



Aus-AID

Visión Mundial

# COMMUNITY PLAN FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF DISASTERS



*Boulet # 1*



### **Luis (Father):**

In the three previous booklets we talked about the following subjects: What is a disaster? How can we make a Maps of Risks? How do Local Emergency Committees Work?

### **Rosa (Mother):**

Yes, Luis. These issues were very interesting because we learned about important aspects that can help us to protect our lives in case of a disaster.

### **Pepe (Son):**

Daddy, Where can people learn about the things each person from the community has to do in case of disaster?

### **Luis**

That is a good question son. We can find that information in the Community Plan for the Management of Disasters.



## **What is a Community Plan for the Management of Disasters? Who makes it?**

It is a document that contains information about:

- The way we should organize ourselves.
- The activities, tasks and processes that should be carried-out to face a disaster in its different moments: before, during and after the event.
- The plan must be designed by all the members of the different organizations that belong to the community (council, women groups, youth groups, etc.) through meetings, workshops and assemblies aimed at analyzing and reaching agreements.
- The Local emergency Committee is in charge of coordinating and leading the elaboration of this plan.

### **Pepe:**

Daddy, what would happen if a community did not have a Plan for the Management of Disasters?

### **Luis:**

Let's see son. Pay careful attention to what I am going to tell you: According to historic data, several disasters have taken place in our country: earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides, droughts, etc. These disasters have occurred so suddenly that people were not prepared to deal with the big damage that was caused.

So, if there is not a plan, a disaster might cause big damage such as loss of human lives, destruction of dwellings, economic and material damage, loss of crops and animals, etc. which would worsen our living conditions even more.

### **Rosa**

So it means that by having such a Plan our community would be prepared to deal with any disaster?

### **Luis**

That's correct. That is why we should attend all the meetings held to socialize the plan.

## **What is the main Purpose of a Community Plan for the Management of Disasters?**

It is designed to enable people reduce the risks originated in natural disasters that might occur and affect them, their families and the communities.

The Plan also instructs us on the things we should do in each of the phases and stages of a natural disaster.





## What are the steps necessary for the elaboration of a Community Plan for the Management of Disasters?

The steps are:

### 1. To identify and determine the threats and the vulnerability levels in the community.

This activity is carried-out taking into account the information available in the Map of Community Risks elaborated by the community.

### 2. To assess the resources and the capacities available in the community.

The information required is taken from the Analysis of Vulnerability and the Community's inventory of Resources.

### 3. To prepare and train ourselves permanently.

This means that we should receive periodical training in issues such as organization and duties of the Local Emergency Committee, First Aid procedures, Evacuation and Rescue, Evaluation of Damages and Analysis of Needs (EDAN), etc.

### 4. To elaborate the Emergency and Relief Plan

This Plan is designed with the information obtained in the above numerals.

### 5. To practice and evaluate the plan.

This is carried-out through drill to evaluate the reaction capacity of the people and to determine if it works or not. Changes are made to the Plan if necessary to improve it.

We should keep in mind that the plan involves all the community, so it is necessary that all the people will have an active participation in its execution.

## What aspects should a Community Plan for the Management of Disasters include?

The aspects are:

### 1. General information of the Plan

- Name of the Community, Parish, Canton and Province.
- Name of the ADP to which the community belongs.
- Name of the person or persons that made the Community Plan for the Management of Risks.
- Date of elaboration.

### 2. Objectives of the Plan

The Objectives of the Plan are:

1. To save the lives of human beings and animals and to protect the community infrastructure.
2. To be well prepared in case of an adverse event.
3. To identify zones of risk, roads.

### 3. Policies

We should write down the norms and general regulations that will result in the correct and adequate execution of the Plan. 1. To save the lives of human beings and animals and to protect the community infrastructure.

Example:

- The Local Emergency Committee will be in charge of leading the whole process of emergency management in the community.
- The response actions will emphasize the attention to the most vulnerable people from the community (children, elders, pregnant women, handicapped people).

### 4. Implementation of the Plan

**4.1** To inform how the Local Committee of Emergencies is formed

The name of the Committee members and their positions/responsibilities should be clearly informed to all of us.

**4.1** To inform about what we must do in each of the phases and stages of a disaster



A disaster has three phases:

#### • Before (before the event takes place)

Here we write down all the activities to be implemented to create awareness, prevent, mitigate and prepare the community before a disaster occurs.

#### • During (when the adverse event takes place).

Here we apply all the things we have learned before the disaster takes place.

Example:

- To apply the first-aid skills learned to help wounded people.

#### • After (when the most difficult moment of the adverse event has passed).

Here we write the activities related to the following stages:

- Rehabilitation to be implemented immediately after the disaster.
- Reconstruction to be carried-out in the medium and long terms.

Example:

- To keep the attention in favor of the wounded people.
- To strengthen the health and immediate attention teams and to continue with the health programs already in progress.



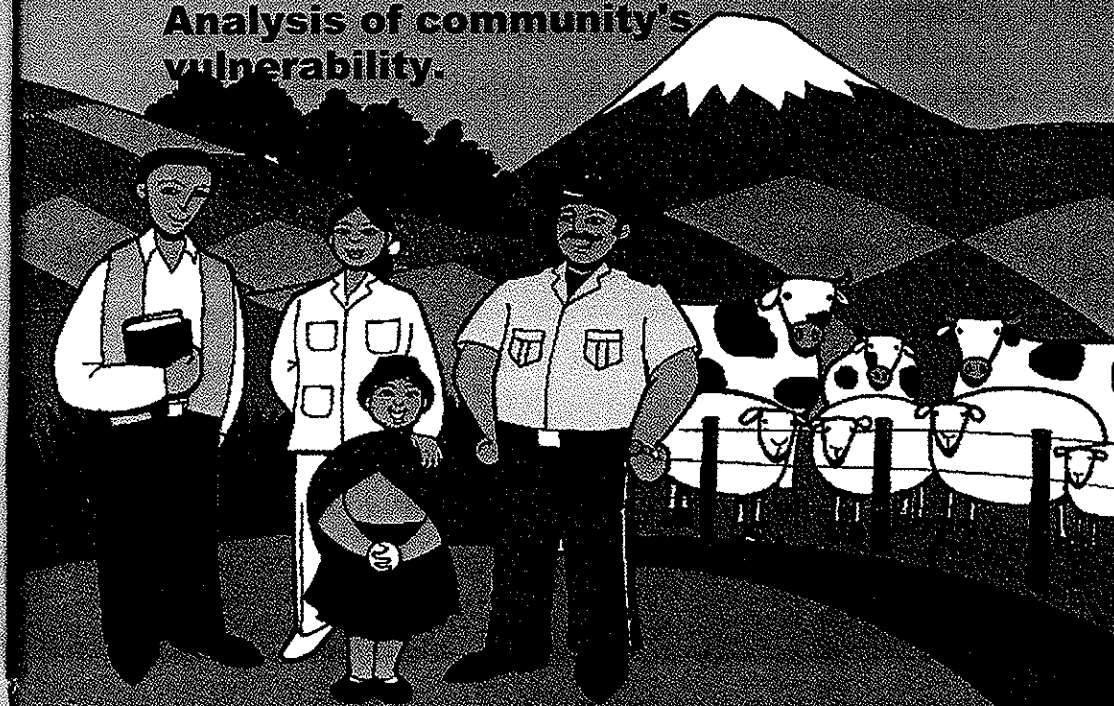
## Sample of a Community Plan Format

Phases and Stages of a disaster	Specific Purpose	Activities	Period of Execution	Person in charge
<b>BEFORE A DISASTER</b>				
Prevention				
Mitigation				
Preparation				
Alert				
<b>DURING A DISASTER</b>				
Reaction				
<b>AFTER A DISASTER</b>				
Rehabilitation				
Reconstruction				

### 4.3 Analysis of the risks and inventory of the community resources

Here we describe the main threats against the community. We also detail the Vulnerability and the Community Resources available, using the information available in the community.

#### Analysis of community's vulnerability.



THREAT	VULNERABILITY

# Inventory of the Resources Available in the Community



TYPE OF RESOURCES	YES	NO	POTENTIAL USE	OWNER or PERSON IN CHARGE	REMARKS
<b>PHYSICAL AND MATERIAL</b>					
Community house, etc.					
<b>HUMAN</b>					
Doctor, etc.					
<b>INSTITUTIONAL</b>					
Water Administration Board, etc.					
<b>NON GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS</b>					
ADP, World Vision, etc.					

## 4.3 Summary of the Community Context

A brief summary of the community context is elaborated, which has been collected in the document called history of the disasters in the community, which describes:

- General Information: Foundation date, population.
- Economic activities
- Existing Community organizations
- Appendixes

Map of Risks and Community Resources  
 Updated list of the members of the Emergency Committee.

## 4.5 Strategies

The strategies are the different initiatives and mechanisms applied in the medium and long terms in order to implement the Disasters Management Plan. They comply with the parameters established in the policies. This means that they are the ways that we follow to achieve the objectives of the Community Plan for the Management of Risks.

### We can mention the following example:

- To promote motivation and sensitization activities in the community for the Management of Risks.
- To encourage the participation of the Local Committee of Emergencies in the elaboration of the Community and ADP Development plans in order to integrate elements aimed at reducing the vulnerability towards disasters.
- To establish alliances between the local committee of emergencies and other organizations such as the ADP, the Red Cross, the Fire Department and other entities for the execution of the different activities contained in the Community Plan for the Management of Risks.

The book of Nehemia tells us an interesting story regarding the process applied for the reconstruction of the walls of Jerusalem. This story can help us illustrate the importance of the strategies aimed at obtaining support from other institutions and people. It is really interesting.

First: He asked authorization letters from the King Artajerjes.

• Second: He asked for authorization letters to the governors so they would let him pass until arriving in Juda.

• Third: He asked Asaf for some wood, to fix the palace doors and for the city walls.

• Fourth: Besides, the King Artajerjes sent captains of the army and knights to help Nehemia in his work.

### **What can we learn from this story?**

That, in order to implement a Plan for the Management of Disasters, we must seek for support through alliances with other key institutions that will help us in the rehabilitation and reconstruction process after a disaster.

**"The Community Plan for the Management of Disasters (CPMD) must be revised, corrected and updated at least once a year"**

### **Rosa:**

Some information had to be collected in order to elaborate a good Plan for the Management of Risks.

### **Luis**

That's correct. Accurate information is necessary for the elaboration of a good and reliable Community Plan for the Management of Disasters that will contribute to protect our lives and the lives of all the community inhabitants.

### **Pepe:**

Daddy, What is the topic to be addressed in the next community training workshop that you are going to attend?

### **Luis:**

Son, the next training workshop that we are going to attend in the community is: Mitigation Measures and Early Alert Systems. I hope I will learn a lot in the workshop. I will also tell you about the things that I will learn because you show a big interest in the project GETTING READY FOR LIFE.





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