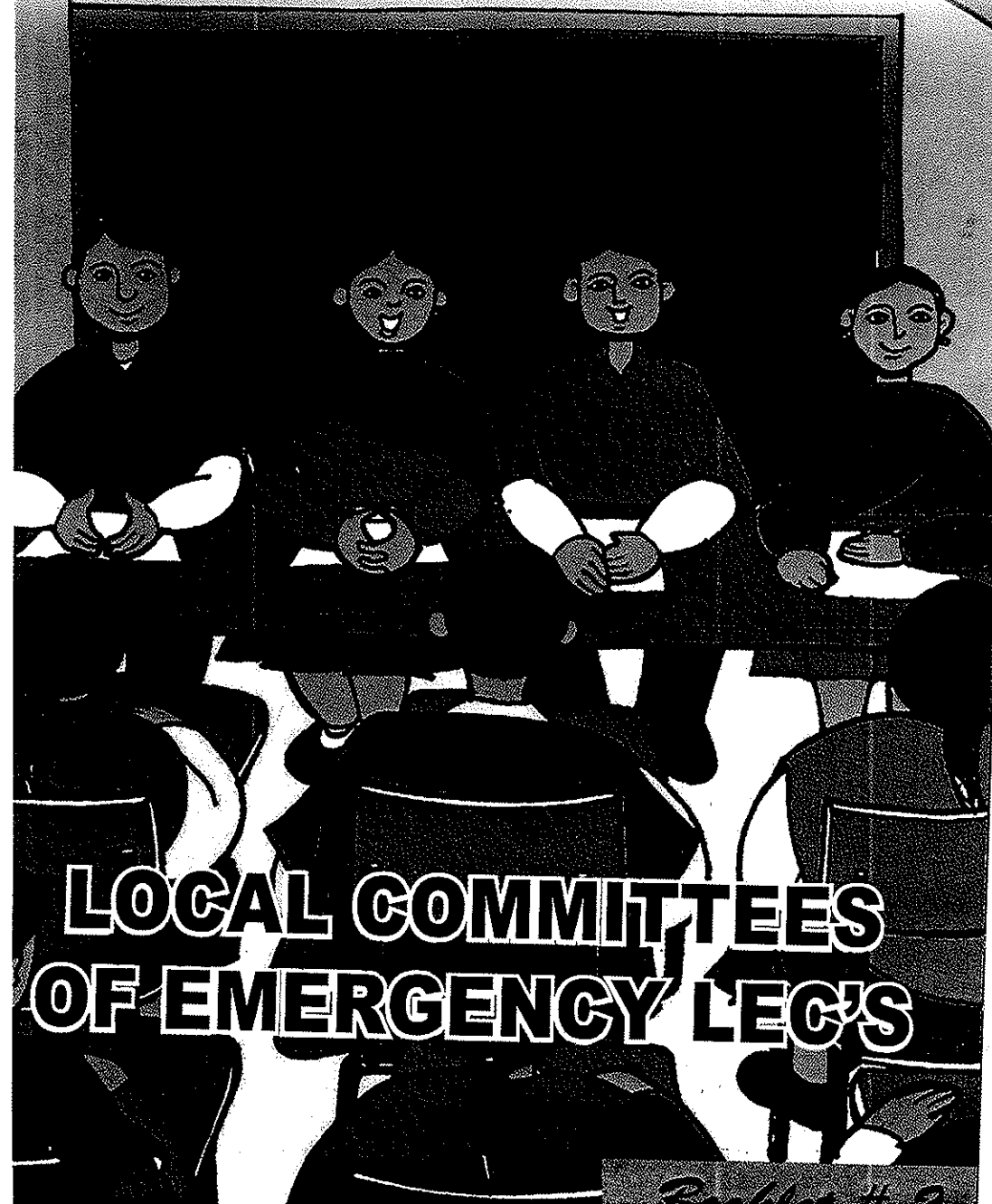




Aus-AID

Visión Mundial



**LOCAL COMMITTEES
OF EMERGENCY LEG'S**



Rosa, Pepe and Luis (Family)

How are you doing? How have you been?

In the last brochure we learned about an important issue:
(Management of Risks!)

Rosa (Mother)

Now we are going to talk about the Local Committees of Emergency (CLE)

Pepe (Son)

Why mom?

Rosa:

Because the community has to be well organized to defend itself against adverse events (disasters).

Luis (Father)

Yes son, we must be able to face the different kinds of disasters and the damage they might cause. That is why have to appoint several persons from the community as members of a so called Local Committee of Emergency.

What is the CLE?

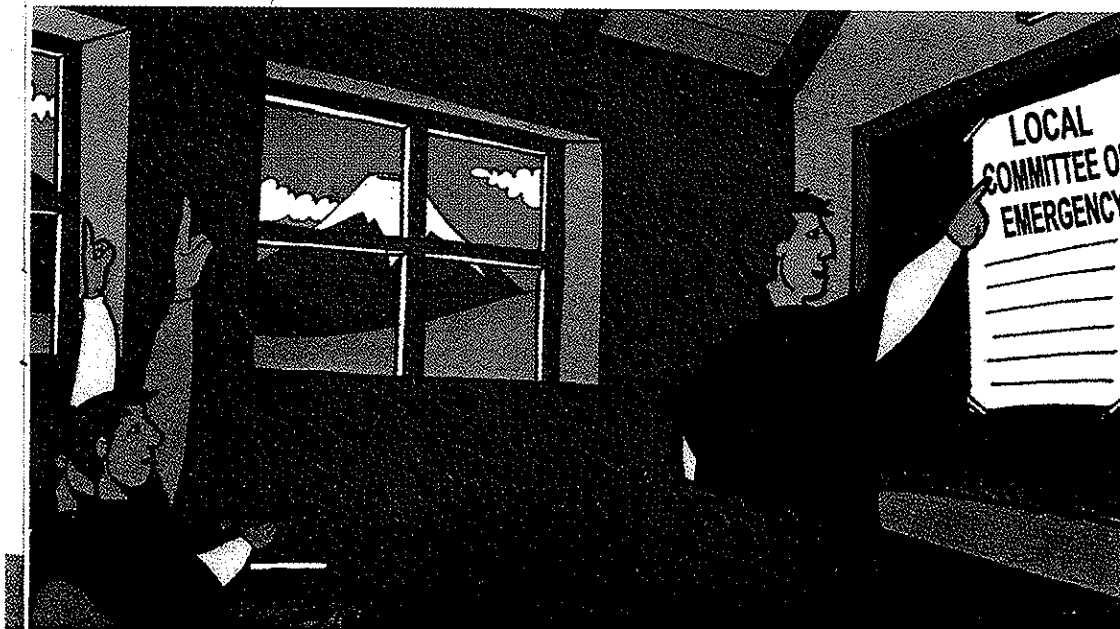
Is a group of persons committed toward their community, who work in the different stages of the management of risks.

Who elects the CLE?

- It is appointed in a community assembly with the participation of all the heads of family or most of them.

How is the CLE elected?

1. Convoking a community assembly together with the directors.
2. Reflecting about the problems resulting from the vulnerability of the zone before the adverse events.
3. Analyzing about the necessity of appointing a group of persons who will be part of the Civil Defense in the community.



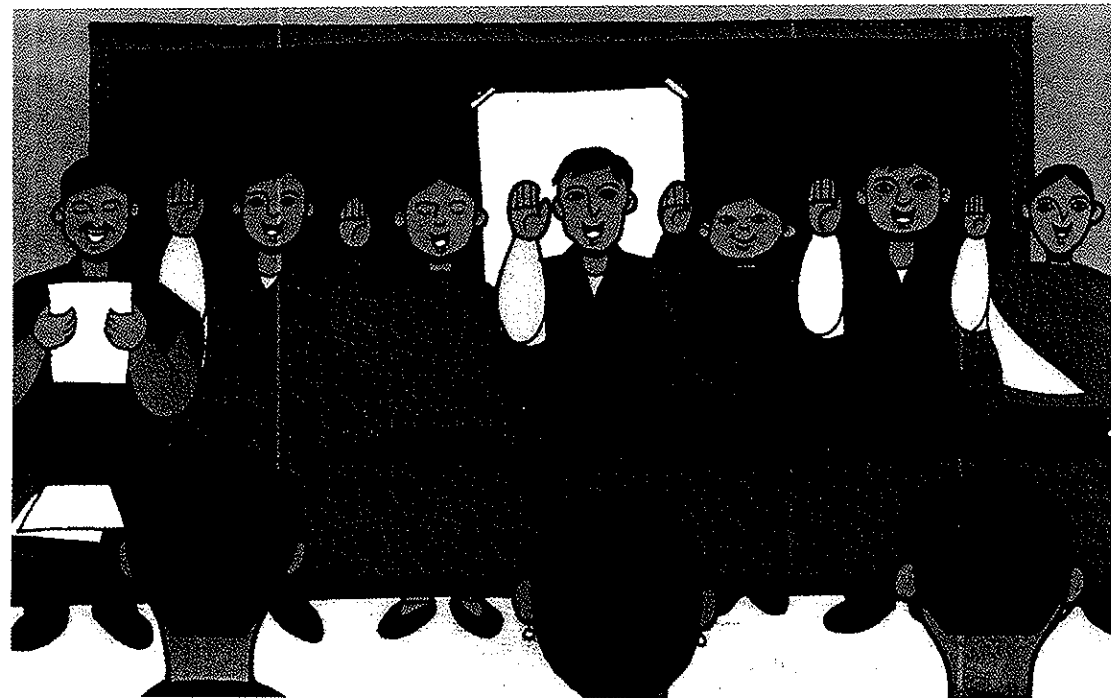
Criteria for the election of the CLE

1. Individuals willing to collaborate with the community at any moment.
2. Individuals with leadership skills
3. Gender equity

We must elect seven persons at least, plus the President of the community as the responsible of the committee.

What are the main duties of the CLE?

1. To motivate the community and its leaders to become well organized in order to deal with any emergency.
2. To create and maintain an Early Alert System.
3. To elaborate family and community maps and place them in the Map of Risks.
4. To design the community plan against emergencies and test it through practices against disasters that might affect the community.
5. To provide assistance to the victims of a disaster or emergency.
6. To participate in the Civil Defense system from the zone.
7. To keep adequate communication and coordination with the ADP and Civil Defense in emergency cases affecting the community.
8. To keep updated population records (once per year).
9. To train the community on how to protect itself in case of adversity.



The book of Nehemias tells us an interesting bible story on the process to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, a story that helps us illustrate the importance of motivation and organization to deal with a disaster.

Let's see some aspects:

The disaster was: The destruction of Jerusalem walls. Nehemias motivated his people with these words: "You can see the damage that we endure. Jerusalem is deserted and its gates are burned by the fire. Now, let's build up Jerusalem walls to stop being ashamed. And the people said: Let's stand up and building an Organization to the reconstruction works in several directions: Nehemias appointed leaders. Some built the door of the sheep,; other built the Hananeel tower. There was a big organization. Everybody collaborated and built the new walls in 52 days. What can we learn from this story? That there was a good leadership, a good motivation and organization. That people was encouraged and motivated to work. That when people are organized it is easier to repair the damage caused by a disaster.

What are the CLE areas of action?

- Evacuation and rescue
- Health and first aid
- Emergency shelters
- Food and water
- Security
- Communications and information
- Evaluation of damages and analysis of needs: EDAN

Pepe:

Daddy, please tell me and my friends what these people do in each area

Luis:

Of course I will. Each member of the Local Committee of Emergencies and responsible for a work area has the following duties

What are the duties of the person in charge of each area?

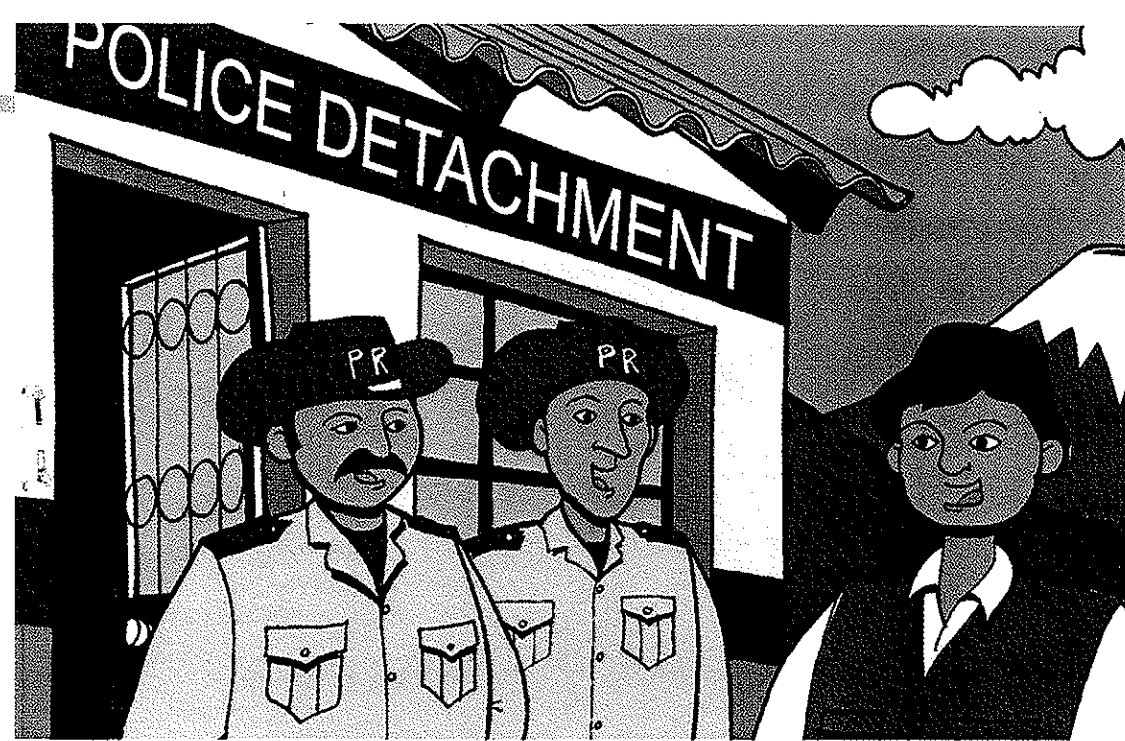
Emergency Shelters:

- To select the better place for the shelter
- To guarantee adequate attention to the refugees
- To keep records of the materials that come into and leave from the shelter.
- To make reports on the events in the shelter
- To coordinate the activities with those in charge of other committee areas



Health and First Aid

- To coordinate actions with the Ministry of Public Health, the local Social Security and unify knowledge on the classification and attention to victims.
- To be responsible for all the materials and medicines that are available during the disaster.
- To coordinate practical training in first-aid procedures in coordination with the base institutions from the Civil Defense System.
- To coordinate with the persons in charge of all the areas.



Security

- To conduct programming for the training with the Civil Defense System, specially with the Police Department.
- To be well informed and prepare people against delinquency.
- To carry-out actions together with the Teniente Politico and the President of the Parish Board.
- To coordinate with the persons in charge of each area

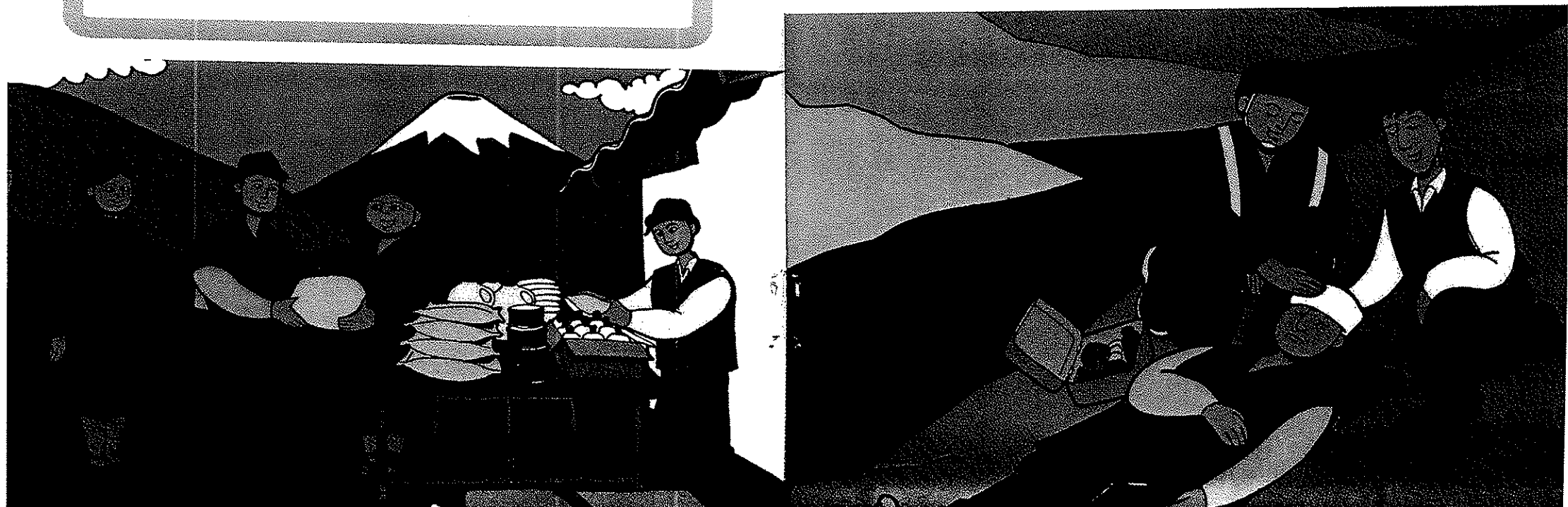


Food and water

- To coordinate with the Parish Board and the Politic Lieutenant for an adequate distribution of food supplies at any moment.
- To be responsible for all the food supplies available at the organization whatever origin they have.
- To keep updated records against the provision and delivery of food supplies.
- To keep adequate relations with the institutions and organizations in charge of water and food supplies in the Civil Defense System.
- To coordinate actions with the persons in charge of the different areas.

Search and Rescue

- To coordinate actions with the Politic lieutenant and/or the President of the Parish Board.
- To establish a schedule of activities with members of the Civil Defense System (Fire Department, Police Department, Armed Forces, Hospitals and Red Cross).
- To implement in the community the Map of Family and Community Risks.
- To coordinate actions with those in charge of the different areas.



Communications and Information

- To keep the community informed on the risks we face and how to avoid them.
- To get periodical training on communications in times of disaster and emergency.
- To provide timely information to the ADP or Civil Defense, telling the truth on the emergencies that occur in the community.
- To coordinate actions with all the persons in charge of the different areas.

Evaluation of Damages and Analysis of Needs (EDAN)

- To conduct an evaluation of damages in the first 8, 24 and 72 hours after the disaster, and report the outcomes to the President of the community.
- To support the EDAN teams to prioritize the basic needs of the affected people.
- To keep records of the events.
- To coordinate actions with those in charge of the different areas established.



Luis :

These functions must be coordinated with the President and other community leaders in order to achieve an efficient work.

That is why every community must collaborate with the persons that are part of the Local Committee of Emergencies.

Pepe:

Daddy, Will we children be part of the organization to deal with emergencies?

Luis:

Children should also be well organized. They are also going to receive training in how to deal with disasters.

Children from school are also going to participate in the program because a disaster might take place when they are at school and we would not know what to do and how to help our classmates.

For example, you should learn how to help the children who are wounded or trapped in some part of the collapsed school building.

Rosa:

This means that we adults, should also be prepared to act as the example to our children.

Luis:

Of course, Rosa. In the next brochure we are going to discuss about "Maps of Risk and Community Resource" in order to keep ourselves safe.

Pepe:

Children, mothers and fathers let us remember that: "We children have the right to be protected when a disaster occurs"



Aus - AID

Visión Mundial

Oficina Ecuador

Av. Gaspar de Villarroel E3-62
entre Jorge Drom y Londres. Quito.
tel. 2250144 / 2250145 / 2251106

fax 2251107
Casilla: 17-03-40

ecuador@wvi.org

www.worldvision.org.ec

Writing and Text: Jorge Mullo and Washington Pruna
Technical Review: Lilian Valdez, Verónica Pachler, Julieta Sarzosa,
Manuel Ullauri, Julián Guaman and Civil Defense of Cotacachi
translator: Francisco Vasconez

"This material has been produced by the program for the Mitigation of Disasters
and Reaction to Community Emergencies: CERDM from World Vision Ecuador,
thanks to funding received from the Government of Australia (AusAID ANCP/World
Vision Australia - LACRO). The opinions of the author do not necessarily
reflect the point of view of AusAID."

JUNE 2004

Design, layout, illustration: Logo Sapienz Cia. Ltda. - Jorge Coronel
022 258 546 / 099 926 475