



Community based disaster management dealt in project approach can't lead us anywhere. It should be promoted as a culture and conscious PRACTICE integral to the lives of the communities.

“Community Based Disaster Risk Management”

Date and Venue: 2nd to 6th Jan'2010; Dhulikhel, Nepal

Introduction

Asian Tsunami, followed by the hurricanes in America & again the earthquake in South Asia resulted in loss of more than 100,000 lives & property & infrastructure losses worth hundreds of Billions of USD.

Hard-won development gains go down the drain with disaster losses, which also take a heavy toll on security, dignity & livelihoods of affected population. Resources available on the earth are becoming scarce with ever-increasing population, exposing the vulnerable populace more often to the disaster risks, despite the increased disaster response capacities. Rapidly changing demographic, socio-economic patterns & technological conditions coupled with unplanned urbanization, climatic variability & 'new' epidemics like HIV-AIDS; all underline an imminent threat to the sustainable development, particularly in the third world countries.

It has been accepted widely that efforts to reduce disaster risks must be systematically integrated into policies, plans and programmes for sustainable development and poverty reduction, good governance and supported through a multitude of stakeholder partnerships. The experience shows that integration of disaster management in the development driven from the top has not been very effective. Ideas and examples should come from the communities and should feed in to the national policies and plans. The purpose should be to evolve a 'community owned' strategy to reduce disaster risk. Building resilient communities that establish such ownership is a complex task. Landmark guidance in reducing the disaster risks has been provided through specific gaps identified by the Yokohama Strategy¹ viz;

A sustained exposure of communities and decision makers to knowledge, education & innovation in hazards, risks, and the mitigation planning process is vital for successful Disaster Risk Reduction

- (a) Governance: organizational, legal and policy frameworks;
- (b) Risk identification, assessment, monitoring and early warning;
- (c) Knowledge management and education;

¹ The Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation and its Plan of Action (“Yokohama Strategy”), adopted in 1994. These still remain the key areas for developing a relevant framework for action for the decade 2005–2015, as decided by the WCDR, 2005. (Hyogo Framework)

- (d) Reducing underlying risk factors;
- (e) Preparedness for effective response and recovery.

Continued, comprehensive commitments & accelerated efforts are however much needed in a proactive manner at all levels to build capacities & perspectives to manage and reduce the disaster risks.

Community Based Disaster Management (CBDM) is a process, which leads to a locally appropriate and locally "owned" strategy for disaster risk reduction. While **Disaster preparedness** refers to measures taken to prepare for and reduce the effects of disasters. That is, to predict and—where possible—prevent them, mitigate their impact on vulnerable populations, and respond to and effectively cope with their consequences. Disaster management is best viewed from a broad perspective and is more appropriately conceived of as a goal, rather than as a specialised programme or stage that immediately precedes disaster response. It is a perspective that essentially needs to be built into development and rehabilitation programmes to achieve disaster resistant development. Disaster Management is also achieved partially through readiness measures that expedite emergency response, rehabilitation and recovery and result in rapid, timely and targeted assistance. It is also achieved through community-based approaches and activities that build the capacities of people and communities to cope with and minimise the effects of a disaster on their lives.

The first responder to any disaster is invariably the disaster hit community itself. It definitely makes sense to help them in risk reduction and prepare them to handle disasters effectively. This RedR India workshop would dwell at length on how, what and why about CBDM. The workshop would also discuss the ways of using Sphere standards in planning for disaster preparedness. The course has been designed to improve the effectiveness of specialist and non-specialist in disaster response, helping them to link the disasters with development in a sustainable manner.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Understand the linkages between disasters & development and concepts of hazard, Risk, and vulnerability assessment.
- Describe the basic concepts of underlying CBDM and its relation and distinction between hazard, disaster and emergency.
- Understand the key policies for sustainable development, with a special emphasis on disaster management (including preparedness, mitigation & risk reduction)
- Describe the different strategies that could be undertaken to reduce disaster risks
- Introduction to tools like CVA, risk register etc. and link it with risk reduction.
- Address the practical difficulties in identifying, analyzing vulnerability and risks.
- Understand Vulnerabilities, Capacities and their interplay in determining the risk.

- Identify potential emergency needs and begin identifying the various players (local population, NGOs, GO etc.) which have potential roles to play in emergency response.
- Understand the participatory facilitation of hazard, vulnerability, capacity and risk assessment of individuals, families and communities.
- Understand planning and designing of effective community disaster awareness initiatives, training and rehearsals/simulations etc.
- Developing community groups & Promoting organised environment at the local level for effective disaster risk reduction
- Understand basics of emergency need assessment and standards in emergency response and use of Sphere standards for the same.
- Apply sphere standards to the context of CBDRM.

Course Fee

Residential

This cost is fully-inclusive of all accommodation, food, training and training materials from the evening of the first date advertised to the afternoon of the last date advertised.

Organisational rate (Sponsored Candidates)	USD 375
Individual rate: (Non Sponsored)	USD 300
Participants from Nepal	USD 300

Trainers

This training would be conducted by experienced trainers from RedR India who have extensive knowledge and practice of Disaster Risk Reduction work.

Training Methodology

As in all RedR India courses the style will be highly participatory and interactive, including a number of group exercises and focused discussions. There will be presentations by key speakers, including a talk by a recently returned relief worker. As with all RedR courses, you will have the opportunity to meet other relief workers, to exchange views and experiences and to find out more about RedR.

Expected Participants

This course is open to GO, INGOs, UN, Red Cross, NGOs development and emergency personnel who have experience of coordinating, implementing relief, rehabilitation and development work or are likely to be involved in disaster response initiatives.

Professional Development

The principal aim of RedR training is to improve your effectiveness in disaster response. In addition, RedR training can enhance your professional development. Many of the skills developed will be of benefit to you and your employer in other areas of your career. They are particularly valuable for those likely to be involved in a professional capacity in Humanitarian Assistance and disaster risk reduction.

How to Apply?

Please fill out the attached Registration Form and send it to training@redrindia.org . On confirmation of availability of seat please forward your course fee to RedR India. For more details on course fee please refer to the application form.

What is RedR?

RedR-India is a humanitarian; non-profit organization, which maintains a Register of, experienced humanitarian professionals who are available to assist governments and external support agencies in the aftermath of disasters. RedR India is a member of the RedR International network. In addition to its primary task as a recruiter of humanitarian workers the RedRs have a global reputation for the development and presentation of high quality training for the humanitarian aid sector. RedR has offices in Australia, Canada, India, New Zealand, UK and Belgium. For more information please visit www.redr.org