling up community-based disaster management:

Village Development Planning/Commune Development Planning: The government of Vietnam has implemented a number of administrative reforms to decentralize planning and budgeting and provide guidelines for participatory planning in line with its grassroots democracy decree. A number of international organizations have been supporting these efforts, in particular by requiring loan or grant investments to be based on Village Development Plans and Commune Development Plans. GTZ in particular has supported the government to develop and systematize tools for Participatory Rural Appraisal and preparation of VDP/CDPs that has been adapted and applied across a number of different provinces. In one mountainous province, Son

La, the provincial government decreed that all district and commune planning and investment must follow the PRA and VDP/CDP process.

A great deal more co-ordination between national and provincial governments, international donors and NGOs is needed for this participatory planning process to be efficient and to be institutionalized within more provinces. However, as this process builds momentum, it could potentially provide a mechanism for mainstreaming community-based disaster management within local development planning. The Safer Community Plan is similar to the VDP except that it promotes a risk reduction filter for deciding and designing investments. The next challenge is to integrate these tools and techniques for vulnerability assessment and risk reduction into the VDP/CDP process in disaster prone areas. Working towards this goal, will require agencies working on disaster mitigation to link more closely with the different task groups organized around institutionalizing VDP/CDPs.

Government Training Centers: The government of Vietnam does invest significant resources in training local officials and has a number of provincial training centers. Many training programs have been developed to improve local government capacity to implement targeted poverty reduction programs using participatory techniques. Rather than implement separate CDBRM training programs, more attention needs to be focused on how to integrate these tools and methods into the curriculum of government training centers for outreach to a much wider number of local government officials.

Annex 1: Project Details

Capacity-building for Adaptation to Climate Change

Objective: Strengthen capacity to plan and implement community-based anticipatory adaptation strategies through disaster preparedness and integration of risk reduction and mitigation into local development planning.

Funding: Canadian International Development Agency

Duration: 2001-2004

Budget: \$1 M

Outreach: 900 – 1000 households, 9 villages, 4 communes in 2 districts

*Water Disaster Risk Reduction in
Danang and Binh Dinh: Capacity-building
Component*

Objectives: Strengthen capacity of communities for disaster risk reduction and sustainable livelihood.

Strengthen institutional capacity for community-based planning and implementation of disaster reduction projects

Funding: UNDP/Netherlands/Luxembourg

Duration: September 2005-May 2006

Budget: \$2.4M with \$263,000 for Capacity-building Component

Outreach: 6000 HH, 67 villages/sections, 7 communes, 4 districts, 2 provinces

*Enhancing Human Security and the
Environment through Disaster Management
(with Kyoto University)*

Objectives: Analyze impacts of climate change on communities and livelihoods in Central Vietnam
Initiate grass-root interventions to enhance coping capacities as well as incorporation of disaster mitigation into local development planning

Funding: ADB Poverty & Environment Fund.

Duration: June 2005-June 2006

Budget: \$250,000

Outreach: 1200 HH, 19 villages, 3 communes in 2 districts

CECI is also working on disaster mitigation in urban areas through a partnership with ADPC for the PROMISE project from January 2006-December 2007.

Local Government Capacity Building Initiatives: CDP Philippines Experience

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> General Context

The Philippines is one of the world's disaster prone countries. The country's experience of recurring disasters is compelling the government and other stakeholders to recognize the proactive disaster management activities of preparedness, mitigation and prevention and the community based approaches in disaster risk management. Recent disaster experiences (the mudslide in Guinsaugon, St. Bernard, Southern Leyte in February 2006, the flash flood and landslides in Quezon and Aurora Provinces in November 2004, flash flood and landslides in Southern Leyte in December 2003, flooding and debris flow in Camiguin Province in November 2001) all serve as a wake- up calls for decisive policy and actions.

The Philippines has established a disaster management system which is designed to emphasize local self-reliant preparedness and emergency response. There are 41,960 barangay (village) level disaster coordinating councils (DCCs) supposedly organized under 1,494 municipalities and 116 cities in 80 provinces and 16 regions all over the Philippines. At the national level, the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) is the highest policymaking, coordinating, and supervising body for disaster management in the country. The NDCC operates through its

member-agencies and its local networks, which are the regional and local DCCs. However, most of the DCCs at various levels are still focused on emergency response, and are not functional for preparedness, and more so for mitigation. Please refer to Fig. 1 on the Philippine Disaster Management System.

Although the Philippines is generally recognized as having a head start in community based disaster risk management (CBDRM) compared to other countries in the region, there is still so much to be done to put community based community disaster preparedness and mitigation on-the-ground. A study conducted by CARE Philippines on Current Disaster Management Practice and Opportunities for Strengthening Local Capacities in the Philippines noted that only 40% of the barangays (villages) had been given one-off disaster management-related training.

To mainstream local and community based disaster management, NGOs like the Center for Disaster Preparedness Foundation Inc. (CDP) have to work with government in developing capacities in CBDRM. Government has the primary responsibility for the wellbeing of its citizens, including safety and equitable and sustainable development. While NGOs exit from the communities after its disaster risk management project or program, local government is integral to the life of the community. Also many vulnerabilities cannot be addressed by communities alone and are linked to those of other communities and the higher levels of the Philippine disaster management system. In the final analysis, government has the mandate, the structure, and the resources to integrate CBDRM into the local development planning system and processes.

CDP is one of the champions for promoting and developing CBDRM. CDP takes the stand that capacity building in disaster management is essential to initiate, sustain, mainstream and replicate CBDRM. Therefore, CDP helps build capacity in CBDRM mainly through training, course and materials development, and interactive learning activities. Although CDP has more experience in working directly with at-risk communities and NGOs, CDP now sees

the need to support government in training in CBDRM. A recent engagement in CBDRM with local government units in Camiguin Province (at the northern tip of Mindanao) is now used as a model in CDP's local government capacity building initiatives.



Figure 1. Philippines Disaster Management System

Enhancing Local Government Capacity in CBDRM in Camiguin Province

The island province of Camiguin (one of the 7,100 islands comprising the Philippines archipelago) was devastated by flooding and debris flow caused by Typhoon Nanang (international name Lingling) on 6-8 November 2001. The flood claimed 166 lives (excluding 84 declared missing), injured 146 persons and affected some 7,172 families. Damage to settlements, agriculture and infrastructure was placed to at least Php201 million. The damage incurred was comparable to the Mt. Hibok-Hibok eruption in the volcano island in 1951.

Typhoon Nanang disaster served as a wake-up call to build local and community capacity in disaster preparedness and mitigation. To prevent another repeat of the Typhoon Nanang disaster, the "Enhancing Local Government Capacities in Disaster Preparedness, Prevention and Rehabilitation Project" was undertaken by the 5 municipal and the provincial government of Camiguin from April 2002 – May 2003 together with CDP and the Canada-Philippine Local

Government Support Program. The project sought to enhance the level of knowledge, skills and attitude of the local government officers on the concept, process and tools of local and community based disaster preparedness and mitigation. The trained municipal and provincial officers (called Municipal Technical Working Group and Provincial Technical Working Group composed of mostly officers of the Planning and Development, Health, Agriculture, Social Welfare and Development) were expected to assist one pilot barangay in each of the 5 municipalities in CBDRM training.

The CDP staff mentored the Provincial and Municipal Technical Working Groups as they conducted community risk assessment and counter disaster/disaster management planning workshops in one barangay per municipality - Barangay Hubangon of Mahinog, Barangay Baylao of Mambajao, Barangay Bonbon of Sagay, Barangay Looc of Catarman, and Barangay North Poblacion of Guinsiliban. At the barangay level, the village officials, community organizations and residents participated in CBDRM capacity building activities facilitated mainly by the provincial and municipal officers. The 3-4 days community risk assessment (hazard vulnerability capacity assessment) workshop was capped with community validation, a visioning exercise of a safe and developed community, and identification of do-able disaster preparedness and mitigation measures to undertake. The counter-disaster/disaster management planning workshops resulted in the reactivation and reorganization of the local disaster coordinating councils and an action plan for flood level monitoring, community early warning system, safe evacuation centers and small mitigation measures.

Aside from training workshop, the project included a study tour of the local government officers to Legaspi, Albay and Guagua, Pampanga in Luzon to share and learn from these local government units which are recognized as good practices in local and community level disaster management.

CDP was given another opportunity to assist the local government units of Camiguin Province in capacity building in disaster management with the implementation of the "Basic Study on Non-

Structural Disaster Prevention Measures for Camiguin Province" from April 2004 to January 2005. The Study was implemented by CDP in partnership with Pacific Consultants International - Philippines and with the Earth System Science Co. Ltd. as Study Adviser through the Department of Public Works and Highways and Japan International Cooperation Agency.

The objectives of the Study were to:

1. Strengthen disaster prevention capacities of the Provincial Disaster Coordinating Council/ Municipal DCC/Barangay DCCs
2. Increase the level of local people awareness of disaster prevention
3. Establish a simple and effective disaster prevention procedure
4. Establish a monitoring system
5. Initiate a sustainability activity on training

The Study activities and outputs included:

1. Social survey and Institutional study for baseline data on level of public awareness, current disaster management practice and areas for strengthening;
2. Flood and debris flow hazard mapping for 5 municipalities, integrated hazard map for the province, and large scale hazard maps for 5 high-risk barangays;
3. Formulation of warning and evacuation criteria that will guide decision makers and vulnerable communities during call for evacuation, setting evacuation routes and evacuation centers for people at risk;
4. Local hazard monitoring (arrangements with the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration to provide special forecast to the Provincial Disaster Coordinating Council; provision of rain gauges to each of the 5 Municipal Disaster Coordinating Council, watching of river conditions at the Barangay Disaster Coordinating Council level);
5. Public awareness materials and activities (community dialogues, posters, pamphlets, warning boards);
6. Early warning system (siren, fax machine, radio base and handheld radios with power generator back-up, megaphones for the barangay, bandillo, provision of advisory and

- warning by going house-to-house, ringing of church and school bells)
7. Barangay flash flood and debris flow warning and evacuation plan;
 8. Table top disaster simulation exercises involving the Provincial Disaster Coordinating Council with the Municipal Disaster Coordinating Council and Barangay Disaster Coordinating Council;
 9. Community evacuation drill in Barangay Hubangon in the Municipality of Mahinog to test the warning and evacuation system set up with the Province, Municipal and Barangay levels and increase the confidence of the people in implementing the Barangay Flash Flood and Debris Flow Warning and Evacuation Plan;
 10. Disaster prevention manual as guide for the Disaster Coordinating Councils in Camiguin in the procedures and system established in the Study;
 11. Disaster prevention training for the local government units and for communities on how to use the disaster prevention manual – on hazard monitoring, warning and evacuation criteria, system and procedures, disaster simulation and drill, formulating disaster prevention plan;
 12. Barangay flash flood and debris flow disaster prevention planning; and
 13. Training of trainers on flashflood and debris flow disaster prevention

From the hazard map of Camiguin Province indicating unsafe and safe areas (red: areas highly prone to debris flow and flash floods; blue: areas highly prone to flash flood and moderately prone to debris flow; yellow: areas prone to debris flows and flash floods in case of change in channel route), barangay level hazard maps were drawn by the Barangay officials and community residents. The barangay hazard maps were basis for Barangay Warning and Evacuation Plans.

A 4-stages warning and evacuation system was formulated to guide decision making and actions to take – Standby, Alert, Preparatory, Evacuation (SAPE can also be pronounced as SAFE to remind all that evacuation should be undertaken before flood waters reach the communities to

ensure “zero casualty”). The trigger to be on Standby Status is given by the Provincial Disaster Coordinating Council based on the Special Forecast from the Philippine Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration. The rain gauge and radio communication equipment with the Municipal Disaster Coordinating Council is supported by river conditions monitoring c/o the Barangay Disaster Coordinating Council. The Barangay gives advisory and warning on precautionary actions to take by the communities through bandillo, house to house, use of megaphone with sirens and ringing of church bells as signal to gather at the pick-up points or evacuation center. Please refer to Fig.2 on the coordinated communication flow for early warning and evacuation system.

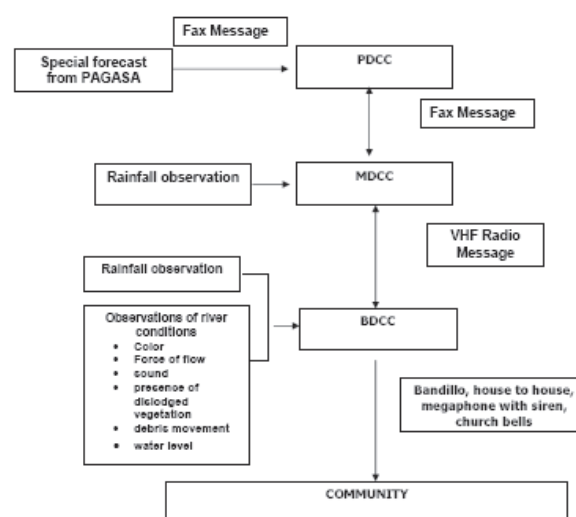


Figure 2. Capacity Building with Local Government Units in Camiguin Results in Coordinated Communication Flow in Warning and Evacuation System

Strategy of Multipliers in Capacity Building

Since face-to-face training can only reach so many of the at-risk communities, CDP develops user-friendly training manuals for use at the local and community level and makes these readily available. CDP's 4K Training Manual (Kahandaan, Katatagan at Kaunlaran ng Komunidad or Community Preparedness, Resilience and Development). is in Filipino and is used mainly by NGOs and communities.

While there are ongoing efforts for capacity building directed to local chief executives at the provincial and municipal/city government levels, disaster preparedness training at the barangay (village) level is still inadequate. Responding to challenges of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction held in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan in January 2005, CDP undertook the Integrating Disaster Risk Management in Local Governance Project with a Working Group from key disaster management agencies from the government, cited good practices in local government disaster management, and NGOs. The Working Group is composed of representatives of the Department of Interior and Local Government, Office of Civil Defense, the Municipality of Guagua and Albay Provincial Public Safety and Emergency Management Office, and NGOs (Pampanga Disaster Response Network/National Anti-Poverty Commission Disaster Victims Sector, Corporate Network for Disaster Response and CDP (as anchor organization), and Mdm. Cora Alma de Leon, Vice Chair of the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center.

The Project had 4 main objectives:

- to formulate a trainers' guide on local and community based disaster management and local governance
- to draw from good practice in local disaster management from among Philippine local government units
- combine good practices with updated concepts, framework, models in disaster management and governance (Philippines and international)
- incorporate participatory and bottom-up perspectives in disaster risk management and development planning and implementation

The output of the Project is a Facilitators' Guide and Sourcebook for Barangay Disaster Management Training Workshop. The training package is composed of 4 Modules:

- Module 1: Understanding Disaster and Disaster Management
- Module 2: Barangay Governance and Disaster Management
- Module 3: Barangay Risk Assessment
- Module 4: Barangay Risk Reduction Planning

CDP also undertook within the second half of 1004 and the whole 2005 the project on "Integrating Children Protection Rights in Local Disaster Management and Governance" in partnership with Balay Rehabilitation Center, Save the Children UK and 7 Barangays in Pikit North Cotabato. The experience of working with local government and communities to protect children in armed conflict situations can also be applied to other conflict areas in Mindanao through a training manual.

CDP was also involved in the customization of the World Bank Courses on-line through the Office of Civil Defense-National Disaster Coordinating Council, particularly the Specialized course on Community Based Disaster Management. The World Bank Course on line is availed of mostly by government personnel as well as other stakeholders.

What has CDP Gained in Working with Government in CBDRM?

- Opened venues for ventilation of community issues and dialogues for improvement of services
- Influenced government for proactive, responsive and participatory approaches in disaster risk management
- Established lines for exchange of information and resources
- Training content and materials are enriched by the studies and good practices of different government agencies
- Training workshops have been enhanced by technical inputs from government personnel
- CDP is able to use of results of disaster preparedness training with local governments in advocacy work for CBDRM

What have we learned? What are the challenges ahead?

1. Disaster risk reduction addresses development problems. It is a matter of starting points. Be open to linkages.

Implication:

- Expanding topics to cover in CBDRM training courses – gender, good governance, rights-based approach, sustainable livelihood, financing risk reduction and risk transfer mechanisms, environmental management. Belief that CBDRM works and the passion to promote CBDRM
- Multi-disciplinary training team composed of government and NGOs trainers or resource persons. A resource person from the government is effective in training government participants.

2. The complex disaster problem requires a participatory, holistic and integrated approach. Every stakeholder has something to contribute and horizontal and vertical coordination and partnerships are required.

Implication:

- Development of training module on CBDRM for particular stakeholder groups
- Formation of Technical Working Group at the Provincial/Municipal or City level to train the Barangay (village level)

3. Good governance (having strategic vision, rule of law, equity, transparency, participation, consensus building, responsiveness, effectiveness, efficiency...) and holding government accountable to the people has to be promoted.

Implication:

- Development of training module on disaster risk management and good governance

4. Engage in dialogue despite differences to meet common objectives in CBDRM

Implication:

- CBDRM Training is an opportunity to bridge mistrust between government and NGOs.

Sources

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Action Contre la Faim Flood Disaster Preparedness Project Kampong Cham - Cambodia

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Action Contre la Faim
Cambodia

> **A**ction Contre la Faim (ACF) is present in Cambodia since 1989 and has worked in Kampong Cham since 1998, with 4 Flood Disaster Preparedness projects co-funded by DipECHO and MRC, being carried out with local partners, the Provincial Red Cross (PRC), as well as the Provincial Committee of Disaster Management (PCDM).

Projects consisted of emergency flood response and preparedness projects.

Activities included:

- The set-up of a Red Cross Volunteers (RCV) network with a range of training courses
- Community Based Flood Mitigation: micro-projects
- Water supply and sanitation in external and internal safe areas
- Stockpiling of Flood Relief Emergency Kits
- Knowledge capitalization: capacity building to local authorities
- Flood Hygiene Management
- Flood Information Management: annual flood damage survey/database
- Flood Early Warning System

The overall objective is to reduce the vulnerability of flood-affected communities to flood disasters. And the specific objective is to prepare all implicated stakeholders (Cambodia institutions, local authorities, communities and Civil Society) for and to respond to Mekong flood disasters.

ACF strategy in Kampong Cham province is focussed on the irregular and exceptional annual floods, which creates a specific vulnerability independent to the fact that the province is considered as 'wealthy' in comparison to the Cambodian context. This vulnerability affects especially the poorest people, unable to rent a boat, or loosing all their goods during the flood events. Benefit of floods (alluvium) is limited in Cambodia, but the prejudice can be enormous (housing damaged, cattle and food security situation irremediably worsening, water related diseases).

The selection of this area of intervention is also justified by coordination choices (including with NCDM) and by the fact that the province is the most populated of Cambodia (which is link to the number of villages potentially affected by floods and number of vulnerable people).

The strategy proposed on 2005-2006 is the achievement of the capacity building of the PCDM, as well as a clear focus on CCDM.

The axes defined to implement this strategy are:

- Development of Local Disaster Management Structures and Planning
- Providing Flood Early Warning System
- Set up Flood information management

Since several years, ACF has developed a very good understanding of flood disaster related issues and situation within the local context. Further, good working relationships have been established with the main actors involved, the various institutions charged with disaster related responsibilities or with the local authorities and line departments.

The vulnerable communities have evolved various coping mechanisms for both normal and exceptional seasonal flooding. The main option is for families to re-locate to Safe Area, from 1 week to several months, depending on the extent of the flood and the situation of household and village. The decision to stay or move is crucial to save properties and lives and any movement of persons and property consumes vital household income. Thus, development of a flood Early Warning System which can assist people in

making such decisions appeared as one priority for local stakeholders.

Projects are conducted in close co-operation with both key national DM partners in order to build capacity and ownership of the programme in future. Activities are focussed on sustainable, cost effective activities that through providing information and skills to flood prone communities will better prepare them to react to these floods. In this way ACF aims to provide models for community disaster preparedness, from the provincial to the community level, which can be adopted by national DM institutions and other agencies in Kampong Cham or other provinces after the eventual departure of ACF.

Description of ACF Current Project

1. Development of Local Disaster Management Structures and Planning

The strategy of ACF in Disaster Management follows logic of disengagement, transferring the capacity of intervention (preparedness and mitigation) to the institutions and the civil society. The aim is also to get the Communes progressively more autonomous in the identification of their needs related to DM, which is in total link with the Cambodian legal procedures and governmental strategy.

- Strengthening PCDM capacity : Donation of material support, Awareness Workshop with provincial Head of Departments, Creation of PCDM working group & Training on Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation and PCDM working group meetings
- District and Commune Disaster Management plans:
 - District level: Training in 1 pilot district, Workshop in 1 pilot district, Writing 1 District DM plan
 - Commune level: Development of Commune DM plan by 7 CCDM, Provision of budget & Implementation of Disaster Risk Reduction measures by 7 CCDMs
- Building CCDM capacity: Coordination meeting on composition and role of CCDM, Develop a curriculum for formation of CCDMs,

Training of 7 CCDM on Disaster Preparedness and Mitigation

2. Set up Flood information management

ACF and PRC has collected since 2000 flood damage data from all flood-prone villages within the Province through RCVs and local authority networks. The database has the potential to be a precious tool for PRC and PCDM to assist them in analysing situation and planning flood disaster management activities and policy.

For this current project, the activities included:

- Collection of 2005 flood damage data
- Compiling of provincial flood related data
- Training on mapping and GIS to PCDM working group and PRC
- Production of a provincial set of flood related information maps
- Material support to PRC/PCDM (computer, GIS)

3. Providing Flood Early Warning System

The EWS project has been implemented in 2003 and has enjoyed the support and enthusiasm of stakeholders from the national, sub-national and local level. ACF has managed to involve district, commune, village officials and volunteers (RCVs, VHF ICOM radio owner) in the implementation of the EWS project. Almost all villages had access to MRC flood forecasts with a majority of the villagers responding that they were, at least, aware of the presence of a EWS board in the village.

However there has been limited participation of project beneficiaries at the village level on the design, implementation and monitoring of the EWS project.

This is why ACF wanted to adopt a more participative approach to solve the difficulties encountered at the community level in 2003, through these activities:

- Participatory EWS meetings with 39 communities
- Identification of warning levels and marking on fixed flood marks
- Set up procedures to respond to warning

- Reception and dissemination of flood forecast and warning level PRC and PCDM
- Dissemination of Forecast and Warning in 39 Villages by EWS Volunteers and By FM Radio
- Broadcasting of 3 radio spots and flood forecasts by FM Radio
- Develop IEC materials for communities and schools
- Forecast and warning awareness sessions in secondary schools

4. Lessons learned

Positive points

- Ownership of the project by PCDM - DCDM - CCDM and communities
- Efficiency of dissemination of forecast and warning level by PRC
- Coordination and partnership between PCDM and PRC to disseminate the flood forecast and to follow EWS and Flood Information activities in the villages
- Efficiency and relevance of broadcasting of flood forecast and radio drama by FM radio
- EWS is a low cost system and easy to manage

Negative points

- Difficult access of forecast message for illiterate people, women, distant household
- The timetable of broadcasting of Radio drama and flood forecast is not always adapted to the villagers
- Weakness for the dissemination of flood forecast and information on behalf of the EWS volunteers
- Most activities and responsibilities of each PCDM member are still limited and focusing on the emergency response only

5. Challenges

- Each departments of PCDM should be involved permanently on Disaster Management and Planning
 - Handover to PCDM about the management of the EWS and the Flood Information Management
 - Replication of EWS and Flood Information Data in other province by NCDM and PCDM

- Coordination and collaboration should be done with all stakeholders (local authorities, NGOs, Ministries, etc...)
 - Handbook development on EWS at National level (NCDM, NGO, CRC, etc...)
 - Workshop on EWS and FID at National level for all interested DM stakeholders
- Improvement of EWS: adapted the broadcasting of forecast on FM radio, IEC materials, simplified the EWS board, campaign of awareness in schools, etc...
- Reinforce EWS volunteers capacities: more participatory with the villagers and communes

Set-up of Drought Early Warning System (DEWS) in Oddar Meanchey Province, Cambodia

> Program Overview

The program applies an integrated strategy of capacity building, water management and improved rice production to combat the effects of drought.

Droughts over the last 3-4 years in ODM have led ZOA to focus on water management as a key strategy to add to its overall development initiatives in Oddar Meanchey province. The emphasis is on the target people, not on structures alone. Only rehabilitation or construction of structures that directly benefit the target group are chosen. The types of water management structures are therefore decided on by the people in small group sessions with ZOA technical staff - it depends on whether their rice land is adjacent to a stream (which can be dammed) or a natural lake (which can be deepened into an irrigation pond). If there is no water source close to their land, then irrigation wells are the proposed solution.

A key element of the strategy is selection and training of village disaster risk management committees. Village disaster risk assessments are carried out and DRM committees are trained to develop and implement disaster risk reduction plans. These plans encompass all risks faced by the community, not only drought.

Water management systems alone cannot help the people if they don't have land to farm.

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ZOA Cambodia

Supported by DIPECHO

Implemented by ZOA Refugee Care in
cooperation with the Oddar Meanchey
Provincial Committee for Disaster
Management (PCDM)

Therefore ZOA is active in assisting farmers to prepare permanent rice fields instead of doing rotating chamkar (slash & burn) farming. The land for rice production has been allocated to farmers by the local authorities but they have not been able to use it as they lack tools and animal traction. This new land cannot be ploughed for the first time by cows or buffaloes, and the people do not have tractors so ZOA hires tractors to plough the land, after which it can be ploughed in successive years by animals or small hand tractors (called kohjuns). As the people do not have these small tractors, groups of 12 farmers are formed to receive one hand tractor per group.

Lack of information about rainfall has been an obstacle in recognizing the overall trend of climate change effects so ZOA is working with the Provincial Committee for Disaster Management (PCDM) to set up an early warning system for monitoring drought conditions.

How the DEWS Works

In order to collect the rainfall data throughout the project area, rain gauges are installed in each commune, at the central point of the commune.

Volunteers are trained to record the rainfall twice a day (once in the morning and once in the evening). A database has been set up at the PCDM secretariat to enter this data. The data is sent initially to the Department of Water Resources & Meteorology who, after checking for accuracy, send to the PCDM. The data is radio-ed in twice a week during the main rice growing season and the full report is sent at the end of the month. This report is then checked against the radio-ed data to ensure there have been no mis-interpretations over the radio.

The database is set up for a 7-day and 10-day alert. This alert is linked to the “water buffer” level of the soil, taking into consideration the amount of rainfall and the amount expected to be lost through evapo-transpiration. The rate of loss varies from month to month depending on the temperature, humidity and wind speed. If the water buffer level is 0 for 7 days in a row, an “orange alert” is highlighted to indicate that irrigation may be required. After 10 days with a 0 level, the “red alert” is highlighted to indicate that pumping is necessary to save the rice. Based on interviews with the farmers, these time periods were set - the farmers reported that their paddy rice will be destroyed after 2 weeks with no rain

The diagram below shows an extract from the data entry sheet of the database:

Event:				Day	Night			move pump	pumping	regular	drought tolerant
Week	Month	Day	Date	07-19h	19-07h	Sum	water buffer	Alert 7 days	Alert 10 days	rice dead	rice dead
12	4	Fri	01.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
12	4	Sat	02.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
13	4	Sun	03.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
13	4	Mon	04.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
13	4	Tue	05.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
13	4	Wed	06.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0				
13	4	Thu	07.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	move pump!			
13	4	Fri	08.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	move pump!			
13	4	Sat	09.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	move pump!			
14	4	Sun	10.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		start pumping!		
14	4	Mon	11.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		start pumping!		
14	4	Tue	12.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		start pumping!		
14	4	Wed	13.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		start pumping!		
14	4	Thu	14.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			paddy rice dead!	
14	4	Fri	15.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			paddy rice dead!	
14	4	Sat	16.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			paddy rice dead!	
15	4	Sun	17.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			paddy rice dead!	
15	4	Mon	18.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			paddy rice dead!	
15	4	Tue	19.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			paddy rice dead!	
15	4	Wed	20.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			paddy rice dead!	
15	4	Thu	21.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			paddy rice dead!	
15	4	Fri	22.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			paddy rice dead!	
15	4	Sat	23.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			paddy rice dead!	DT rice dead!
16	4	Sun	24.04.2005	15.0	0.0	15.0	9.0				DT rice dead!
16	4	Mon	25.04.2005	25.0	15.0	40.0	43.0				
16	4	Tue	26.04.2005	0.0	0.0	0.0	37.0				
Subtotal				40.0	15.0	55.0	40.0 (max)				
TOTAL				40.0	15.0	55.0					

but that the drought tolerant rice can survive for three weeks.

At the village level, the disaster risk management committees are the key point to receive the information back from the PCDM. When any station/commune shows an orange alert, the PCDM secretariat will contact the commune concerned by radio (or mobile phone where applicable). The commune informs the village DRM committee in each village (in person). The DRM committees inform the farmers through the group leaders in the villages. The farmers then physically inspect their fields to determine areas that require immediate irrigation. If the alert turns to red, the PCDM will again inform through the same process – or if sufficient rain reverses the alert, the commune will be informed.

Challenges Faced to Date

Two main obstacles have been encountered during this short testing period to date:

1. The volunteers selected in the communes have very low education and have made some mistakes in recording the levels – for example, figures that should be recorded in millimeters were often recorded in centimeters.
2. Lack of communications systems (no radios or telephone network) in some of the remote communes means that information transmission to the PCDM is delayed and it is also difficult to relay the warnings back to the community.

The first point above is being addressed by the Department of Water Resources and Meteorology through direct visits to the volunteers and additional mentoring.

Regarding the communications systems, ZOA has a plan to install radios in the remoter communes but the plan was delayed as another NGO working in Oddar Meanchey (Malteser) also had a plan as part of their Health Referral System and we have been coordinating with them regarding locations. All locations have now been agreed upon and it is expected that all communes will have communication systems in place by the start of the 2006 rains.

Additional Tasks Necessary to Ensure Sustainability of the DEWS

The calculation of water loss through evapotranspiration is key to the accuracy of the warning systems. Three key parameters are necessary to work this out – temperature, air humidity and wind speed. Due to lack of appropriate equipment in Oddar Meanchey province, this data is not available. The nearest weather station is in neighboring Siem Reap province and this data has been used in developing the water loss formula. In order to improve the accuracy of the database, additional equipment will need to be provided to the DRM committees to record the actual data for each reporting station.

As the system was only set-up during the last rainy season, the feedback system to the community has not yet been fully tested. This will require a lot of monitoring over the coming rainy season.

Finally, there is a need for a lot more irrigation systems to be installed throughout the area as the DEWS may indicate an alert to “start pumping” but where do the farmers pump from if there is no water stored nearby.

Community Level Information and Early Warning System

> Project Overview

There are four main issues in East Kalimantan and Central Kalimantan as concluded by various agencies i.e research agency (CIDOR dan ICRAF), academic (Benfield Greigh Hazard Research Center, University College of London), Humanitarian agencies (CARE) and local government (Environmental departement and Forestry department) which has been conducting surveys and research activities.

The four main issues:

1. Kalimantan is a peat fire-prone areas. For the last twenty years, there has been six major peat fire occurance (1983, 1987, 1991, 1994, 1997, 2002). In 1997-98 during a drought season prolonged by the El Niño phenomena the worst fires in Indonesia's history affected 5.2 million hectare of forests, agricultural and grass land in East Kalimantan. The economic losses were estimated to be between three and six billion US Dollars.
2. The underlying causes of Peat Fire are varies and complex. These fires are caused by a combination of ignition sources (human, lightning, etc), ecosystem condition (degradation of peatlands), weather, and social condition (unclear ownership over land resources, population transformation forced by development projects and insufficient policy decisions). As such to understand

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underlying causes of fire, hot spot and vegetation analysis need to be linked to social science research and in-depth participatory analysis. This needs involvement of the major stakeholders in the research to develop a shared understanding of the problem.

3. Communities in Central and East Kalimantan are heavily affected by fires. Fires have severely undermined livelihoods and caused significant environmental changes in particular in deep peat areas which has made communities significantly more vulnerable to fires while it has led to exposure to other hazards and related disaster that previously happened less frequent (floods) or were hardly known (dengue fever, rat and mice plagues). Peat land fires are causing significant health impact to the population exposed to the haze resulted in increased morbidity in particular acute respiratory infections and increased mortality.
4. Insufficient early warning system and process. In most communities, people are actually able to identify early signs that mostly related to changes in nature. Most profound are changes in weather patterns reflected in bird and animal migration, changes in debits of rivers, vegetation changes, etc. Meanwhile Early warning systems of fire danger have been developed for many climate and vegetation types obtaining a sophisticated fire warning and information system that are unreadable and unreachable by the community. The facilitation of the transfer knowledge and integration of scientific and technical system and local knowledge are necessary for the fire management.

CARE has been involved in rehabilitation and recovery of forest fire communities since 1998. CARE's involvement in addressing forest fires and its impacts is due to the fact that fires are the single largest disaster in Indonesia based on the number of people affected: 267,000 people¹ were hospitalised during the 1997-98 fires and over 11.6 million ha of land burnt.

Initially CARE focussed on providing relief assistance in the most affected region; the Kutai district. The program gradually evolved and the focus changed from relief assistance and recovery to facilitate communities to adjust to a natural

environment that had changed dramatically. Pre 1980's most communities in the area relied on the forests for their livelihoods, while in the 1980's, just before the first serious fire outbreak in 1983, rattan and other forest products were the main source of livelihoods while after 1998, the rattan trade had diminished. Studies conducted on the 1997/98 fires showed that the fires had led to significant damage and were recorded as the worst disaster in Indonesian history. It became also clear that most of the fires were man made with arson being the most important factor². Furthermore, the environmental change had caused new hazards previously unknown to the area like widespread flooding and outbreaks of rats and mice plagues. Simultaneously the forest fires had led to loss of soil fertility because in tropical ecosystems most of the nutrients are stored in the vegetation. This in return led to severely depressed yields, in particularly the second and third year after the fire (the first year the crops still can access nutrients stored in the ash). At the time CARE started in 1998, CARE measured a Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate of around 16% and continued to remain so, although CARE provided significant relief assistance. Only in 2002 after CARE had started HEARTH activities and adopted LEISA technologies at farmer fields (as compared to communal plots), GAM rates started to drop below 10%³.

In response CARE developed a community based disaster risk strategy that aimed at addressing vulnerabilities at community and household level. The strategy is three tiered and involved

- Advocacy and public awareness rising. CARE promotes and supports the development of legal framework for disaster management in Indonesia through a systematic network support and consultation mechanism. In National level CARE in collaboration with MPBI (Indonesian Society for Disaster management) has facilitated the drafting of the Disaster Management Bill. In provincial level CARE in collaboration with local government and community has facilitated the drafting of Disaster management plan and regulation in 6 districts.
- Community based disaster management through the establishment of community based emergency response capacity through

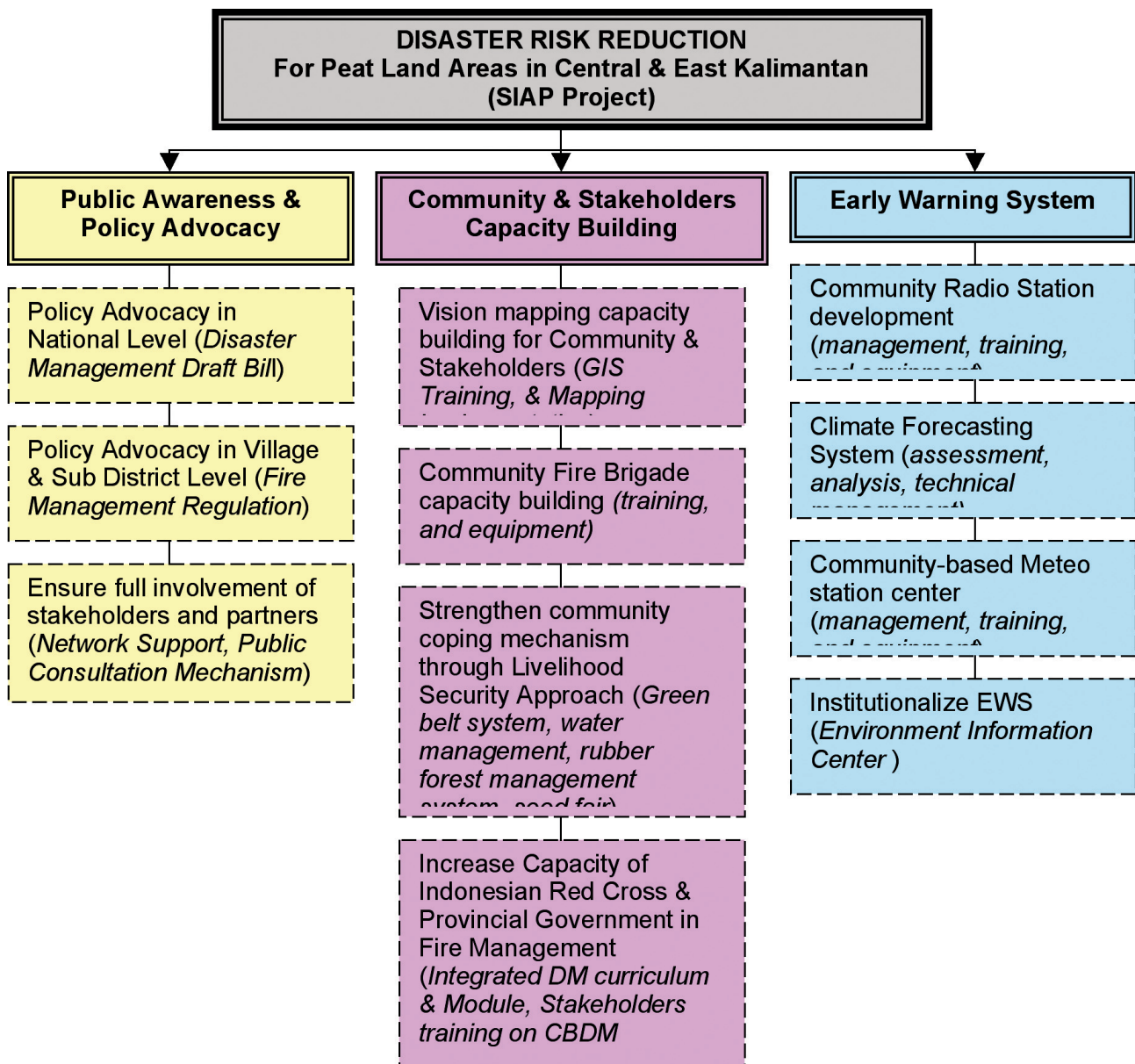
community fire brigades and disaster risk reduction through vision mapping, integrated green belts, land lease agreements to reduce tensions and increased preparedness through a media campaign⁴.

- CARE developed an integrated agricultural-nutrition program that consisted of:
 - Low External Input Sustainable Agriculture, exposing farmers to alternative livelihoods such as new crops, fisheries and improved cultivation techniques e.g. the use of organic fertiliser or strengthen existing coping strategies like rattan planting or inter planting rubber with bananas. This to find alternatives for lost forest based livelihoods.

- Health/nutrition education and food assistance. Initially the focus was on health education and providing staple and supplementary food. CARE realized that this was not effective and introduced approaches that aimed at facilitating behaviour change like the HEARTH model⁵ and redesign of agricultural activities to leverage nutritional impacts.

- Community based early warning system that links monitoring of local indicators with scientific early warning systems.

CARE is working in close collaboration with the Indonesian Government at central, provincial and district level. Under the SIAP project CARE is actively involved in policy development in



disaster management. CARE aims to strengthen decentralisation and democratisation at community level through enhancing capacity in developing land use plans and institutionalise community based disaster risk reduction management at village level through fire brigades. This strategy has been effective and in developing community based disaster management capacity and to facilitate communities to implement Act no. 22/25 on decentralisation and Act 41 on forestry. These acts provide significant opportunities to develop community based risk reduction strategies, which have to be fully developed yet to empower marginalized disaster affected communities. All these laws underline the authority communities have over resources within their village boundaries.

Key Elements of the Early Warning System

Under SIAP project, CARE with the provincial fire management center, the environmental department and BMG (Meteorological and Geophysical Agency) aim to developed Early Warning System that encompass community based monitoring of indicators, radio communication systems and linking of existing fire hazard rating systems and El Niño warning systems.

The Early Warning System contains three main sections:

1. A forecast and prediction section.
2. A warning section
3. A reaction section.

A Forecast and Prediction Section

One of the Early Warning process is to forecasts or predicts coming intense events, on the basis of scientific knowledge and monitoring results.

In peat land areas various assessment need to be undertaken to meet a qualified forecast performance, which are:

1. Tabular analysis on Fire Danger Rating, i.e:
 - a. Fuel loads through ground measurements and satellite-generated information
 - b. Fuel moisture content through meteorological danger indices and spaceborne

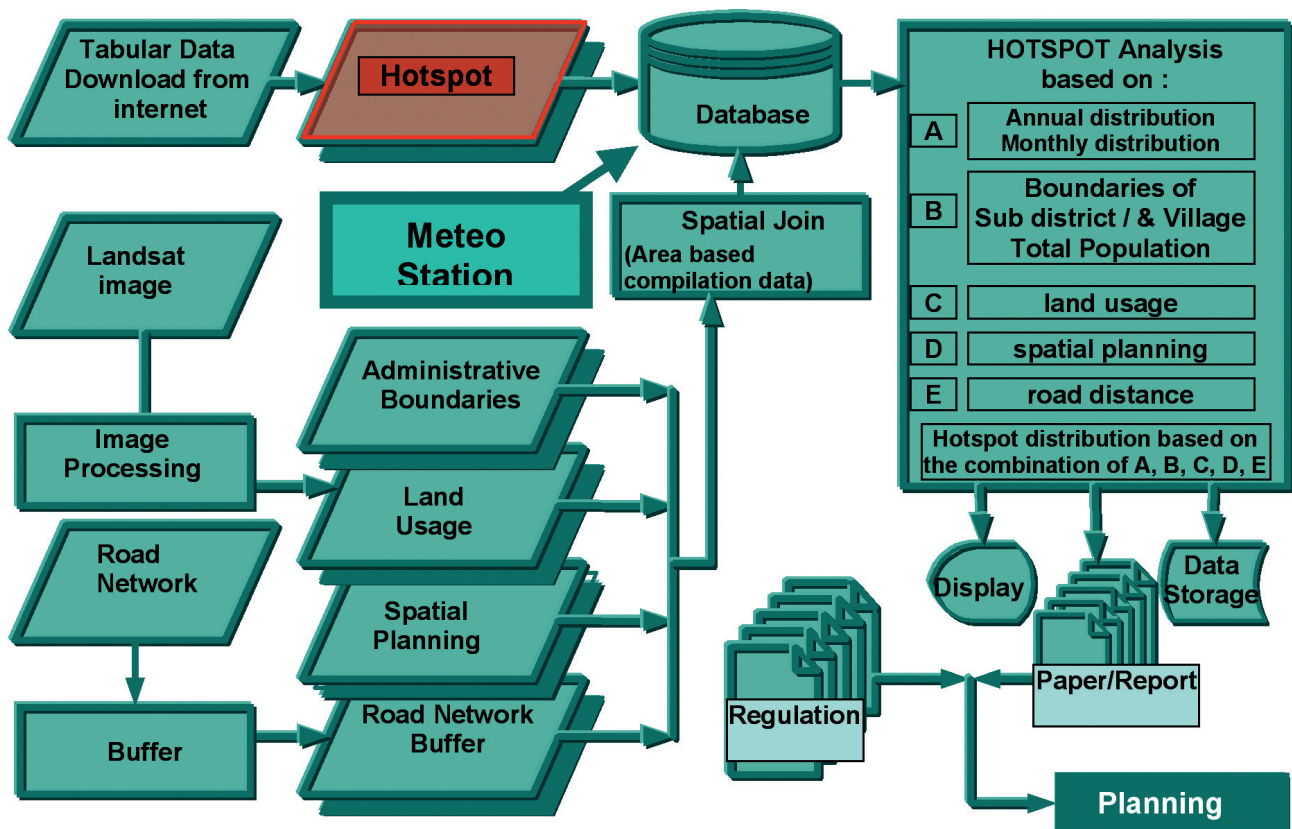
information (vegetation dryness and soil dryness) from which the propagation patterns can be identified as well

- c. Prediction of forest and land fire spread and behaviors through airborne and spaceborne monitoring of active fires
 - d. Assessment of smoke pollution through surface wind prediction
 - e. Prediction of climate variability and fire danger
 - f. Prediction of climate change and fire danger
2. Spatial Analysis on:
 - a. Hotspot trends based on fire distance towards road
 - b. Hotspot trend based on land use (Prediction of human-caused fire factors)
 - c. Hotspot trend based on spatial planning and land zoning

The process of analysis for the Early Warning is using an integrated approach to obtain comprehensive result on the following:

1. Monitoring, analysing and predict events (i.e. earthquake, floods, drought, etc)
2. Impact analysis and surveillance strategy on the event affects (food supply and prices, reservoir storage, migration, etc)
3. Vulnerability analysis and summary of trends in environmental and socio-economic factors
4. Policies development (integrating early warning into policy, etc)

CARE has established a network of village meteorological stations managed by fire brigades. These station measures fire hazard indicators like daily rainfall and temperature. CARE is working with BMG (Meteorological & Geophysical Agency) to conduct fire danger ratings calculation & update as well as community training. CARE facilitates communities to organize FGD (Focus Group Discussion) to link local indicators with fire danger rating results. The provincial fire center furthermore formulate the Fire Danger Rating Index (FDR) based on the Keetch-Byram-Drought-Code weather forecast, haze conditions and hot spots (hot temperature events) detected by using NOAA-AVHRR data and rainfall probability data in dynamic fire risk mapping.



CARE has conducted a GIS training to the community and local government to enable them to visualize the analysis result into vision map or table and simplify the messages. The messages will help the decision maker in the process of designing spatial development plan and disaster management plan.

ADPC and CARE in collaboration with IRI will generate Problem Analysis in Implementation Design (PAID) document for understanding climate related problems, seasonal climate stress on livelihoods, seasonal / decision calendars, options for injecting climate information into the decision cycle and assess constraints of end-users to make use of climate information as well as exploring alternate options to address those constraints. CARE will then facilitate discussion among various participating institutions to use climate forecast information for decision-making at the district / subdistrict level for disaster preparedness and for planning at the community level. CARE will provide assistance during the first year of implementation of this project. CARE believes that access to reliable climate forecast information will greatly reduce the vulnerability to drought and floods.

A Warning Section

A Warning section is a communication strategy to communicate section one (forecasting & prediction) to public. The objective is that communities are well informed and sufficiently aware of the potential impacts that lead them to effectively prepare for and responsibly react when anticipated event arrives.

Key action undertaken for the dissemination is including application of a “system” for predicting fire danger and risk, organization to implement the process, and provision of the needed equipment and protocols. The warning section must provide response-oriented recommendations either in technical aspect as well in a social and political aspect. The flowchart below describe the information system in the form of PIL (Environmental Information Center) that will accommodate a sufficient warning system coherently with radio community mechanism.

The remoteness of Kalimantan urges CARE to develop innovative ways in providing an information access to the communities quickly. Community radio has the potential to be such an innovation for the following reason:

1. Ensures quick access to information for remote communities at minimum costs in a participatory manner.
2. The early warning systems (managed by the provincial fire centers & BMG) are linked to community radio by which services can be delivered to the target communities.
3. Allow community to enhance their ability to be prepared for fires.
4. Transmits information to the authorities and threatened population
5. Appropriate tools for the integration of Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction with Spatial Development Plan by providing communities with information of shared market prices of farmers as well as agricultural extension and health messages.

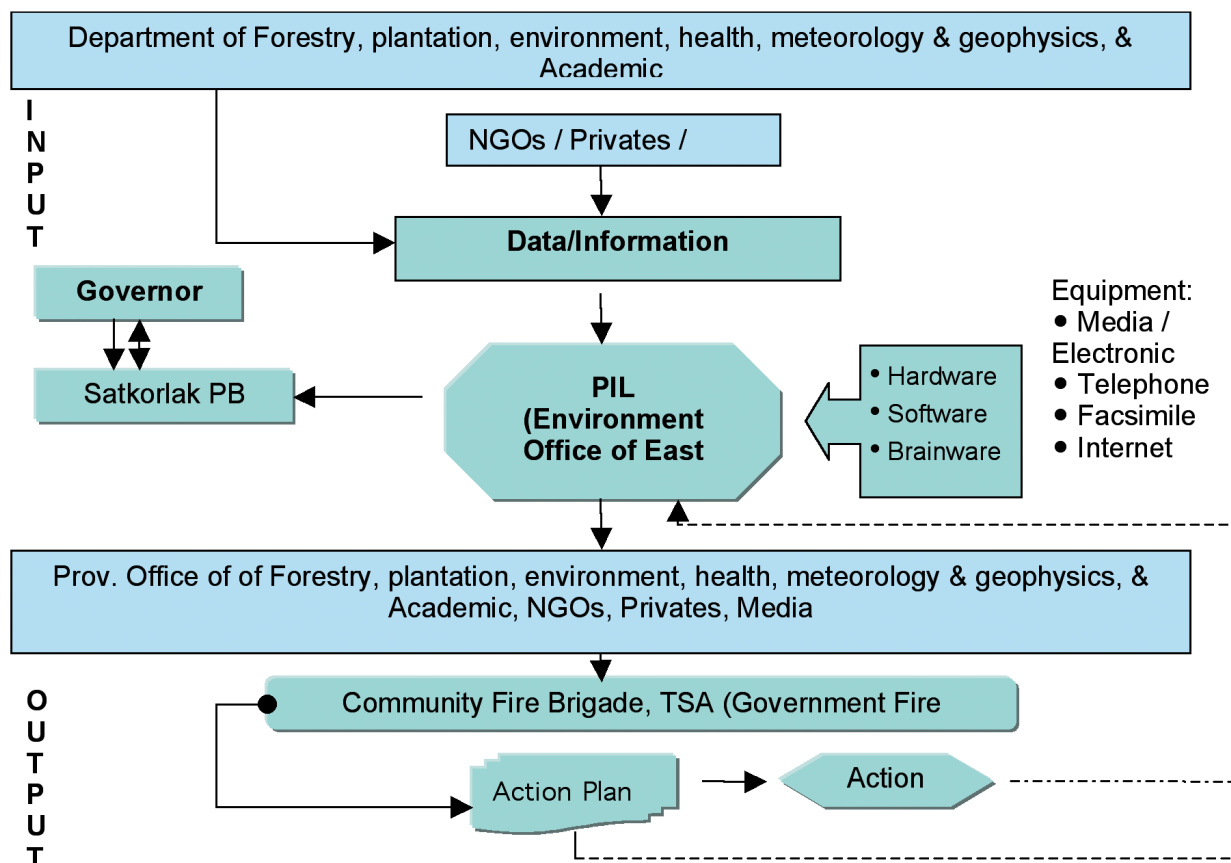
A Reaction Section

In this section we ensure that the information (on hazard, risk, vulnerability, and capacity elements) is correctly understood by the community at

risk and local authorities, and that subsequent protective measures are taken through sufficient disaster management plan. Organizational and administrative problems as well as risk perception in the decision-making process are key elements of this segment, as well as links into national and local disaster management schemes.

CARE has facilitated local government to react the Warning messages that has been developed as described in warning section and forecast section. Four districts in Central Kalimantan (Palangkaraya, Kapuas, Pulang Pisau, and Kota Waringin Timur) have developed Disaster Management Plan using EWS mechanism, while two districts in East Kalimantan (Kota Waringin Timur and Kutai Timur) have developed local regulation draft (Perda) which have incorporated EWS mechanisms. The Provincial Forest Office have revised the old-version of Fire Regulation which incorporate EWS mechanism and integration of fire management into broader disaster management and development plan.

PIL (Pusat Informasi Lingkungan – Environment Information Center)



Strategy for Community or Local Capacity Building to Manage the Warning System on a Sustainable Basis

The early warning process involves the recognition of responsibilities at the national, regional, and local levels.

The political commitment from the government is crucial for the sustainable Early Warning System. The Head of Kota Waringin Timur District stated, during the district workshop on Disaster Management Plan 2006 – 2007 development, that the Forest & Land Fire Management target is to achieve an integrated planning from various agencies through an integrated Disaster Management Plan, and to extend the component of existing regulation on Forest & Land Fire response to preparedness, mitigation, recovery and rehabilitation of forest and Land. Further, number of recommendations has been summarised in the district disaster management plan 2006-2007, i.e implement EWS by reviewing the regulation on controlled fire and re-socialised again the regulation to ensure that population and private sectors well understand the content; prioritise EWS to areas of more than 5,000 ha grassland or dry vegetate indicated as one of the most fuel moisture content to fire.

Clear Roles

The clear roles of community involvement in Early Warning System determine the EWS sustainability. Basically the community's roles in EWS include:

1. The development of the mechanisms (Forecasting, warning, and reaction)
2. The organizing collection and processing of data (monitoring)
3. The production of the local index (risk assessment)
4. The communication mechanism (awareness raising and information dissemination)
5. The planning and implementation of activities to respond to an EWS before the event occur

Combination of Traditional & Modern Instrument and Technique

The scope of community capacity building, there fore need to include:

1. EWS instrument. A combination of traditional instrument and modern technology and an innovative and simple instrument is strongly recommended for the alerting devices and mapping.
2. EWS technique (from data collection, analysis methodology, communication strategy, and reaction scope)

Identify Key Component

The key component for the locally Early Warning System:

1. Village development cadres
They are the main actor in mobilizing information management, and have a better knowledge and skill in disaster management.
2. Community Leader and Religious Leaders
They play an important role as dissemination agent and information sources. In the reaction section, they can be effectively play an important role as facilitator in the negotiation process among community, private, and government.
3. Adat (Traditional) Institution
They play a role as warning agency based on local knowledge that can be done through community meeting or written notice; documenting (Data storage) traditional knowledge on disaster prevention and management;.

Political Commitment from Local Authority

The decentralisation in Indonesia is a contributing factor to sustainable Early Warning System; therefore we need to promote local policies development which focuses on early warning that integrate scientific technology and local wisdom, and financial support mechanism (from government provision up to self-help maintenance system). The community capacity building need to be obtained coherently with the ensuring effort to local policy makers and leader to have access to information and expertise

on the most appropriate form for early warning system.

Social, Political, Financial Factors Contributing to Success

Social

- Simple guidelines/operating procedures
- expanding data and information sharing between different levels
- creating public awareness on early warning

Political: Government 'buy-in'

- The institutional capacity development of early warning bodies - PIL
- The reformation of mandates of various warning institutions - BMG allowed to directly announce the warning to public (regular bulletin)
- The integration or adoption of the participatory and decentralized approach

Financial

- The budget for early warning development increase – from NGOs & Communities

Challenges in Establishing Community Information Center/ warning System

Social:

- Orientation in EWS to the communities has been initiated but in limited areas
- Lack of local resources (finance and technical expertise)
- Unclear definition of EW concept, procedures, & responsibilities
- Unsolved land use problems & unclear administrative boundary

Political:

- EWS is not a national priority
- Irregular & unplanned budget for EWS
- Communication and coordination problems
- Low application of early warning in development strategy & response activities
- Weak governance, institutional factors & political commitment
- Inadequate external support

Lesson Learned and Recommendation

Strategies for basic early warning systems:

- Practice (simple instruments for simple people)
- Function (technically sustainable)
- Low cost (financially sustainable)

Crucial Element for EWS:

- EWS scope needs to cover other hazards
- Participation/ partnership / community involvement
- Sound communication
- Capacity development (GIS training or other new approaches)
- Integration of Formal systems & traditional indicators/languages (local languages, adjust terminology)
- Assured funding

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Fostering Disaster-resilient Communities in Disaster-prone Areas: 'the First Responders'

> Introduction

Community participation has been recognized as a critical element in disaster management necessary to:

- Reduce loss from disasters
- Build a culture of safety and disaster resilient communities, and
- Ensure sustainable development.

Mr A Karim Nayani
Executive Officer
FHA Pakistan

This presentation highlights the features, processes, components, and gains of Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) as piloted and promoted by FOCUS Humanitarian Assistance in Pakistan and elsewhere.

The Prevention Mitigation Preparedness (PMP) program was started by FOCUS in the Karakoram-Hindukush mountain ranges, which is a disaster-prone region. Disasters, which include earthquakes, landslides, heavy rains and snowfalls, debris flow, rockfalls, avalanches, glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs), soil erosion and land degradation, hamper economic activities of subsistence farmers in the mountains, disrupt communication links and causing loss to life, private property and critical infrastructure.

This exposure to acute disasters is exacerbated by a set of chronic vulnerabilities. People have lived with risk in this ecologically, economically, and environmentally fragile habitat for centuries,

often exposed to various kinds of vulnerabilities that could be mitigated with little support and pre-emptive planning.

Responding to disaster is on an ad-hoc basis and risk has not been mainstreamed in the development policies or processes. Given the lack of political commitment to prevent, mitigate and be prepared for the disaster, it is important that the community's capacity be increased to protect their lives and assets in case of a disaster.

The model developed by FOCUS includes public awareness raising on one hand and capacity building and training on the other. The model is a systematic process that integrates risk identification, mitigation and transfer, as well as disaster preparedness, emergency response and rehabilitation or reconstruction to lessen the impacts of hazards.

Community-based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) Program

Community Based Disaster Risk Management is a participatory process that aims to reduce the vulnerability of communities and to make them "disaster resilient" by building their knowledge and skills to survive and recover from natural and man-made disasters.

Strategy and the Process

The strategy for the CBDRM has a holistic approach that strives to develop local capacity to respond to disaster, build capacity in hazard, vulnerability, capacity and risk assessment (HVCRA) to plan disaster risk management through a scientific and systematic approach. The assessment of hazards, vulnerabilities and capacities leads to develop methods for training and mitigation.

At the cluster and village level local communities are mobilized and organized into village level Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTS)/ Village Emergency response Teams (VERT) to enhance sustainability of the program. These teams are organized on the principles of voluntarism, participation, collective responsibility

and community ownership and accountability. Local traditional leadership of the village and community activists both men and women, play key role in the organization and mobilization process of Village Readiness program.

Process To Transform At-risk Communities to Disaster Resilient Communities

The goal of CBDRM is to transform vulnerable or at-risk communities into disaster resilient communities.

The following steps, process and requisites are being used by FOCUS Pakistan for disaster risk reduction:

Step #1. Initial dialogue with the community - build rapport and linkage with the community using the local socio-economic setup and institutions.

Step #2. Involve the community in HVCRA process - prepare community profile to assess hazards, vulnerabilities, capacities and people's perception of risks using a participatory approach.

Step #3. Develop / contextualize training module to community needs

Step #4. Identify local volunteers and deliver training

Step #5. Facilitate formation of CERT/VERT - aimed to build and strengthen capacity in preparedness and mitigation in the community.

Step #6. Develop disaster preparedness plan - Formulate Initial Disaster Risk Reduction Plan enabling community to counter disaster, manage disaster, develop plan of action; identify appropriate mitigation and preparedness measures including public awareness, training and education.

Step #7. Set the plan in motion: regular drills, simulations and exercises - Implement short, medium, and long-term risk reduction measures, activities, projects and programs.

Step #8. Provision of resources: basic equipment and follow up training - Up-date and refresh knowledge and skills of volunteers. Provide communities with stockpile consisting of shelter and search and rescue equipment for use in a disaster. Train communities in the maintenance of these stockpiles.

Step #9. Monitoring & Evaluation - to improve disaster risk reduction plan, identify success factors and weak areas, document and disseminate good practices for replication.

The formation and strengthening of community emergency response team or village emergency response team is the key to mobilizing communities for sustainable disaster risk reduction. The community volunteers and emergency response teams are the necessary interface or the channel for outsiders such as NGOs or government agencies to assist/support the community at-large. The community groups and organizations are essential in sustaining the risk reduction process for the community to meet intended aims and targets in CBDRM.

Key Challenges and Issues

- At Government Level
 - Advocate for mainstreaming of disaster risk management at the policy level
 - Advocate and build capacity of the government in disaster management

- At Civil Society Level
 - Put CBDRM on the agenda of CSO
 - Strengthen the civil society to foster CBDRM processes at the village, union, tehsil and district levels
- At the Community Level
 - Making the CERTS sustainable including the replenishment of stockpiles.
 - Lack of ICT infrastructure in the remotest areas means that ICT cannot be exploited to its full potential.
 - How to keep in touch with large number of volunteers (from different backgrounds and capacities) who have been trained and have subsequent refreshers.

Recommendations

- Promote communities as 'first responders' and local resource.
- Build capacity at the grass root level, including education and awareness, minimum resources, encourage and develop increased community participation in disaster risk education activities and motivate volunteers and volunteer management.
- Mainstream of disaster risk management into development policies and processes at all levels.
- Develop financing mechanisms to sustain disaster risk management outcomes and activities.
- Share information and lessons learned at local, national, regional and international level.

Child Participation in Disaster Risks Management Project

> Background Information:

Save the Children fights for the respect, protection and fulfilment of children's rights. It uses the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child as base for the work. Its programs therefore address all 4 groups of children's rights: survival, protection, development and participation; follow 3 main principles: non-discrimination, best interests of the child and child participation.

Mr Do Hai Dang
Save the Children
Vietnam

According to Save the Children's experiences in responding to emergencies, children are among the most vulnerable groups in disaster situation for 2 main reasons:

- Beside problems they have to share with adults, they also have to face specific issues.
- These issues are often not properly addressed in emergency response or preparedness plans since these plans are usually designed by adults who often do not know or do not think about them or do not think that they are important and who often do not consult children on issues that concern them.

Children's Rights	Specific issues children may face in emergencies (list not exhaustive)
Right to survival	Life; Housing; Food; Health care; Water and Sanitation

Right to protection	Trafficking and exploitation; HIV/AIDS and STDs; Family separation; Discrimination; Psychology; Orphans
Right to development	Education and Entertainment
Right to participation	Participation

For Save the Children, it is important to:

- Identify rights that are not fulfilled, who are responsible and why they cannot fulfilled their responsibilities
- Highlight and integrate issues faced by children into disaster risk management programs
- Listen to children and take into account children's opinion and children's capacities during the program planning, implementation and evaluation process.

Since 2003, Save the Children in Vietnam has been implementing a DIPECHO-funded capacity building project for disaster managers and practitioners in 21 communes of seven provinces. The objective of the project is to decrease the vulnerability of children and communities during disasters through building the capacity of community members to develop, improve, and implement annual child-focused disaster preparedness and response plans. An important component of the project has been the inclusion of children in the community-wide planning process.

Child Participation: Approach, Achievements and Challenges

Approach

The project put emphasis on creating opportunities for children to express themselves, to be heard and to participate and improving children's capacities to take initiatives and to benefit from opportunities that are offered to them. The project has carried out several key activities that raise awareness on the importance of including and responding to children's needs and perspectives during community preparedness and response planning. The project has trained facilitators to conduct a series of training sessions for children

and community leaders on the topics of child rights and child participation in the context of disaster risks management. Children have been actively involved in the development of commune child-focused disaster preparedness and response plans. Through the support of trained teachers and community leaders, children have also learned about the International Convention on Child Rights as well as ways to promote their rights within the context of the community.

Training for Adults:

- Training master trainers
- Training local disaster practitioners, child welfare officers, and community people
- Training community staff of mass organisations and teachers to become Community Child Participation Facilitators

Training for Children:

- Community Child Participation Facilitators organize children's meetings to build children's capacity and confidence on child rights and children in disasters
- Community Child Participation Facilitators facilitate children to actively participate in the community planning process

Working together

- Community members & children conduct child-focused Hazard- Vulnerability- Capacity Assessment and develop annual disaster preparedness and response plans.
- Implement small-scale mitigation works

Achievements

1. Community leaders have recognized the importance of and need for child rights and child participation training for both children and adults in the community. They were supportive of the project's approach in helping to develop their commune through capacity building and child participation activities. They acknowledged the importance of including children in community activities for the betterment of all members of their commune, especially in the area of disaster risks management which is strengthened

when the input of all community members are received.

2. Community leaders have also taken steps to continue project activities through the mobilization of local funds and expressed an interest in continuing the teaching of child rights to schoolchildren. Teachers, in particular, have been enthusiastic in maintaining child participation instruction even after the project ends. Some communities have used innovative ways to promote child rights, such as through loudspeakers, cultural events, and drawings competitions.
3. Children in project communes demonstrated basic knowledge of the four main groups of child rights as well as approaches to promoting child rights among their peers and in their community. The children have responded enthusiastically to learning about child rights and generally understand the application of their rights in the context of the community. The concepts of child rights and child participation were remembered even among children who were exposed to the training two years earlier.
4. Children are also generally confident working with adults and are able to speak out their needs. Children have participated in voicing their opinions during the community disaster risks planning process, have formally and informally shared information about child rights with their non-project peers and siblings, and have contributed to raising community awareness about child rights through skits and drawing contests. As a result of what they learned in the project, many children felt more confident in their daily relationships with their parents and teachers.
5. Children enjoyed participating in the community's disaster planning process and wanted opportunities to continue to share what they have learned with their non-project peers. Having been involved in project activities, the children stated that trainings on child rights and participatory approaches should be continued for younger schoolchildren in their schools as well as children who are not in school.
6. Children have also benefited from activities that have strengthened disaster prevention in their community as identified and implemented by the community disaster management plan

process. This includes small-scale mitigation works such as the repairing and upgrading of schools, roads, dykes, and childcare centers. Children in flood-prone communes have also benefited from community-organized swimming lessons as well as boat transportation to school during flood season. Many of these improvements are the result of the children's identification of need and the community's mobilization of resources to meet the need.

Challenges

According to Children

1. Children expressed their desire to share what they learned about child rights and child participation with their classmates, parents, and community adults; however, they do not have the means and opportunity to initiate this on their own. They lack small funds to organize children meetings, lack informational materials to present and distribute to others, and lack organized activities in which they can take part.
2. Children did not have many opportunities to participate in more community activities, other than the project's Hazard, Vulnerability, Capacity Assessment (HVCA) action plans. Current activities which could include the participation of children, such as the community Autumn Moon festival events, have been planned and initiated by adults, and children still had limited voice in proposing and taking part in community activities which concerned them.
3. Children were still generally timid in speaking out their opinions in front of a group, among adults, and even within their family. However, children who have been exposed to the project longer were more confident and comfortable in contributing their ideas than children who have only recently learned about child rights.

According to Community Leaders

1. Community leaders understood the benefits of child rights and child participation, but they were unable to initiate ways for children to become more involved in the community other than activities that the project had

introduced. All four community-based management boards only convened during project implementation, and none currently have any activities planned.

2. Community leaders lack basic financial resources to continue the promotion of child rights training, with more pressing community priorities such as lack of clean water wells and lack of adequate children's healthcare.
3. Community leaders expressed difficulties in reaching poor and uneducated families to recognize the importance of child rights and child participation.

Conclusion

Child participation is a right of children and this right should be respected, protected and fulfilled

at the highest level possible. Save the Children project showed that involving children in disaster risks management can make differences but it is a long process that takes time for both adults and children due to child participation being a new concept that is not always welcomed due to local traditions.

In order to make child participation really effective, it is therefore important that

- Adults and children are well aware of children's rights, benefits and challenges of child participation and are appropriately prepared to carry out the process.
- Child participation should not be a one-time event and should be an ongoing process, integrated as possible in current activities implemented at community level.

Reclamation of Flood-damaged Areas through Community-based Agro-forestry: A Case Study from Nepal

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> Abstract

More than 400,000 ha of land have been damaged by rivers in Nepal. Agro-forestry practices have been launched in those areas with the twin objectives of countering land degradation problems and meeting the demands of local people for fuelwood, fodder, and small timber. This study assessed the effectiveness of such practices in the riverside areas of the middle hills region in reclaiming the flood-damaged lands, considering vegetation establishment, land productivity and control of weed infestation (*Imperata cylindrica*, *Saccharum munja*) as the bases for evaluation. Data were gathered from the field measurements and observations. Results of two years' study showed that *Dalbergia sissoo* could be successfully intercropped with *Zea mays*, *Solanum tuberosum*, *Cajanus cajan* and *Phaseolus vulgaris* in flood-affected areas. There was no significant difference in growth performance of *Dalbergia sissoo* planted in river-affected areas and unaffected areas. Yields of various crops have also been documented. Species composition was found to have changed in silvipasture plots. The study reveals that agro-forestry practices have been effective in reclaiming the flood-damaged areas.

Key words: Agro-forestry, land reclamation, silvipasture, inter-cropping, middle hills region, Nepal.

Introduction

In Nepal, indiscriminate felling of trees and clearing forest areas for agriculture have given rise to the scarcity of the essential needs of rural people such as fuelwood, fodder and small timber. These activities, along with population pressure and improper land-use patterns, have led to serious environmental degradation. As a result, natural calamities like landslides in the hills, flooding in the foothills and the Terai and drought in most of the areas of the country have frequently occurred. Most of all, flooding has become a major cause of land degradation leading to the poor socio-economic conditions and the deterioration of the natural ecosystems.

More than 400,000 ha. of land have been damaged by rivers in Nepal (LRMP 1986). The Shiwalik hills and middle mountainous regions are highly vulnerable to soil erosion (Dregne 1982). The extent and severity of damage have increased year after year due to the frequent changing nature of mountain rivers. Farmlands near river banks are washed away by flooding, crops are ruined and widths of river widen every year during the monsoon. Nepal's rivers carry around 336 million tons of soil per year to the main river systems entering India (Brown 1981). The bed level of Terai rivers is rising by 35-45 cm annually (Dent 1984). The productivity of riverside lands has been seriously affected by silting, flooding and deposition of pebbles. Furthermore, the flood-damaged areas of middle mountains of Nepal suffer from excessive grazing pressure of domestic animals. Pioneer plants, which are indicator species for degraded lands such as *Imperata cylindrica*, *Saccharum munja* and *Cassia occidentals*, have colonized such areas. The natural succession has been inhibited by excessive grazing pressure as well as flash floods during the monsoon.

Land degradation can be due to one or more causes: physical, chemical, or biological degradation of soil (Lal and Stewart, 1992; Sing et al. 1994; Sanchez et al., 1994). Physical degradation includes soil compaction and erosion whereas chemical degradation involves a significant increase in soil acidity and decline in available soil nutrients. Biological degradation involves the loss of soil microorganisms, organic

matter and increase in weed encroachment. Among the many approaches to restore degraded lands, agro-forestry is often considered to be the most suitable strategy (Uhl et al. 1990; Robinson and McKean 1992; Serrao and Homma 1993). The main reasons given are that agro-forestry most closely resembles the land by retaining and recycling nutrients protecting the soil from erosion and providing sustained yields (Uhl et al., 1990). Singh et al. (1994) have stated that agro-forestry has much to offer in checking land degradation trends on one hand and in providing much needed products viz. food, fiber, fodder, fuelwood, timber, medicines etc. on the other.

A number of agro-forestry systems have been launched in the middle hills region of Nepal with the twin objectives of countering the problems of land degradation and meeting the demands of the local people for fuelwood, fodder and small timber. The present study looks at the effectiveness of such activities in reclaiming the river damaged areas of the midhills region.

Particularly, the objectives of this study were:

1. To compare the growth performance of trees between river affected and unaffected areas.
2. To analyze crop production and to identify the effectiveness of agro-forestry activities in river damaged areas.

Study Area

This study area is situated in a subtropical region on the eastern bank of the Andhikhola river in Syangja district of Middle hills region, Nepal. It is 32 kilometers south-west of Syangja bazaar, the district headquarters and lies at an altitude of about 500 m above msl. The annual average rainfall is 1462 mm, most of which falls between May and September. Temperatures range from 14.3°C-26.2°C.

Based on the existing land type situation, the study site was categorized into three land categories, viz: land type A (LTA), land type B (LTB) and land type C (LTC). LTA includes the area affected by the river in the past with little chance of getting affected again. This area lies farthest from the river bank and is dominated by sandy soils with very low moisture content. *Imperata cylindrica*,

Table 1. Agro-forestry Systems Practiced in the Area.

agro-forestry practices	local examples
1. Agri-silviculture	
- single crop intercropping	D. sissoo + Zea mays/ Eleusine coracana/ Solanum tuberosum
- double crop intercropping	D. sissoo + Cajanus cajan + Zea mays/ Eleusine coracana/ Phaseolus vulgaris
- multi tree-crop intercrop.	D. sissoo + L. leucocephala + T. grandis + Mangifera indica + Eleusine Coracana./ Zea mays/ Solanum Tuberosum/ Sesamum indicum/ Fagopyrum spp./ Phaseolus vulgaris
2. Silviculture	D. sissoo + A. catechu + local grasses
3. Farm forestry (block)	D. sissoo; Acacia catechu; Tectona grandis; Fraxinus floribunda; Cassia siamea; Alnus nepalensis; Michelia champaca (Randomized Complete Block Design)

The terminologies 'single crop intercropping', 'double crop intercropping', and 'multi-tree crop intercropping' may arise some confusion. The term 'single crop intercropping' here is used to mean that a single agriculture crop species planted tree rows at a particular time. Whereas 'double crop intercropping' implies the technique in which two agriculture crop species are planted along with the rows of single tree species at the same time. Similarly, 'multi-tree crop intercropping' refers to the agricultural crops planted with the tree rows of different species. The objective of 'multi-tree crop scheme' is to get fuelwood, timber, fodder and fruits from the same patch of land without hampering the overall production.

Table 2. Average growth performances of different species in 'block plantation' after two growing seasons.

Tree species	Height (m)	dbh (cm)	Mortality (%)
Acacia catechu	2.73±0.50	4.10±0.9	15
Tectona grandis	1.97±0.43	2.27±0.5	18
Alnus nepalensis	2.73±0.61	2.40±0.4	19
Dalbergia sissoo	3.78±0.60	3.23±0.5	

Values are mean ± SD

Saccharum munja and Cassia occidentalis are the dominant plants found in the area. LTB involves the areas affected by flash floods during monsoon that remain dry for the rest of the period. This is a lower area compared to LTA and has higher soil moisture content. Soil in this area was dominated by sandy-clay, however, there were boulders and pebbles in the lower portion. Imperata cylindrica was the dominant ground flora which is very difficult to uproot even in the summer season. LTC included the area which was under water during monsoon. This area largely consisted of rocks stones, pebbles and sands. There was no vegetation in this zone.

The study area, which was good agricultural land before, has remained fallow for the last twenty to twenty five years. The reasons behind this were:

1. Heavy decrease in land productivity due to washing away of top soil by flooding,
2. Risk of reoccurrence of flooding,
3. Demarcation of the river-damaged land is difficult
4. Land preparation is costly because of the presence of Imperata cylindrical, Saccharum munja and other grass species and boulders and pebbles

5. Difficult to protect crops from domestic animals because of excessive grazing pressure in the area.

All the river-damaged areas on the site are owned by the people residing in nearby villages. After losing the good agricultural land some owners, who were fully dependent on those areas, left their villages and migrated elsewhere. Some others who had 'Pakho bari' (un-irrigated upland agricultural areas where crops other than rice and wheat can be cultivated) invested their efforts and resources on it.

Methods

Vegetation establishment, land productivity and control of weeds were the three parameters taken into consideration as the bases for land reclamation. For this, growth performance of trees as well as production of agricultural crops was measured. In order to measure tree heights and diameters, direct field measurements were done, whereas data pertaining to crop yield were gathered through interviews with the concerned farmers. Crop yield data were compared with the production of undamaged cropping field nearby. There were altogether 33 households directly

Table 3. Growth of *Dalbergia sissoo* under flood-affected and unaffected sites (Block plantation)

locations	average height (m)	Average dbh (cm)	mortality rate (%)
Present Study Area (river-affected-LTB)	4.39±0.88	3.80±0.7	8
Agriculture land (undegraded)	4.80±0.65	3.94±0.5	12

($p=0.05$)

involved in agro-forestry activities. Therefore, an observation of all the 33 direct beneficiaries was done. The major agro-forestry systems practiced in the area are shown in Table 1.

The procedure of overall intervention has been given in the box below.

Box 1

Procedure of the project intervention

Step 1. Site selection (Technical, social, economical considerations)

Step 2. Community Rapport Building (Interaction with VDC/ward officials, farmers who have lands in the riverside area, willingness of planting trees and crops, economic status etc)

Step 3. Detailed baseline survey (economic, ecological and technical aspects of the site)

Step 4. Land categorization and Designing the agro- forestry models in association with the local farmers and agro-forestry experts of the project.

Step 5. Implementation of the project

Step 6. Monitoring, Evaluation

Step 7. Result analysis, Verification and Replication to other areas

Results and Discussion

Growth Performance of Trees

Growth and mortality of tree plantings of four tree species were recorded (Table 2). The growth performance of *Dalbergia sissoo* was the highest among the four. Moreover, growth performance of *Dalbergia sissoo* under different schemes (Figure 1) shows that LTA-intercropping is the most suitable scheme for seedling growth. The growth performance of tree seedlings in the 'block plantation' was slightly lower than the other two schemes. This was because of higher

seedling density. The spacing of tree species in the 'multi-tree crop intercropping scheme' was 2.58 m whereas it was 1.1 m in farm forestry blocks and 2.58 m in the two-crop intercropping. Among the four species, *Tectona grandis* was found to have poorest growth performance.

The mortality percent of *Dalbergia sissoo* was highest (16%) in the inter-cropping of LTB (Table 2). *Dalbergia sissoo* and *Acacia catechu* showed good performance in both the height and dbh growth in the block plantation. Moreover, there was no significant ($P=0.05$) difference in the height growth of *Dalbergia sissoo* planted in the flood-affected area and the area unaffected (Table 3).

Agricultural Crop Yield

Several agricultural crops were intercropped with *Dalbergia sissoo* at the tree spacing of 2.5x10m. They included maize, millet, potato, pigeon pea, oil seed (sesame), and bean. These crops were planted on the same plot at different seasons of the year. Maize, pigeon pea, and bean were cultivated at the same time whereas millet was planted at the time of maize cultivation. The maize production was 1.92 ton/ha which was quite good if compared to its production from the usual agricultural land which is 24.57 Qtl./ha (TU/IDRC 1995). Production of potato, millet, bean, oilseed and pigeon pea has been calculated (Table 4). However, the crop yield decreases as the canopy cover increases. Kafle (1994) also reported the shading effect of trees on rice and mustard production. The reduction of grain yield due to tree shading can be reduced by growing shade-tolerant crops under tree shade, increasing spacing between planted trees, managing the canopy especially lower branches and using any other techniques to increase the amount of light getting on to the crops (Kafle 1994).

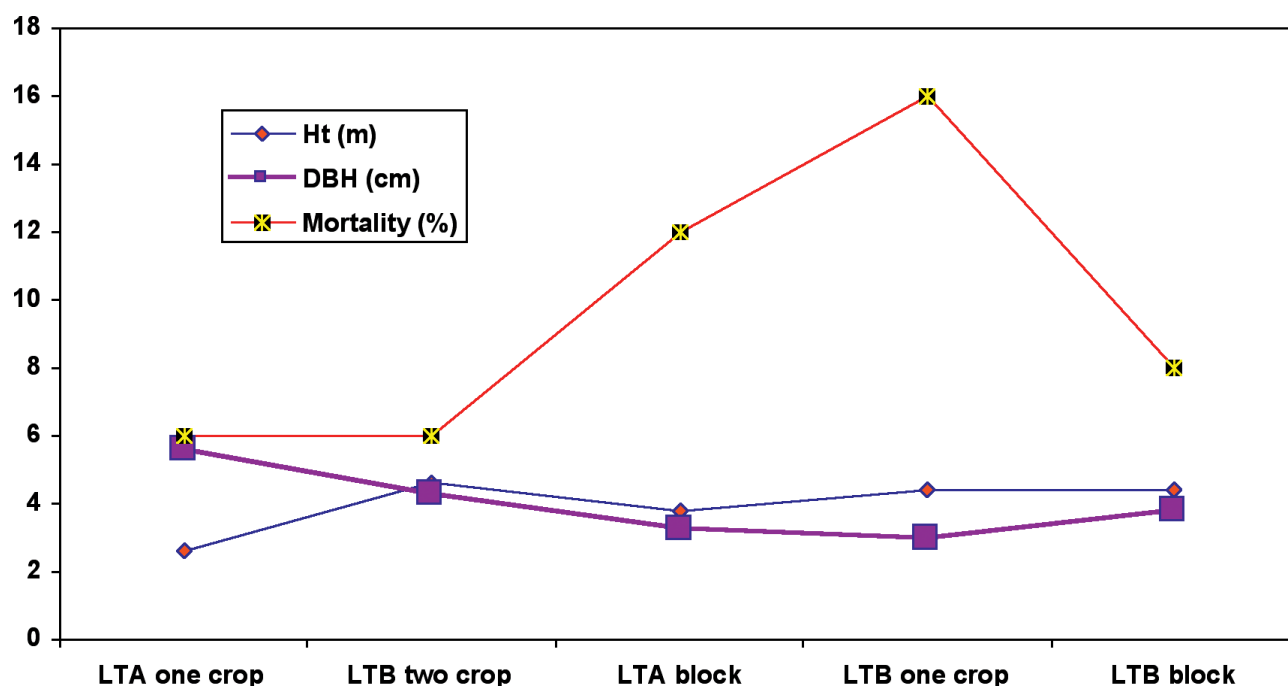


Figure 1. Growth performance of *Dalbergia sissoo* under different agro-forestry schemes

Effect of Agro-forestry Practices on Weeds

The presence of *Imperata cylindrica* and *Saccharum munja* grasses have made soil preparation for agricultural practices costly. These are regarded among the ten world's worst grass species which acidify and further degrade the soil. However, these species are suitable for protecting soils from erosion and for cattle feeding. The roots of these grass species are long and form a web-like structure on the ground surface which cannot be penetrated by wooden ploughs. Use of power tiller or pesticides to prevent growth of these species, from the economic point of view, is not always possible. The growth condition of these grass species were observed in three different plantation regimes; namely, intercropping area, silvipasture and block plantation of tree species.

In the intercropping area, power tillers were used in order to prepare the land for cropping for the first time, and local wooden ploughs were used afterwards. In such areas, the *Imperata* grass was completely eradicated. In the silvipasture blocks, where *Dalbergia sissoo* and *A. catechu* were planted at a spacing of 5x5 m, the composition of grass species was noticed to have changed. New species appeared such as *Saccharum munja*, *Phasalum* sp., *Phragmites* sp., and *Setaria* sp. These newly appeared species were more palatable to cattle. After protecting the area from grazing, *Cassia occidentalis* was seen to have disappeared. Whereas in block plantation areas, growth of *Imperata cylindrica* and *Saccharum* spp. was completely stunted. Most probably, the reason was due to shading. The growth of grass species was seen to have prevented during second rainy season. In this area, *Imperata* and

Table 4. Yield from agricultural crops

crops	production (qtl./ha/year)	per unit price at market price (Rs/Kg)	total income (Rs/ha)
Maize	19.2	6.00	11520
Millet	4.0	4.00	1600
Potato	20.0	5.00	10000
Pigeon pea	1.6	18.00	2880
Oilseed	0.8	30.00	2400
Bean	2.0	15.00	3000
Grand Total			31400

Saccharum grasses were dying in all the blocks regardless of tree species planted.

Conclusions

Agro-forestry systems, especially Dalbergia sissoo intercropped with the local agricultural crops such as beans, finger millet, pigeon pea, maize and potato, are suitable for land reclamation. Block plantation of various MPTS is also useful in this regard. However, farmers prefer planting Dalbergia sissoo along with agriculture crops instead of planting trees alone. Protecting grass lands and planting Dalbergia sissoo and Acacia catechu result in a change in the vegetation composition leading to increased plant diversity.

Decrease in productivity and difficulty in land preparation are two most serious problems faced by the farmers while cultivating the flood-damaged areas. Agro-forestry practices with judicious selection of species and designs can help overcome both of these problems. However, efforts should be made towards mitigating the impact of future floods using bioengineering designs such as vegetative spurs and check dams. In addition, dense plantation of Acacia catechu and Dalbergia sissoo will be helpful in protecting the land from flash floods. Further studies regarding crop yield, diversity of grass species and appropriate tree management techniques for agro-forestry are recommended.

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Challenge in Working with Communities in Urban Areas (ACF Experience/Kampung Melayu)

➤ Staff Experiences with Kampung Melayu

Ms Henny Dwi Vidiarina
CARE Indonesia

“I have never worked in an urban community before joining ACF, and when I first came into this community, I had a hard time adjusting with their living conditions. I thought that I would not be able to survive working on this project for more than three months. The people were too heterogenic, unlike in rural communities. They are not simple; there is much potential for conflict. I spent most of the time keeping guard over my behavior to avoid misunderstanding. During the first three months, I got frustrated with the attitude of leaders who are difficult, underestimating women, and I felt upset with the attitude of the young people who can not make a decision but feel smart. I found myself being trapped in unproductive arguments with them. However, I have to admit that they are an exposed community. Many local NGOs or other humanitarian organizations have tried to implement projects in the community long before ACF did. The community thought that our project was just a replication of other organization’s initiatives, plus there were no financial incentives which disappointed them even more. The level of commitment thus from the community was unpredictable, we could not rely on their promises. Still, after several months of working in Kampung Melayu, I developed my capability in communication and social analysis

particularly in providing information related to social issues. I realized that even uneducated communities in urban areas are very concerned about social and political issues, and I have to be prepared when they demand clarification on issues as they have somewhat perceived me as an 'educated' source of information and problem solver."

Bevita, former ACF Community Animator

"My unforgettable experience in Kampung Melayu was when Bevita and I were abruptly kicked-out from the mushola (community hall) in the middle of a women's focus group discussion we were conducting. The participants dispersed and ran away in fear of the person who angrily stopped our activity and almost hit me. It was later explained to the community that this leader was angry because permission for such activities were not sought from him, but from another leader. I was surprised that there was another leader in that alley. For me it was a lesson learned: in densely urban poor areas, great care should be taken in determining how many and what kind of leaders exist in specific alleys or areas. Maintaining good relationship with these leaders is crucial. However, after several months of working in Kampung Melayu, I learned that it isn't good to accommodate a leader who is tempted to bring his or her own political agendas into the project. Getting the community's commitment is a challenge because flood has become their daily event; some of them seem are not too worried with the property loss since they have a black market network where they can get the property back at a reasonable price. I also realized that the young people do not have a decision making ability as they were trained to implement but not to make decisions. Evidently in many cross-sectoral meetings they were silent and just let the older people plan and make decisions for them."

Ujang, former ACF Coordinator

"I am an urban guy and I also grew up in a similar place, but I found Kampung Melayu too much. Too many people, too many political parties in the area, too dirty. Many political parties have taken advantage of the the economic pressures of the community and trained the people to become

money-oriented and dependent. Going on low-profile, being open-minded, and gaul (being friendly and socially active) is the best method in working in urban communities, particularly among the youth. It was truly a challenge to introduce a new type of project to this community which does not provide physical assistance. But it is written in the SPHERE guidelines, that one of the humanitarian principles in disaster management is to save life and dignity and eradicate poverty. Particularly in urban poor areas, we have to be really clarify with the community and have a common understanding and agreement of what dignity is. For this community, and specifically in relation to flood, being dependent to outside assistance is for them a sign of dignity."

Andry, former ACF Community Animator

"Until now, I find it difficult to understand why those people remain stay in Kampung Melayu, such a dirty and flooded area, even if some of them have land, family and houses in other parts of Java. Economically they are classified as urban poor, working below normal wage in the informal sector, many of the young people are jobless, 41% of the children are over 18 years old and half of them (49%) are unemployed and no longer attending school. I found a contradiction in the community - on one hand they are hoping for safety, community order, harmony, cooperative way of life, and clean environment, but on the other hand, they throw waste everywhere, maintain ignorance toward social organization, and escape from social duties. These are not common attitudes in the rural setting."

Bambang, former Socio-Economic Surveyor and Database Officer

"In the survey done by ACF, it was stated that heads of family are usually males (86% against 14% of females heads of households). Among the male heads of families, 95% are married, 3% widows or divorced and 2% are single. Among the female heads of families, 99% are divorced or widows, 1% single and 0% are married. This indicates that women are heads of families only where there is no male. Women in Kampung Melayu do not prefer to be the head of the family to avoid social duties and economic burden,

however in reality they play the key role in supporting family livelihood. Most of them even indicated that they earned more than the family head. I further found that young females are have easier access to jobs. Most of the children over 18 (up to 35 years old) who are jobless and stay with their parents are male. This further explains why the young people, particularly male, put themselves have very weak bargaining position since they are financially dependent on the older people.”

Vidi, former Assistant Program Manager

Strategy for CBDRM Work in the Community

The basic principle for CBDRM is to save lives and property, by helping communities work to decrease their vulnerability and increase their capacity to reduce the impact of disasters. CBDRM will be sustainable if it is integrated into the development strategy. This is very applicable to the urban community at risk.

CBDRM in the urban and rural community can not merely react to the disaster impact but it has to address also the underlying causes of vulnerability. Most of the underlying causes are related to poor governance, inequitable social condition and deteriorated human condition for unequal public services.

The project has documented HVCA and DNCA matrix as well as FGD methodology. The documents have shown that a number of basic spatial infrastructure are not in place and this has become a main community need, such as waste management, clean water supply, land status, access to market and economic activity, and basic equipment for flood. This is worsened by the absence of flood-relevant regulation such as river law versus urban planning and building codes, and insufficient Early Warning System.

The CBDRM strategy therefore needs to cover three main working areas i.e, policy advocacy or legal entitlement, resource mobilization through various steps like capacity building for community and also government, and financial

and equipment management, and applicable design. The sound communication and coordination with all layers of the government (from national to local) is necessary considering the complexity within government structure is one of the potential failure factors to the project.

Kampung Melayu as the target area of CBDRM is complex and heterogenic, therefore a multi-hazard approach is necessary. Flood management must be coherent with health management and spatial planning strategy. Thus, it requires a longer term of intervention.

Key Achievements and Impacts in the Community

The ACF project in Kampung Melayu has significantly provided a good impact to the surrounding urban community in Jakarta. Through the project, political commitment to disaster management from the provincial government has been developed and has been extended to other flood-prone areas in the city. After project completion, the government continues to develop their capacity and strategy on disaster management by providing assured budget to all kelurahan (equal to village level) for disaster management with the aim to establish one of the most sufficient Early Warning Systems in place.

Challenge

- Addressing the underlying causes of the vulnerability requires a long-term consolidated urban development strategy.
- Increasing the culture of safety in communities with prolonged flooding requires the establishment of basic infrastructures/equipments, and thus requires higher funding

Lessons Learned

- Working in urban community is not easy, the field staff require an intense communication skills and sound analytical judgment on social and political issues

- The objective for the CBDRM in urban context must include an agenda for addressing the underlying causes of vulnerability.
- CBDRM must be incorporated into the development strategy since the underlying causes of vulnerability directly points to the development problem.
- Good CBDRM is a good coordination strategy because CBDRM is not a one-man-show effort, and it must be done cooperatively with other actors with clear responsibilities
- CBDRM projects in urban communities must have a longer-period multi-hazard approach, thus require sufficient fund and technical assistance.
- The key element for the success CBDRM is the political commitment from the government and stakeholders.

Recommendations

- CBDRM needs to cover three main working areas: policy advocacy or legal entitlement; resource mobilization; and applicable design.
- CBDRM requires good coordination mechanism with all layers at the government level
- Adopt a multi-hazard approach

Disaster Preparedness for Vulnerable People Living in Slum Areas Exposed and Affected by Floods

Location:

Kampung Melayu, East Jakarta, Indonesia

(High density of people, regularly affected by floods, permanent slum)

Beneficiaries:

Population of Kampung Melayu (22,604), local authorities focus on vulnerable areas (riverbank) and women

Period:

1 year, from March 2003 to end of February 2004

Objective:

To reduce the vulnerability of the people affected by floods and to strengthen the capacity of these communities & local authorities to understand, monitor and react to the flood impact

Activities:

- Baseline surveys and studies
(Field surveys: socio-economic, KAP, Vulnerability mapping)
- Grassroots awareness raising and empowerment
(Sensitization, awareness raising activities, HVCA: Hazard Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment, DNCA: Damage, Needs and Capacity Assessment, Training)
- Coordination
(Within community, between different levels, Survey and listing of activities of local actors, forum meetings and information dissemination, networking and advocacy, identification and establishment of a contingency plan)

Partnerships for Disaster Reduction- South East Asia (PDRSEA3)

Mr Zubair Murshed
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Partnerships for Disaster Reduction
Southeast Asia Phase 3 (PDRSEA 3)
Asian Disaster Preparedness Center
(ADPC)

> Southeast Asia is one of the most vulnerable regions of the world, with 37.5 million people affected by various disasters between 2000 and 2003. The population in this region faces multiple risks including typhoons, flood, drought, forest fires, earthquakes, landslides, volcanic eruptions and tsunami. Efforts to cope with disasters have been made at the national and regional levels. However, concrete results have yet to be yielded from traditional approaches of disaster management.

Recognizing the importance of community based disaster risk management in sustainable development of the communities, and the need for its implementation at a larger scale in order to benefit the vulnerable communities in the South East Asian region, the Partnerships for Disaster Reduction- South East Asia (PDRSEA3) was designed to promote CBDRM with the government system by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), and the UNESCAP to be implemented in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Timor L este and Vietnam.

With financial support from DIPECHO, the Partnerships for Disaster Reduction Southeast Asia Phase 3 (PDR-SEA3) worked closely with the National Disaster Management Offices (NDMOs). The project followed a strategic collaborative planning approach to mobilize support for CBDRM from multiple development

ministries and departments, as well as from NGOs and other stakeholders.

The project has developed a conceptual framework and implemented some of its key components in all the project countries. National Consultation Workshops in the project countries were organized, which identified the lessons learnt from CBDRM practices and strategies for the promotion of CBDRM in the development process. Drawing upon the outputs of the National Consultation Workshops, strategic collaborative action planning process was facilitated in the countries. National Strategic Collaborative Workshops were held in this regard, which led to the development of the draft Strategic Collaborative Action Plans on CBDRM. It is expected that this strategic planning approach will lead to the integration of CBDRM into the socio-economic development process by developing ownership of CBDRM in national policies and laws that will support its effective implementation in the countries.

As part of the strategic collaborative planning approach, the project focused upon the following three key approaches.

- Regional Framework Development and Action planning
- Research and Development of Tools to Support Decision-Making
- Strengthening Networking and Partnerships

The project undertook research to assess the operational and technical capacity of the national disaster preparedness system to support CBDRM. A regional database on CBDRM was developed in order to promote good practices and in-depth learning by practitioners and officials about CBDRM. A number of other tools and frameworks developed include Critical Guidelines of CBDRM, the Media kit, the CBDRM curriculum for local authorities, and the Guidebook on Advocacy for Integrating CBDRM into the planning and programming of local authorities.

At the country level partnership development and capacity building activities were undertaken with the Media and the private sector, in order to mobilize support from these sectors for CBDRM. The project also facilitated national workshops to

develop common standards of community based disaster risk management.

In order to support the national activities under the strategic collaborative planning, the project worked closely with the regional committees related to disaster risk management and the international donors. A regional workshop on Advocacy to integrate CBDRM into the planning and programming of local authorities was organized in order to develop the technical capacities of participating organizations.

The PDRSEA program maintains that the governments from the provincial, district and commune or sub-district/municipal levels should recognize the need to involve communities and community groups in disaster risk management, and integrate CBDRM in their policies, plans, and budget. Accordingly they should provide support to community groups for disaster risk reduction by developing appropriate strategies and programs in this regard.

Institutionalization of CBDRM requires the following as its pre-conditions:

- A framework of disaster risk management
- Strong policy support
- Existence of formal organizational infrastructure to support community groups
- Institutionalized budget
- Presence of dedicated, trained and competent personnel
- Political will

The government ministries and the departments can play a significant role in institutionalizing CBDRM by carrying out the following functions:

- Support to form and strengthen community groups for risk reduction
- Share information about risks and vulnerability with communities
- Help communities in undertaking local risk assessment and action planning
- Develop technical skills of local communities (e.g. risk assessment, search and rescue, first aid, safer construction)
- Provide funds to most vulnerable groups for community and household level risk reduction activities

- Provide physical inputs
- Provide technical advice
- Link scientific and technical organizations with community groups (e.g. meteorological stations, Seismological station, early warning system)
- Mobilize resources from all sectors of government and create conducive environment for outside agencies to invest resources in the community initiatives
- Participate in the Monitoring & Evaluation activities along with the local communities

Intergration of CBDRM into Vietnam's National Strategy

Mr Dang Quang Tinh
Director
Department of Dyke Management,
Storm and Flood Control
Vietnam

> **C**ommunity-based disaster risk management has a long history in Vietnam. For many generations, Vietnam people have accumulated much precious experience in preparedness, response to and recovery disaster such as the work of dykes maintenance implemented effectively at all levels and four spot policy... in disaster management.

In addition, international and national non-government organizations as well as donors have increasingly contributed to prevention, preparedness and rehabilitation disaster's impacts. Most community-based disaster management projects focused on building capacities for communities. These emphasized in public interests and needs, so mobilized more participation of communities in disaster risk assessment, monitoring, planning as well implementation of preparedness and response to disasters.

In the recent years, the Party and State have acknowledged importance of community in preparedness, response to and recovery disasters. Committee of Storm and Flood Control organize training courses and exercises on preparedness and response to disasters, communication in order to raise public awareness of this work. However, it still has many obstacles because topography in some regions is very complicated and people's

awareness can not change overnight. Therefore, disaster risk reduction and preparedness should be integrated in to policies, planning and rules to strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response and recovery at all levels in the society, particularly communities' proactive and voluntary participation.

Good practices in Vietnam:

- The government has a disaster management strategy 2006- 2020
- CCFSC established committees from central to commune levels and is building their capacities
- Provinces in the Mekong Delta have established resettlement clusters for flood affected families
- NDM- Partnership implementing Disaster Risk Reduction projects
- Vietnam Red Cross and International Red Cross, IFRC implement risk reduction measures
- AusAID implements projects in Central province
- UNDP, UNICEF, WHO and other UN agencies implement risk reduction activities in their respective fields
- CECI working CBDM into adaptation of the climate change
- SC Alliance working DM into child focused risk reduction methodologies
- CRS and World Vision providing supports on housing, safer village, improving environmental situation
- Oxfam implementing CBDRM activities through action planning, implementation and advocacy components
- CARE in Vietnam is designing long- term and large CBDRM projects.

The Cambodian Disaster Risk Reduction Forum

Ms Bernie O'Neil
ZOA Cambodia

> Reasons for Establishing the Forum

For several years DIPECHO and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) agencies have talked about the need to promote better coordination and exchange of DRR experiences in Cambodia. Many have considered that the Cambodian Red Cross (CRC) could take a leading role in this. Therefore during preparation of the current proposal to DIPECHO, CRC (with support from the Danish Red Cross – DRC) committed to establishing such a forum and to holding at least 3 meetings in 2005.

Membership Overview

The first meeting was held at CRC office in Phnom Penh on the 25th August, attended by representatives from the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM), CRC and IFRC as well as the following NGOs: Action Contre le Faim (ACF), Lutheran World Federation LWF), Church World Service (CWS), Dan Church Aid (DCA), Oxfam and ZOA.

The second meeting was hosted by LWF in Phnom Penh from the 14th to the 16th of September, in conjunction with their own AZEECON (Asian Zone Emergency and Environment Coordination Network) network, which meant that there was a large attendance. This included all the initial

CDRR forum organisations and institutions as well as AZEECON members from other countries in the region such as Bangladesh, Nepal and India. A morning field visit was organised to the nearby province of Kompong Speu.

The third meeting was held in the province of Kompong Cham, hosted by ACF, on the 4th January 2006. The membership increased from the first forum through the participation of CARE, American Red Cross and ADPC. This time there was no field visit.

The fourth meeting was just recently held in Anlong Veng district of Oddar Meanchey province, hosted by ZOA on the 23rd February. This time the number of participants was again increased, by adding Concern Worldwide and World Vision - but due to other commitments, World Vision could not attend. There was a morning field visit to ZOA target villages.

Objectives of the forum

1. To promote exchange of DRR experiences
2. Increase coordination of DRR agency activities
3. Raise awareness of DRR issues in the wider community & government institutions - including advocating mainstreaming DRR in the local development planning process

Key achievements in promoting CBDRM

It is very soon to note any significant achievements. But an important issue discussed at the last meeting was the mainstreaming of DRR into the local planning process. All participants agreed that DRR should go hand in hand with development planning. The local planning process in Cambodia has been considerably strengthened over the last number of years through the SEILA program (decentralization program of UNDP). Issues that

were previously not thought about have been mainstreamed into the process by including separate sectors in the planning forms – such as for gender and environment. It was proposed that DRR could also have its own section in this planning process – which will ensure it is addressed but still remains part of the overall village & commune development plans. The challenge for DRR agencies will be to ensure that village development committees and commune councils address this part of the plan in a true participatory manner. The commitment of the NCDM at this meeting to facilitating discussions at national level to ensure this mainstreaming occurs was welcomed by all forum participants.

Challenges in sustaining the network

- Member organisations and institutions do not always send the same person to attend the Forum. Therefore it is taking longer to develop a cohesive working group.
- Although all members say it's great to have the forum, not all are willing to host a meeting – some are too busy with other activities and others don't have a budget for this.

Lessons learned in terms of networking

- A small consistent group can have more productive discussions than a larger group.
- But keeping the group small can mean it becomes “exclusive” and others not included may not feel a sense of ownership of decisions taken.
- The Forum can be most useful when theory is combined with practice – including field visits to the Forum host is a good way to allow members to see what others are doing in practice. This is particularly useful when we consider that many DRR agencies are working in remote areas far from each other and cannot easily arrange cross visits.

Disaster Management Working Group in Vietnam: Partnership for Community-based Disaster Risk Management

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> Introduction

This paper attempts to provide a snap shot of the Disaster Management Working Group (DMWG) in Vietnam – a unique partnership that has brought together many International Non-government organizations (INGOs), the Government and other national agencies, the United Nations as well as some Donors. The paper reflects my personal assessment of the DMWG, which I am proud to have been associated with since its early inception. But to a larger extent, I am grateful to many DMWG members, who have kindly shared their invaluable perspectives and provided inputs to the paper.

The DMWG - Critical Reflections to Move Ahead

Members of the DMWG are undertaking a critical review of the group's operations after more than 4 years of its establishment. This is of great importance as the DMWG is facing with challenges to maintain its dynamics and sustainability as well as the need to position itself in the evolving context of disaster reduction (DR) in Vietnam, such as the multi million US dollars World Bank DR project that has recently been approved. There are discussions on what the DMWG has done well, what it can do more in a more proactive and sustainable manner and

how it would determine its relationship with the Natural Disaster Mitigation Partnership (the NDM-P <http://www.undp.org.vn/ndm-partnership>) - a major Partnership in DR that was initiated after the 1999 floods under a considerably prominent Government leadership and with much more interests from Donors. This includes a question on the need of chairmanship and a Secretariat to provide administrative support to the DMWG meetings and joint activities. On the other hand, the DMWG with its informal and flexible working arrangements on an entire voluntary basis has been much more active compared with the formally structured NDM-P.

What the DMWG has done well?

The DMWG was initiated by the International Federation of Red Crescent and Red Cross Societies (IFRC) based on arising needs to share information and coordinate to avoid overlaps in massive emergency relief during and after the devastating floods that hit seven Central provinces of Vietnam in late 1999. By initiating this, the IFRC also wanted to build capacity of their national partner - the Vietnam Red Cross - in networking and coordination. The DMWG started with ad-hoc meetings of some agencies, involved in emergency relief operations during the Mekong River Delta floods in 2000 and 2001.

Participation to the DMWG meetings increased as the number of organizations, active in the field increased and the focus shifted from emergency relief to broader and more long-term issues in disaster risk reduction. The DMWG membership, which has been open and flexible, includes International INGOs, IFRC, Department of dyke management and flood and storm control (DDMFSC) of MARD – the Standing office of the Central Committee for Flood and Storm Control (CCFSC), Vietnam Red Cross, Ministry of Health (through Hanoi School of Public Health), UN agencies (UNDP, UNICEF, WHO, FAO) and some donors. The group began to meet on monthly basis in 2001 with more structured meeting agendas and a strong need to move forward close coordination, coherent messages by NGOs and International community on disaster issues and joint activities to complement agencies' expertise and resources.

Objectives of the DMWG¹

With the goal to support disaster risk reduction in Vietnam through improved information sharing and coordination of interventions amongst all relevant agencies, the DMWG aims to:

1. Enhance the effectiveness of agencies working in hazard reduction and disaster management in Vietnam
2. Support agencies of the Government of Vietnam at all levels in fulfilling their responsibilities relating to hazard reduction and disaster management
3. Support local organizations and communities to develop sustainable and appropriate strategies and tools to identifying local hazards and managing local risks
4. Promote adoption, adaptation and use of current international standards of best practice by agencies working in hazard reduction and disaster management in Vietnam
5. Ensure that contributions by the international community to disaster relief in Vietnam are timely and appropriate.

The DMWG Activities and CBDRM

CBDRM and other international standards in DRM and humanitarian actions have been the key themes of the DMWG dialogues and activities. They have been promoted as follows:

1. **Information sharing** on a wide range of issues in DRM: emergency relief, planned and on-going programme and project activities, plans for fund mobilization with several common funding windows, lessons learned and experiences from different projects and interventions.
2. **Joint Assessment (JA)** of disaster damage and humanitarian needs to enhance cost efficiency and complementary of different agencies' expertise and experience in assessment while reducing the burden on local authorities and communities with too many assessment missions. The DMWG has developed a comprehensive questionnaire that focuses on identifying underlying impacts of disasters on people and their different needs to resume livelihoods. Community participation, child-focus and gender equality have been mainstreamed in the JA across all sectors.

3. **Joint efforts in promoting international standards** such as the new SPHERE Handbook, which has been translated into Vietnamese with support from many DMWG members, and has been widely disseminated to national partners through a joint training and a workshop.
4. **Joint research, training and workshops** to advocate for and promote integration of CBDRM, synchronized CBDRM practices and standards and to ensure coherent messages to Government officials and communities on CBDRM. These have greatly facilitated mutual support and joint learning amongst the group member agencies on key technical issues in DRM and community approaches while building a stronger voice from the group on policy advocacy.
5. **Joint efforts in building capacity** of national and local partners in CBDRM have been initiated. An increasing number of national and local partners have been invited to the DMWG meetings through their INGOs partners to present their project activities, research results, lessons learned and experiences. These were good opportunities for networking and mutual learning amongst both international and national partners.

Achievements

The DMWG is a dynamic network, which over more than 4 years of operations, showed that coordination and collaboration do work and bring values to all partners if there are commitments and enthusiasm to work together. Despite early skeptics and fear that competition among the agencies for funds mobilization would jeopardize the JA initiative, the group has experienced enthusiastic feedback for every call for a JA and several JAs have been undertaken with voluntary contribution of human resources and logistic support by participating agencies including the CCFSC and the Red Cross. JA reports and joint briefings for Donors have resulted in financial support to emergency efforts. Amongst many, there was a joint project to rehabilitate 328 houses in Quang Ngai and Binh Dinh provinces after the floods in 2003 with funding from the United Nations Office for Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), AUSAID and Catholic Relief Services (CRS). With the CRS providing

implementation support and technical assistance to local authorities and beneficiaries and UNDP playing the overall coordination role, the project was a successful experience in demonstrating a harmonized approach and complementary efforts that bridged emergency relief with more long-term disaster risk reduction. There has also been increased participation and ownership by the Government in the JAs². The latest JA report of the typhoon Damrey in September 2004 was used by the Government in its decisions for financial support to affected provinces.

The DMWG members have benefited from a number of joint training sessions, workshop and research on CBDRM including gender mainstreaming in DR, JA techniques and standards and institutionalization of CBDRM. An enthusiastic joint learning mode has been created in the DMWG that helps to enhance its coherent voice on a number of policy issues at national and local levels. The group has been active in supporting the organization of the celebration of the International Disaster Reduction Day, which is a good advocacy opportunity as it brings together all Government ministries, national and local agencies and international partners working in DRM. The ceremony of this Day in 2005 was marked with a public exhibition, led by Action Aid Vietnam on DRM.

Challenges and Lessons Learned

The DMWG has experienced a number of challenges in its efforts toward coordinated and coherent interventions in CBDRM in Vietnam:

1. *The need for more learning and development of common strategies and standard tools for CBDRM:* The initial work on CBDRM have been encouraging but still limited in quantity. There is a need for much more sharing of CBDRM practices across CBDRM projects at local level that are increasing. The member agencies seem to continue developing their own CBDRM methods and materials without adequate sharing and joint efforts to develop and apply best practices and maximize available resources. Much more should be done to move forward joint programme/project activities in the same geographic areas.

2. *National and multi-sectoral participation still limited:* The number of national agencies in DMWG meetings and activities has increased through encouragement of their respective international partners. The group membership has been extended to academic and research institutions (such as the Hanoi school of public health under the Ministry of Health, National Institute of Nutrition, etc) and local partners. The DMWG mailing list, managed with support from UNDP is a wide and active network. Nevertheless, given the diversity of natural hazards in Vietnam and crosscutting nature of natural disasters, there are many other Government agencies and national institutions, which are mandated and play important roles in various aspects of DRM in Vietnam. The group should have a strategy and make efforts to mobilize participation of these agencies in its endeavor to promote comprehensive integrated CBDRM.
3. *Policy dialogues and advocacy should be strengthened:* The DMWG policy advocacy is at an early stage, but it is stimulating (promoting gender mainstreaming and CBDRM in the finalization of the National Strategy for natural disaster reduction, DMWG contribution for the National Socio-economic development plan 2006-2010 facilitated by the NGO Resource Center). A lot more can be done to advocate for more participatory processes to facilitate wider contributions in this regard. There are many rich experiences that individual member agencies have gained through their initiatives on the ground, which should be consolidated into specific policy messages. Regional collaboration to learn best practices from other countries and to share Vietnam experience will also be of great benefit.
4. *The need to be more proactive for integration of CBDRM:* Given the crosscutting nature of natural disaster management, it is important that integration of disaster risk reduction is taken into consideration in other development programmes. There is a clear role for the DMWG in this regard and there do exist partnership mechanisms on other important development themes (Agriculture and rural development, environment and natural resources, public health, etc), which could provide excellent platforms for the DMWG. Also these partnerships could offer networking

opportunities with other national partners beyond those working in the DRM area.

5. *Sustainability:* Participation in the DMWG activities has been good and to a certain extent provided flexibilities for agencies to choose activities to take part in depending on their interests and available resources. On the other hand, the group seems to depend on individuals without clear organizational commitments and it has experienced a slow down in certain activities due to staff turn over in some key agencies. There is a need for the DMWG to explore a more institutionalized working mechanism without creating burden on members' both in terms of human and financial resources.

How the DMWG Could Move Forward?

The DMWG has been a rewarding experience to those who are committed and contribute to make it work. Individual commitments and voluntary contributions have been essential to motivate such a complex issue of building Partnership and promoting harmonization and to make this group work well over the last 4 years. It has created strong foundations for further development - the established mechanisms for JA and joint activities. Nevertheless, the challenges it has faced and new requirements to position itself in a changing context have shown the clear need for the group to determine what they would want to achieve through this networking and partnership building endeavor. As such, organizational issues like institutionalized organizational backup, working mechanisms, TOR, specific workplans and clear mapping of responsibilities need to be addressed. On the other hand, these supporting mechanisms should not be rigid and create burdens on the member agencies. Further, group members will need to continue to be the engine to make it work, which cannot be replaced by any Secretariat of any form as the lesson learned from the NDM-Partnership has shown. Strengthening advocacy and policy dialogues in CBDRM is one of the key challenges for DMWG with limited participation of the Government in the group. On the other hand, the NDM-P can provide excellent platform for policy dialogues that would benefit from wealth of strong technical expertise and rich experiences from DMWG member agencies. Therefore, there is an option

for the DMWG to work in parallel with the NDM-P but there is perhaps a better option for the group to play a key role in policy advocacy and dialogues under the NDM-P.

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Footnotes

- 1 *Extract from Terms of Reference of DMWG, 2003*
- 2 *Notably through the Department of dyke management and flood and storm control (DDMFSC) - the Standing office of the Central Committee for Flood and Storm Control (CCFSC) and also the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) in the recent JA immediately after the typhoon Damrey in September 2004*

Networking for CBDRM among DM Practitioners in the Philippines - NGO Perspective

> General Framework

Disaster risk management is everybody's business and responsibility. While the involvement of all stakeholders especially the community is essential, government has the primary responsibility for disaster management, public safety, disaster resilience as well as the , general well being and sustainable development for all its citizens.

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While the importance of local and community based disaster risk management (CBDRM) can not be overemphasized, vertical coordination is important among the various levels of the country's disaster management system (national, regional, provincial, municipal/city, village). Within a level, there is need to strengthen multi-stakeholder/inter-sectoral coordination, collaboration and partnerships to have enabling policy, effective institutional arrangements/ disaster risk management organizations, and appropriate and adequate services and actions in pre, during and post-disaster disaster management activities which should involve and benefit communities at-risk.

Non-government Organizations (NGOs) perform supporting, facilitating and catalytic roles in community based disaster risk management. They are usually bring in new framework,

concepts, tools, information, appropriate technology, resources and services to communities at-risk. NGOs usually provide the necessary interface for communities at-risk to interact with other stakeholders such as local and national government, the scientific community, the academe, business groups, media and others. NGOs are partners of communities and other stakeholders in capacity development. In advocacy and lobby work at the local and national level, NGOs listen to and articulate the local people's voices and help them expand choices.

Overview of Networks in Disaster Management

There is a proliferation of NGOs in the Philippines. Some 60,000 NGOs are registered with the Philippine Securities and Exchange Commission. These include civic, faith-based, charity, social development, business, media foundations and organizations. Although most of these NGOs have no clear disaster management mandates, they usually engage in relief activities following a disaster. A few NGOs have humanitarian or disaster management mandates while some NGOs have broader mandates which includes disaster management.

Most NGOs involved in disaster management have a history of banding together to have a nationwide, regional, or provincial coverage. Aside from the benefit of wider coverage, networking provides information and resources sharing, complementation in services delivery and avoiding duplication of services and communities served and competition. Recent networks also work for the mainstreaming of CBDRM, engage in advocacy and lobby work, and promote standards of performance among service providers. More and more, the formal and informal networks initiated by NGOs also involve government and communities.

The Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC) has a broad mandate (disaster management service, safety service, community health and nursing service, national blood program, Red Cross Youth, social welfare services) and has 86 chapters all over the Philippines. Red

Cross Chapters have unified administrative and operational policies but have autonomy in terms of raising money. It is the only NGO which is a member of the National Disaster Coordinating Council. Starting 1994, PNRC has implemented community based disaster management through its Integrated Community Disaster Planning Programme.

Another national network promoting CBDRM (with its own brand of citizenry-based development-oriented disaster response) since 1984 is the Citizen's Disaster Response Network composed of the Citizens' Disaster Response Center and 13 Regional Centers all over the Philippines. Examples of faith-based NGOs with disaster management programs that also have nationwide coverage are the National Secretariat of Social Action, Justice and Peace under the Catholic Bishop Conference of the Philippines in partnership with 80 social action centers all over the Philippines and the National Council of Churches of the Philippines assisting local churches.

A regional network formed during the 1991 Mt. Pinatubo eruption emergency operations and preparedness for successive seasons of lahar flows was the Central Luzon Disaster Response Network (CLDRN). Composed of provincial networks and regional NGOs and people's organizations, CLDRN is now inactive. A provincial network formed at that time, the Pampanga Disaster Response Network composed of 20 people's organizations and NGOs is very much active up to the present in CBDRM work in Pampanga.

The first attempt to have a network among NGOs involved in disaster management was in the early 1990s. The Inter-Agency Network for Disaster Response composed of 9 national NGOs (which included the Philippine Business for Social Progress, Philippine National Red Cross, Citizens' Disaster Response Center and the Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement) was active in coordination, information and resources sharing and limited advocacy during the 1990 Earthquake in Northern Luzon and Mt. Pinatubo emergency response and rehabilitation activities up to the mid 1990s.

The Corporate Network for Disaster Response (CNDR) was also organized during the 1990 Earthquake and strengthened through its Mt. Pinatubo emergency response and rehabilitation activities. CNDR is a network of 29 business groups and social development foundations of big corporations including ABS-CBN Foundation, BPI Foundation, Inc., Ayala Foundation Inc. CARE Philippines is also a member of CNDR. Its members pool together food and other essential relief materials and cash during emergencies and distribute these to beneficiaries through local partners. CNDR organizes awareness and preparedness activities among its members. It also assists communities in Nueva Ecija in disaster preparedness and mitigation following the 2004 flooding and landslides. Recently, CNDR facilitated assistance of a corporation to Buklod Tao, a people's organization involved in disaster management to address flooding and landslide problems of their community.

The National Anti-Poverty Commission - Victims of Disaster and Calamities Sector is a network organized by the Government in 2002 following preparatory sectoral assembly and consultations in 1999 and 2001. The VDC National Sectoral Assembly formulates the Sectoral Agenda and elects the Sectoral Council composed of 16 regional and 4 national network representatives. The Sectoral Agenda revolves on policy development, capacity building and representation and participation of NGOs in the Disaster Coordinating Councils at various levels.

The Mindanao Emergency Response Network is a newly organized network of 35 collaborating local, national and international NGOs with government and the UN Multi-lateral Donor Programme. It was convened by Save the Children-US, Community and Family Services Inc., Tabang Mindanao, the UN Multi-Donor Programme with the Regional Disaster Coordinating Council/ Office of Civil Defense for field level coordination as well as improving the performance and quality of assistance to internally displaced persons by conflict in Mindanao since 2000. Its goal is to pursue an effective, efficient, timely and appropriate emergency and humanitarian assistance and services while seeking durable solutions to displacement. MERN undertook the

local adaptation of the SPHERE standards. On its own, Tabang Mindanao is also a consortium of church, business and media foundations formed in 1998 during the food crisis caused by El Nino and drought. It has continued on in delivery of services for internally displaced persons and advocacy for peace in Mindanao.

The Philippine Disaster Management Forum (PDMF) is a network of NGOs and individuals from NGOs, people's organizations, the academe and other organizations working for the legislation and institutionalization of CBDM. Its key programs and activities include legislative policy advocacy, promotion of CBDM, network and linkage building and PDMF institutionalization. Thirteen NGOs initially formally composed the organizational membership of PDMF with 46 other individual members and more members have been added to its roster after a Mindanao Forum contributed its inputs to the PDMF alternative Disaster Management Bill.

Emerging Networks

The First National Conference of People's Organizations in CBDM was held in August 2004. A total of 60 delegates coming from 32 People's Organizations, 3 Barangays (village) Disaster Coordinating Councils and 16 NGOs attended the Conference. If this network continues, NGOs should support the community and people's organizations in this initiative.

In the last quarter of 2005 and in 2006, Round Table Discussions were called by CARE Philippines for the Avian Influenza threat and preparedness activities. Through the 4 Round Table Discussions to date, the informal network has grown to 25 NGOs and government groups including the Department of Health, Bureau of Animal Industry- Department of Agriculture and the Office of Civil Defense-NDCC.

In connection with the Guinsaun mudslide disaster in February 2006, Oxfam-GB has initiated a coordination meeting among key organizations involved in emergency response and preparedness. This could develop into a network similar to the Mindanao Emergency Response Network at the national level or similar coordination meetings can be continued

for emergency response for particular disaster events and/or preparedness and mitigation for impending threats such as La Nina in 2006.

CDP's Networking and Partnership for Mainstreaming of CBDRM

The Center for Disaster Preparedness Foundation, Inc. (CDP) is a resource center dedicated to promoting and developing CBDRM. Its agenda is to mainstream CBDRM through training, interactive fora, consultancies, research and publication, networking and advocacy.

CDP spearheaded the formation of the Philippine Disaster Management Forum. PDMF was conceived during the Reflection Workshop on CBDM in the Philippines organized together with the Partnership for Disaster Reduction-South East Asia 1 in 2001. The workshop affirmed the relevance of CBDM approach and the necessity of networking and engaging in legislative and policy advocacy to enable and institutionalize CBDM in the Philippines. Subsequently a Study Forum convened by 10 organizations and individuals was initiated to review existing legislation and proposed disaster management bills in the Philippine Congress. The Study Forum led to the formalization of the convenor group and participating organizations into the PDMF.

Under the banner of PDMF, CDP co-organized with the National Disaster Coordinating Council-Office of Civil Defense the First National Conference on CBDM in the Philippines in January 2003. The 82 participants coming from 69 key disaster management organizations from the government and NGOs called for the widespread replication of CBDM in the Philippines. In the Disaster Management Bill presented to Congress to update Presidential Decree 1566, Strengthening the Philippine Disaster Control Capability and Establishing the National Program on Community Disaster Preparedness, all the initial inputs and recommendations of the PDMF were incorporated. Subsequent consultations of PDMF among its members and conduct of the Mindanao Forum led to the formulation of an alternative DM bill calling for the formation of a

new National Disaster Management Authority under the Office of the President.

CDP also assisted the convening of the First National Conference of People's Organizations in CBDM held in August 2004. A total of 60 delegates coming from 32 People's Organizations (POs), 3 Barangays (village) Disaster Coordinating Councils and 16 NGOs attended the Conference. With the theme of "Linking arms of people's organizations towards prepared, strong and secure communities", the Conference discussed plans to strengthen CBDRM and the POs. Just as with the planning meeting of PDMF, PDR-SEA 2 supported this coming together of the community and people's organizations.

As part of its multi-track approach for CBDRM mainstreaming, CDP convened the Working Group from the Department of Interior and Local Government, Office of Civil Defense-NDCC, cited good practices in disaster management among local government units (Albay Public Safety and Emergency Management Office and Municipality of Guagua) with NGOs to formulate and pre-test a module to integrate disaster risk management in local governance. The training module was subjected to participatory critique with NGOs and government personnel.

Together with Save the Children-UK and Balay Rehabilitation Center, CDP also piloted the integration of children protection rights in disaster management and local governance in armed conflict situations with 9 barangays in Pikit, North Cotabato. The pilot project involved children in the conduct of participatory risk assessment and initial action planning. An output is a training module for use at the Barangay level.

Lessons Learned in Networking and Partnership Development

1. The complex disaster problem requires a participatory, holistic and integrated approach. Everybody has something to contribute thus partnership has to be developed at all levels - horizontally (government, civil society, business sector) and vertically (national to local)

2. Even among NGOs, and especially between NGOs and GOs, differences in working styles can be an irritant or source of distrust. The objective/s for coming together, procedures for coordination, roles and responsibilities, information and communication flow and the timetable of activities must be clear to avoid misunderstandings. Each one can have different strategies or approaches to realize the objectives. The important thing is to engage in dialogue in spite of differences.
3. The leadership as well as the members have co-responsibility in sustaining the network.
4. Legislative advocacy work is an important strategy in mainstreaming CBDRM. It requires timing and is also time consuming. It has to be combined with capacity building and addressing operational issues, especially at the local level.

Some of CDP's Success Factors in Networking for CBDRM Mainstreaming

1. Belief that CBDRM works and the passion to promote CBDRM
2. Building on previous gains
3. Focus on common issues and concerns based on felt issues and concerns of participating organizations and individuals
4. Encouraging involvement of participating organizations and individuals
5. Recognition of the interests and voices of each participating organization/individual and building consensus.
6. Designation of working groups for various functions and activities to further CBDRM
7. Securing start-up funds for key activities
8. Willingness of partners to share in the financial costs to realize activities
9. Use of international/regional platform as leverage for networking for CBDRM in the Philippines

Challenges and Recommendations

1. The sustainability of the Networks for CBDRM is indeed a challenge. Important ingredients of sustainability are:
 - champions within the Network to see the pursuit of the Network goals through and an anchor organization/secretariat/ designated personnel to follow through between meetings and activities
 - participatory Network management models in keeping with the spirit of CBDRM
 - consider anchor organization/secretariat by rotation basis
 - secure funds for operations of the secretariat and activities especially of the network of People's organizations
2. Encourage bilateral partnerships and networking (informal and formal). It is may not yet be the time to have a super umbrella DRM network.
3. Pursue the rights based approach in disaster risk management. Influence all stakeholders in this direction.
4. Formation of a network to support trainers in CBDRM as a sub-group among network/ s of DM practitioners and advocates. Since training has been an important approach in promoting and mainstreaming CBDRM, this idea has been broached for further study to the ProVention Consortium, IFRC and regional formations in Latin America and Africa using South-South as the modality. This may be called the Training and Learning Circle (TLC) since trainers need to continue learning on disaster risk reduction as well as the participatory and learner-centered approaches in training. For the Philippines, TLC can also mean Tender Loving Care for CBDRM Trainers.

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National Networking Initiatives and Opportunities in Indonesia¹

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> Indonesia at the end of 1990s was marked with increasing frequencies of disasters, both of natural and social and sectarian nature, following the financial crisis that hit the country during the 1997-1998. At the height of the crisis, Indonesia recorded a peak in the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) resulting from the widespread armed conflicts across the country: around 1.3 million people were forced to flee their homes during year 2000-2001, not including those affected by development programs and small scale but recurring occurrences of natural disaster such as flooding and landslides. The momentum of democratisation following the fall of Suharto's ruling in 1998 had to some extent contributed to increase vulnerabilities and susceptibility to the impact of disasters for instance due to the ill-conceived policies that encouraged exploitation of natural resources in the regions.

The urgency to deal with the recurring disasters and the increasing number of IDPs had been the main reason for the establishment of National Coordinating Body for Disaster Management (Bakornas PBP) in 2000, which was tasked with the responsibility in handling disaster and displaced population. Mainly functioning as a coordinating body of its 14 members at ministerial level, its policy for return, resettlement, and empowerment of IDPs were considered of reactive and cursory manner, with little attention

to the need for protection and delivery of basic rights of the IDPs and affected population nor a durable solution in managing disasters. Democratization and local autonomy have brought about opportunities for fundamental changes in governance mechanisms. These, however, were not accompanied by adjustments in the system of disaster management. Consequently the capacity in disaster management was tremendously weakened.

On the other hand, the role of non-governmental organisations and civil society in general has been increasing since then. Taking the windows of opportunity, there have been efforts for fundamental changes in governance mechanism, including those for changes in the system for disaster management. In such spirit and in light of the urgency for advocating the shift towards durable solution in managing disaster, a number of individuals actively involved in disaster management efforts initiated to deliberate the need for an integrated disaster management plan for Indonesia. After a preliminary meeting in 2000, the initiative began to roll in 2001 with the meeting of those individuals and some others practitioners from different backgrounds and professional activities to discuss the first effort to develop the draft national disaster management plan. Participants included practitioners from national and international NGOs, UN agencies, government bodies including the Secretariat of Bakornas PB, elements of Bakornas PB (e.g. Health Ministry, Social Ministry). While the initial recommendations for the draft National Disaster Management Plan only received little attention from the government on the view that there was not any need for a holistic disaster management plan, some of the individuals who initiated the meeting was not discouraged to promote the approach by establishing a forum where disaster management can be promoted and the forum was officially established by the name of the Indonesian Society for Disaster Management (*Masyarakat Penanggulangan Bencana Indonesia*/MPBI) on 3 March 2003.

As a forum of fluid nature, MPBI invites memberships from all disaster management practitioners and observers in Indonesia. Three years after its formation, MPBI has registered around 150 members, consisting of individual

practitioners, scientists and observers in disaster management from the government sectors, international agencies, national and international NGOs, academicians and other elements of stakeholder, with around fifty members are currently active. It mainly aims at:

- Supporting the creation of a community where the people feel that they are safe.
- Encouraging a prosperous community by promoting disaster management.
- Becoming a critical partner for the relevant parties in order to achieve disaster management that is implemented professionally with a harmony between science and practice;

through the following programmes:

- Promotion of disaster management through education, training and field application.
- Providing policy recommendations and proposals to government and parliament regarding disaster management
- Improving the communication and co-operations in disaster management with institutions, NGOs as well as government at national and international levels.
- Disseminating information regarding ethical consideration of disaster management

During the short span between March 2003 and now, as a newly-established and relatively new kind of initiative in disaster management in Indonesia, MPBI has gained extensive supports and networking and achieved the followings (through collaborations and partnerships with among others Kappala, KPB, Bakornas PB, IIDP, IDEP, CARE, UNOCHA, Oxfam, IFRC, Indonesian RC, ITS, Indonesian Parliament):

- Increased awareness on and established commitment to disaster risk reduction and management through information dissemination and awareness raising:
 - Annual International Day for Disaster Reduction commemoration activities in 2003, 2004, 2005
 - Translation, publication and dissemination of SPHERE Minimum Standards in Disaster Response
 - Development and dissemination of user-friendly format publications pertaining to CBDRM/DRM, e.g. Guidelines on how to deal and be prepared with earthquake and volcano eruption.

- Publication and dissemination of other DRM materials: Hyogo framework, Protection of IDPs.
- Public dialogs and talk-shows series, especially for DM bill campaign
- Increased accountability and effectiveness in CBDRM/DRM through education, training, and application
 - Trainings and Workshops on Community-Based Disaster Management
 - Series of orientations and trainings on Sphere Minimum Standards in Disaster Response for many stakeholders (NGO, university, government agencies, community, etc.)
 - National Emergency Management and Contingency Planning Workshop
 - Community-based shelter for disaster affected population in Aceh
- Established commitment and accountability for disaster risk reduction and management through formulation application of DM models and national Bill (in collaboration with and by active participation of relevant stakeholders)
 - Formulation of model for Disaster Management Plan and SOPs for DM
 - Collaborate to develop community-based DM guidelines
 - Systematic facilitation of the conceptualization, deliberation, and broad-base public consultation of the
 - Draft Disaster Management Bill, which consists of:
 - Academic Analysis
 - Briefing Paper on Legislative Reform
 - Draft Bill
- Disaster risk reduction are not mainstreamed into policy and development processes among others due to focus and emphasis on emergency response only, limited organisational mandate, and lack of political willingness;
- Members of the wider network are often not in the strategic decision making ladder to contribute to influence changes
- There is an over-expectation on MPBI in their role in promoting disaster risk reduction and management. MPBI is expected to be directly operational at the field level, while MPBI's mission is to be an innovator and change agent;
- There is significant need to outreach more to other elements of stakeholders, e.g. private sector, the media, to engage them in a holistic and multi-sector efforts in disaster risk reduction and management;
- There is a need to strengthen networking at regional and international level
- It tends to shift from programme priorities
- There is limited time and human resources available within the Secretariat
- Conflicting interests as individual members of MPBI are at the same time individuals in their professional capacity within institutions with defined mandate;

Challenges are facing MPBI in its course to promote disaster management approach in Indonesia, both in terms of its effort in gaining supports from a wider network as well as in terms of sustaining the association. Some of the main challenges are:

- There is a gap of knowledge and experience on disaster risk reduction and management, especially with network from government agencies;
 - There are gaps and differences in perspective, outlook and beliefs in managing disaster on the part of the wider network;
- From its experiences in implementing programmes and activities pertaining to disaster management in Indonesia, MPBI could draw the following lessons learnt:
- Mainstreaming disaster risk management into policy and development processes is a huge task not only for MPBI but to all stakeholders concerned;
 - Unprecedented momentum of tsunami and earthquake in Aceh raises national-wide awareness on the limited capacity in DRM and builds the commitment of the government to DRM, for instance through the political willingness for reform through the development of DM Bill.
 - Members with different background and professional activities are invaluable assets in nurturing interest in CBDRM/DRM, supported by a strong and dedicated Secretary General and Secretariat
 - Confidence, credibility and strong commitment of members have gained positive support

from and partnership with local, national and international community in such a short time

- There is a need to deliberate over the role and mandate of MPBI, especially when related to the expectation of the general public in terms of its role.

Footnotes

- 1 Written by Theresia Wuryantari, MPBI, Indonesia for the 4th Regional Disaster Management Practitioners' Workshop, Bangkok, 8-10 March 2006

AZEECON Network of the Lutheran World Foundation

> Introduction

AZEECON (Asian Zone Environment and Emergency Co-operation Network) comprises the four Asian field programmes of the Lutheran World Federation/World Service (including the localised RDRS Bangladesh) working in India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Cambodia. Other organisations may be included as Associate Members of AZEECON.

Mr David Mueller
LWF Cambodia

All four LWF/WS programmes were established in the 1970's or 1980's in response to major natural or civil catastrophes and their programmes have subsequently evolved into development work. These programme operate in one of the most hazardous regions on earth in terms of susceptibility to natural and civil disasters. Widespread poverty, underdevelopment and environmental exploitation, together with high population density spreading to increasingly marginal areas ensure that vulnerability of the disadvantaged exceeds that of any other major region. Poor rural populations face excessive risk in a region where more than half the world's disasters and poor are concentrated. These harsh realities compel the four programmes to devote continuing priority to disaster relief and rehabilitation and increasingly to disaster preparedness and risk management as necessary concomitants to their commitment to sustainable development.

AZEECON is an informal but established network of equal partners, engaged in a common mission and utilising regional co-operation as one helpful instrument for fulfilling the vision and mission of the individual members. Since inception, AZEECON has become an established entity, enabling the training/capacity building of at least 250 staff, helping develop materials and information exchange, mobilising additional resources for grassroots work (DIPECHO) and serving as a pilot of regional co-operation.

Membership and Governance

Definition

AZEECON is an informal network, not legally registered and with no formal 'structure' although agreed operating procedures are followed. Unlike the individual member programmes AZEECON, in common with other networks, is an instrument of its member programmes, intended to serve their specific needs and objectives. Unlike the individual member programmes or other unitary 'organisations', a 'network' such as AZEECON is intended to be deliberately egalitarian not hierarchic (with equal decision-making), informal rather than highly structured (but pursuing a definite programme), and flexible-responsive. Such networks, unlike unitary organisations, need not continue if they have outlived their usefulness. AZEECON has no secretariat as such though some 'central' functions are performed by the agreed Focal Point. As a voluntary grouping, AZEECON relies primarily upon the continuing initiative and commitment of its members, and the financial and other resources contributed by like-minded partners.

AZEECON is primarily a capacity-building and quality-improvement circle (for the participating organisations and staff, local partners and networks, programme and projects) rather than a co-ordination network as such.

Membership:

- the AZEECON founding and core members are the LWF-WS programs in India, Nepal and Cambodia and the LWF-WS associate program, RDRS, in Bangladesh.

- Individual AZEECON founder/core members may withdraw from AZEECON after providing one-year's notice in writing to all members, endorsed by a decision in the Annual Planning & Review Meeting.

Associate Membership:

- Other like-minded organizations from within the ACT network may be linked with the AZEECON network as associate members after agreement by a majority of the core/founder members. Similarly, core/founder members may also agree to discontinue membership of associate members
- Associate members may be invited to participate in AZEECON events, however they will have no voting in AZEECON decision-making and no direct entitlement to resources specifically earmarked for AZEECON (though may benefit indirectly, for example, staff participation in training)

Governance/management:

- The AZEECON Focal Point is agreed at the Annual Planning & Review Meeting (APRM) for a period of 2 years (with provision for one additional year's extension).
- The Focal Point's role is to take the lead in co-ordinating AZEECON actions, including initiatives/links with external actors, keeping members informed, maintaining AZEECON book of accounts and reporting following the agreed budgets. As a network, however, all members share equal responsibility for ensuring its continued efficient operation, effectiveness and further development
- The Focal Point role is assigned to an individual rather than the organisation/field programme, on the understanding that the FP's Field Programme will support this function.
- In the event of the Focal Point not continuing (for reasons of transfer, illness, others), core/founder members will agree by email communication the appointment of an appropriate interim Focal Point until a new regular Focal Point can be agreed at the next APRM.
- All AZEECON members agree to continue to be active and co-operative in fulfilling agreed

commitments, and promoting the efficient operation and continued development of the network.

- The annual AZEECON Annual Planning & Review Meetings is the main governing and decision-making forum for AZEECON, at which representatives from at least two members must attend to qualify for this status.
- Except under exceptional circumstances, the AZEECON Byelaws may ordinarily be amended only by a majority of founder/core members.
- AZEECON may be formally dissolved by a decision, at the Annual Planning and Review Meeting or by written communication, of a majority of the core/founder members. In the event of the APRM not convening successfully for two consecutive years, AZEECON will be deemed to be dissolved, unless a majority of the members agree to continue.

Objectives

The overall goals of AZEECON are

1. To reduce vulnerabilities in the working areas of the member programmes by strengthening the capacities of local communities (and especially the organised poor) to prepare for, cope with, respond to, and recover from disaster through disaster preparedness and management programmes.
2. To improve the sustainability of rural livelihoods and conserve the natural resource base by strengthening the awareness and capacity of the local community to adopt appropriate environmental activities.

The specific objectives of AZEECON are:

- a. To strengthen capacity, relevance, quality and effectiveness of AZEECON partners in emergency and environmental fields
- b. To promote creative integration of development and emergency components of programmes
- c. To promote co-operation and co-ordination amongst regional partners, and thereby serve as a practical and innovative instrument of regional co-operation.

The objectives include the following considerations, which have all already been achieved over the first 5 years of AZEECON operation:

- Offers a mechanism to build understanding, and knowledge of similar issues in neighbouring countries and even a common identity among programme staff of a shared mission.
- Provides an appropriate, low-cost instrument for continuing staff development in the member programmes.
- Establishes a pilot for regional co-operation for LWF/World Service, as a prototype of responsive and relevant network/regional arrangements.
- Offers a platform for exchange of ideas and experience (beyond its thematic focus in other spheres of development, advocacy and organisation – for example localisation)
- Offers possibilities for resources mobilisation where a regional rather than national instrument is appropriate.

3. Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders based upon the core programme/main activity areas (as identified in AZEECON Support Project Proposal)

- I. Annual Planning and Review Meeting (APRM='The Azeecon Summit')

Specification: an annual meeting held in one member programme, which serves as the main governing and decision-making forum for AZEECON to which senior representatives of all its founding/core members are expected to attend. Participants should be Field Directors (and/or Deputies) from each Member plus two additional staff, at least one with key responsibilities for disaster management. Additional staff from the Host programme may attend plus agreed resource persons and other invitees. The meeting is normally of at least one day's duration, usually two and addresses a pre-arranged agenda (subject to further amendment upon convening). The Focal Point plays the lead role in finalizing dates, venues, encouraging attendance, arranging external invitees

(eg resource persons, donor partners) and (along with the host) minuting and other logistics or field visit arrangements. Chairing, usually by session, is agreed at the start of the meeting. The agenda will normally include, brief analytical country presentations, AZEECON governance and management issues, reviewing progress, planning the AZEECON Support Project activities (including schedule, subjects) discussing related issues such as Act, LWF-WS developments (especially disaster, DP and risk management areas), and finally reviewing scope for improving practices, opportunities for new initiatives and ideas.

Expected Outcomes

- a. Meeting Minutes, with Action Points highlighted
 - b. Policies, Practices, Governance and Byelaws reviewed, amendments made
 - c. Impact, quality of AZEECON activities (especially EETV, CT, information) reviewed and suggestions for improvement incorporated in planning
 - d. Existing or new Project proposal for AZEECON Support Project reviewed or elaborated
 - e. Annual Plan and Budget agreed for the following year (including exchange visits, subject/location of customised training, etc)
 - f. Financial Report presented, and appropriate actions taken
 - g. Practical suggestions for problem solving, new initiatives and others developed and pursued
- II. Exchange, Exposure and Training Visits (EETVs)

Specification: An annual programme of practical exposure (field visits to development, related activities) linked with short training/seminars; this is intended to encourage critical learning and the dissemination of good practice among AZEECON members. An annual cycle of four EETVs is planned every calendar year, with each member hosting a visit in turn and taking responsibility for planning

of the event. Each EETV normally involves at least 3 days' of Field Visits to activities of interest (run by host or others) and, normally following the field visits, an attached workshop/seminar of at least 1 day, preferably on issues closely linked with field visits. In most cases the entire programme will be over 5-6 days, excluding travel.

Small groups of carefully selected staff (or in certain cases, local partners) from other AZEECON Members (ideally 3 per programme) will participate along with host country staff, invited outsiders including Resource Persons, local partners, associate members, others. The participants will be carefully selected in terms of relevance to the theme and will receive short briefing/orientation before travel and debriefing on their return. In addition, a standardised AZEECON Exchange Visit Appraisal Form will be completed by each participant, compiled and circulated by the host; the lessons learned by EETV participants and their planned application should be discussed at regular staff meeting upon their return. Outside the regular EETV programme, special or supplementary EETVs may be arranged bilaterally among AZEECON members, with invitations extended to others - if relevant - via the email Update.

Expected Output

- a. Effective learning, HRD through meaningful exchange of experience, knowledge and ideas
- b. Application of this learning, where appropriate, by participants in their own programme/projects on their return
- c. Brief, descriptive and analytical final report of the Exchange Visit/Training is completed, and circulated to all participants/members and other relevant stakeholders
- d. Where appropriate, using the opportunity to develop themes of wider, continuing interest to AZEECON and members

III. Customised Training (CT)

Specification: Intensive training workshop on selected relevant theme(s) of strategic relevance to AZEECON members and agreed in advance. Training duration is likely to be not less than 5 days, with at least one day's field visit to provide practical exposure and exemplification of training subject matter. Participants will be carefully selected in terms of relevance to the theme and ability to apply it in their own programme work; members should arrange a short briefing/orientation to participants before and a debriefing on their return. Trainees should be encouraged to identify and apply lessons learned in their programme work. Customised Training will be extended (or led by) by appropriate professional resource persons/training providers responsible for the curriculum design, materials actual training, evaluation and final reporting. In certain cases, the opportunity CT offers to develop and elaborate ideas and themes of wider relevance should be exploited. The RDRS North Bengal Institute in Rangpur has become the normal venue for CT. Arranging the ToR and Training Providers/Resource Persons is the responsibility of the Focal Point, this may be in conjunction with the Host (or other members from whose country the RP may be drawn); the Host programme is responsible for all in country logistics and related arrangements.

Expected Output

- a. Practical learning, and application of learning, by participants in their own programme/projects
- b. Brief, descriptive and analytical final report of the Customised Training is completed, and circulated to all participants/members and other relevant stakeholders
- c. Where appropriate, use the opportunity to develop themes of wider, continuing interest

4. Information, Strategy Development (ISD)

Specification: Ensuring a continuing and regular flow of information on AZEECON

activities (past and forthcoming events, etc) and related themes of interest to members, and other related parties through the medium of email Updates, a regular refreshed Website, and direct communication among members. The AZEECON Email Update (newsletter) is circulated to all members (and as many staff as possible), associate members, donor and other agencies at least bimonthly. The AZEECON Website is also intended to be updated bimonthly. Other initiatives to share important concept/strategy papers, articles, manuals, analyses from external sources, and to preserve and/or replicate material produced by AZEECON members is also important. In particular, AZEECON will seek to strengthen interpretation and understanding of development relating to SPHERE, ACT and LWF-WS. AZEECON will also review scope for developing harmonised documentation and materials for AEECON as a whole (for example, selective standard training packages) and for its individual members (for example disaster policy). AZEECON will also seek to build links with other actors – networks and organisations - in similar fields including practical co-operation.

Expected Output

- a. Full information and knowledge of AZEECON activities and issues maintained among members, associates and others through regular Bimonthly update/newsletter ('push technology')
- b. In-depth and graphic information on AZEECON (and members) maintain by ensuring periodic updating of AZEECON Website regularly replenished by new material submitted by all members ('pull technology')
- c. Improvement to AZEECON/member programmes through systematic identification of relevant concepts, materials and maintaining AZEECON mini-resource centers in each member programme
- d. High recognition, and appreciation of AZEECON by LWF/ACT, donors, related agencies, and others promoting common identify among staff and partners, a sense of shared mission and increased prospects for sustainability and activism

5. Co-ordination, Administration

Specification: Ensure efficient co-ordination and administration, including accounting, of the AZEECON Network.

Expected Output

- a. Timely, accurate financial accounting and audit statement based upon clear understanding of budgets, charging and prompt submission of documentation
- b. Efficient co-ordination and execution of planned activities
- c. Strategic development and continued funding of AZEECON activities

The Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network

> Background

Mr Manu Gupta
Vice Chairperson
Asian Disaster Reduction and
Response Network
India

The Asian Disaster Reduction & Response Network was born in February 2002 in Kobe Japan. It is a unique network of NGOs working in the humanitarian sector across Asia. The need for developing such a network was felt as the impact of natural disasters in Asia has been increasing and an urgent need was felt for building regional and local capacities for confronting this challenge. Besides, the diversity of communities that exist in Asia, makes it imperative that humanitarian actions are localized and culturally appropriate yet adhering to a common set of agreed upon principles and conventions.

Over the past few decades, thousands of NGOs/ Civil Society Organizations have emerged in Asia, a sign of the growing vibrancy in the Asian democracies. In the process of growth; the need for building their capacity and providing opportunities for such organizations to take lead in national level/policy and advocacy has grown.

ADDRN was born as a result of these felt needs. Its formation reflects the desire of Asians to now take charge!

Activities

The ADRRN members have been working under the spirit of cooperation both bilaterally as well as multi-laterally during recent disaster situations in Asia.

In 2005, the Network members actively worked in Tsunami reconstruction while promoting awareness and training in recovery efforts simultaneously. In April 05, a public workshop titled “Rebuilding a Safer Aceh” was organized in Aceh. Subsequently, a Japanese folklore on Tsunami awareness was translated into 8 Asian languages and distributed among thousands of school children in India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and Malaysia. The story, “Ina-mura-no-hi” is currently being reached out to schools through short puppet shows, dramas and films.

An important lesson learnt in past disasters was the need to document various processes adopted in recovery and the degree of their success/failure. Following the 2004 Tsunami, members of the network have been actively involved in creating a framework for “learning from the Tsunami”. It is an attempt to document recovery initiatives by the member NGOs, and disseminate the same as lessons learnt for similar disaster recovery situations in future.

On an ongoing basis, ADRRN members share their views, event updates and activities through a web based platform and annual meetings held in one of the member countries.

The core strength of the network lies in promoting coordination and collaboration among Asian NGOs towards improving capacity in disaster reduction and response. It seeks to utilize each other’s strengths and complement efforts towards better delivery.

The network members seek to empower their respective communities that face the threat of disasters, by providing knowledge, skills and training through participatory processes.

Promoting sustainable development being the larger goal, the work includes integration disaster recovery and reconstruction with developmental

programmes. In effect, the network seeks to realize the Millennium Development Goals under the framework of Hyogo Framework of Action for the decade 2005-2015.

Future

ADRRN’s mission is to promote coordination and collaboration among NGOs for effective and efficient disaster reduction and response in the Asia- Pacific Region. It strives to achieve the same through the following objectives :

- To develop an interactive network of NGOs committed to achieving excellence in the field of disaster reduction and response.
- To raise the relevant concerns of NGOs in the Asia-Pacific region to the larger community of NGOs globally, through various international forums and platforms.
- To promote best practices and standards in disaster reduction and response.
- To provide a mechanism for sharing reliable information and facilitating capacity building among network members and other stakeholders.

The network is still in its formative stages, and as it strengthens and consolidates itself, many challenges are expected. A common fear among members and friends has been the sustainability of such a network. Networks have been formed in the past, very few have actually survived. The reasons are obvious – loss of interest among members, clashes, internal politics etc. This is a threat that ADRRN may face too in future, however considering the importance of its mission, internal check mechanisms would need to be developed. ADRRN also needs to gain recognition both from the community as well as international community and governments. For doing so, the ADRRN as a whole and its members have to commit themselves to standards and benchmarks that they have commonly agreed to.

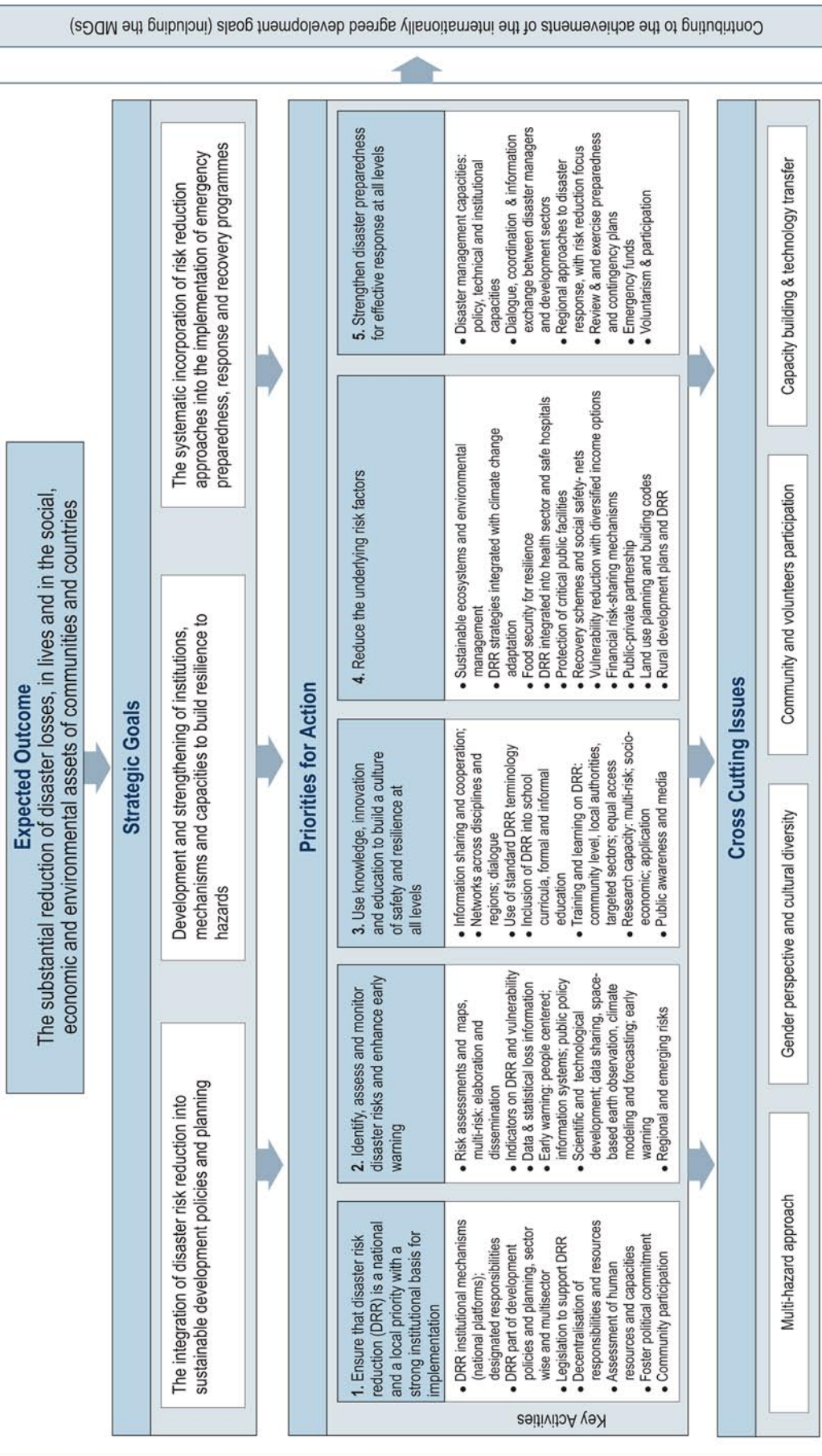
Each member of the ADRRN is a precious entity. Each one is unique and has its own mission, but all members are one common ADRRN family committed to the cause of the safety and well being of the peoples’ of Asia.



International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

SUMMARY of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters (Hyogo Framework)

Expected outcome, strategic goals and priorities for action 2005-2015

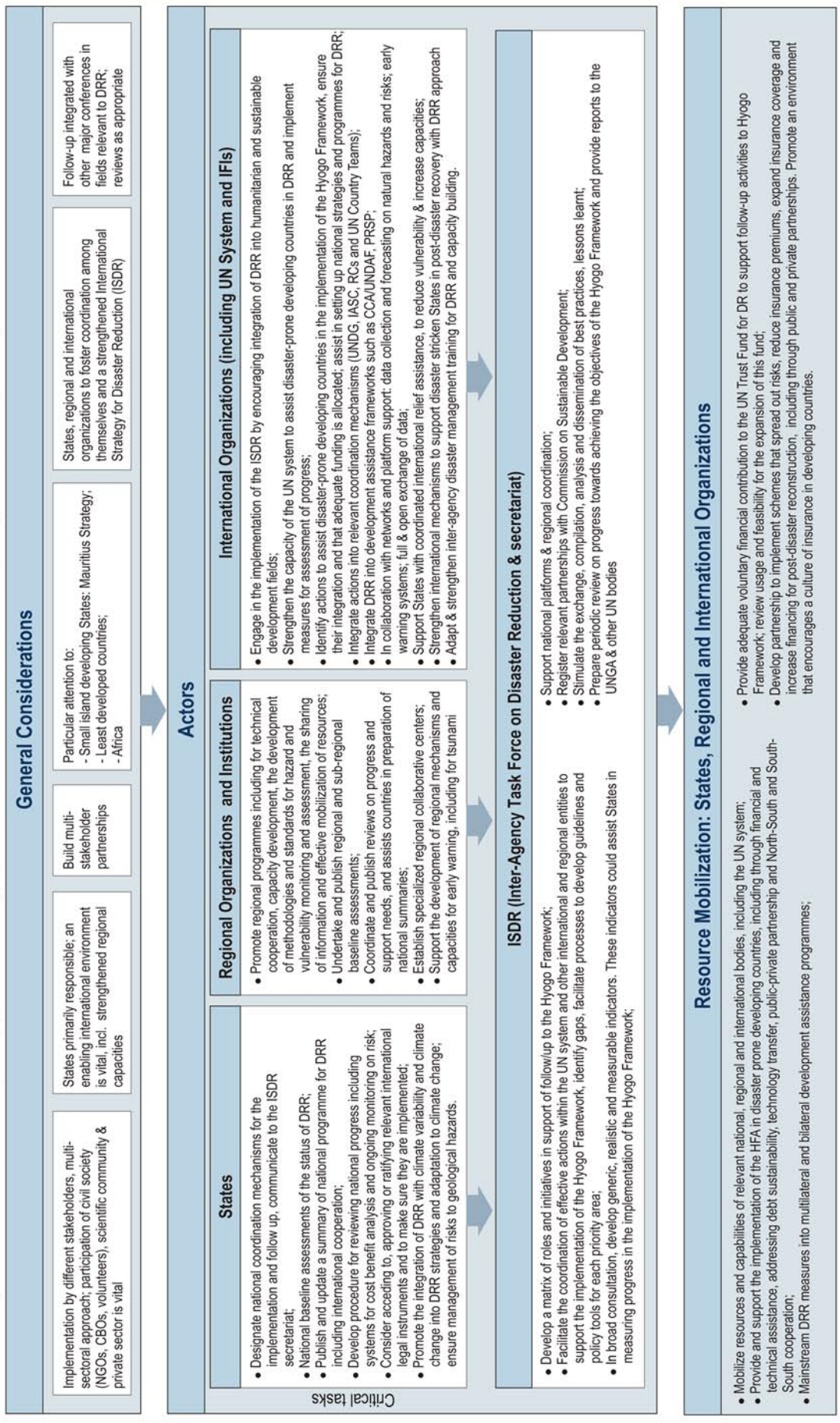


DRR= disaster risk reduction

www.unisdr.org/wcdr

Implementation and Follow-Up

In order to achieve the goals and act upon the priorities identified in this Framework, the following tasks have been identified to ensure implementation and follow-up by States, regional and international organizations in collaboration with civil society and other stakeholders. The ISDR partners, in particular the Inter-agency Task Force on Disaster Reduction and secretariat, are requested to assist in implementing this Framework for Action.



Source: Outcome of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, Hyogo, Kobe Japan, 18-22 Jan 2005

www.unisdr.org/wcdr

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snapshots of the workshop



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