

REGIONAL CONSULTATIVE WORKSHOP

Scaling up DRR in Humanitarian/Development Contexts in Asia Pacific

12 December 2019, Bangkok | Sukosol Hotel, Bangkok

INTRODUCTION

In many crisis settings, emergency responses have been seen to be in a holding pattern, responding year on-year to the same needs without promoting lasting positive change in people's lives. Short-term results do not address underlying vulnerabilities and are insufficient to lay the foundation for sustainable development. In the past years, new ways of working have been established that aim to strengthen the linkage between humanitarian and development aid, prioritizing the needs and vulnerabilities of those who have been left furthest behind by development progress. This humanitarian/development 'nexus' calls for humanitarian action to consistently reinforce development gains and for development assistance to be directed at addressing the underlying vulnerabilities and root causes of the crisis.

Many countries which experience crises for multiple years often experience combination of conflict, forced displacement and/or disasters associated with natural hazards. Climate change, combined with other factors such as rapid urbanization and inequality, is increasing the frequency and intensity of disasters, posing a long-term threat to socio-economic development, especially in the poorest and most fragile countries. Cyclical shocks systematically exacerbate humanitarian needs in protracted crises, placing further pressure on the humanitarian system to cover basic needs and provide essential services to millions of crises-affected populations. Other high-risk contexts face multiple disaster events on a regular basis resulting in high levels of displacement, growing economic losses, and increasing uncertainty of future impacts in the face of climate change.

Disaster risk reduction (DRR) straddles both development and humanitarian action. Although DRR programmes are often administered under humanitarian budget lines and through disaster management authorities, there is now a clear understanding of the need for disaster prevention to be firmly anchored in development programming, with a long-term vision of reducing risk. Operationalization of the humanitarian/development nexus provides a key opportunity to mobilize joint action to not only end humanitarian needs, but also to reduce disaster risks. Strengthening DRR outcomes, especially in fragile and protracted crisis settings, but also in countries facing recurrent and increasing disaster risks is an important contribution to the global effort to leave no-one behind.

For these reasons, UNDRR has been undertaking work to identify opportunities to scale-up DRR in humanitarian/development contexts. This workshop is part of a process that will result in recommendations to the UN system, and development partners on integrating DRR into humanitarian/development programming.

Meeting Objectives

1. Take stock of the extent to which DRR has been integrated into humanitarian/development contexts in Asia-Pacific
2. Identify areas for greater engagement between DRR and humanitarian-development practitioners
3. Discuss overlap between issues found in Asia-Pacific region with other crisis contexts, specifically protracted settings
4. Review the draft guidance materials and identify further actions to be taken.

Programme

Thursday, 12 December	
08:00 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:30	Welcome and Setting the Scene <i>Loretta Hieber Girardet, Chief, UNDRR Regional Office for Asia-Pacific</i> <i>Jessica Alexander, UNDRR Consultant</i>
09:30 -10:30	Panel Discussion: Aligning Humanitarian and Development Action in Asia-Pacific Co-Facilitators: <i>Timothy Wilcox, Programme Management Officer, UNDRR Regional Office for Asia-Pacific & Jessica Alexander, UNDRR Consultant</i> Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>John Long, OCHA, Head Emergency Response Preparedness</i>• <i>Sylvie Montembault, ECHO, Risk, Resilience, Anticipation Thematic Expert</i>• <i>Katiuscia Fara, WFP, Climate Services and DRR Advisor</i>• <i>Olof Blomqvist, Save the Children, International Humanitarian Policy and Advocacy Manager.</i>
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee Break
10:45 – 11:30	DRR in Humanitarian/Development Contexts (Setting the Scene for Case Studies) Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Jessica Alexander, UNDRR Consultant</i>• <i>Dipankar Datta, Oxfam Bangladesh Country Director</i>
11:30 – 12:15	1st Case Study: DRR in Protracted Contexts – Afghanistan and Bangladesh Facilitator: <i>David Murphy, OHCHR, Human Right Officer</i> Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Cathrine Tranberg Haarsaker, UNDP Bangladesh, Project Manager</i>• <i>Arvind Kumar Sinha, Aga Khan Afghanistan, Head of Department Strategy, Programmes and Partnerships</i>
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch

13:30 – 14:30	<p>2nd Case Study: DRR in high risk countries in Asia Pacific – Indonesia and Philippines</p> <p>Facilitator: <i>Animesh Kumar, Deputy Chief, UNDRR Regional Office for Asia-Pacific</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Fransisca Fitri Kurnia, Action Aid Indonesia, Country Director</i> • <i>Seth Sarmiento, IFRC Philippines, Disaster Risk Reduction Officer</i>
14:30 – 15:15	<p>Group Work - DRR within the Phases of the Humanitarian Programme Cycle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparedness • Assessment and Analysis • Planning • Financing • Coordination <p>(See guidance note on group discussions)</p>
15:15 – 15:45	<i>Tea/Coffee Break</i>
15:45 – 16:45	Groups Present Back to Plenary
16:45 – 17:00	Closing Remarks and Way Forward
17:00 – 18:00	Social Networking