



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies



WORKSHOP ON BUILDING COMMUNITY-BASED RISK MANAGEMENT AND RESPONSES TO NATURAL DISASTERS

BANGKOK, THAILAND, JUNE 10 -13, 2008

The Role of Red Cross and Red Crescent in Community Based DRR





Red Cross & Red Crescent in brief

RCRC Movement

‘to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilising the power of humanity’

- Leading actor in humanitarian action
- Mandated by Governments through acts of law or decrees
- Global network of 186 member National Societies
- Unique network of millions of volunteers with local reach, knowledge and trust
- Direct access to most vulnerable
- Capacities for massive scale-up & delivery of the “last mile”



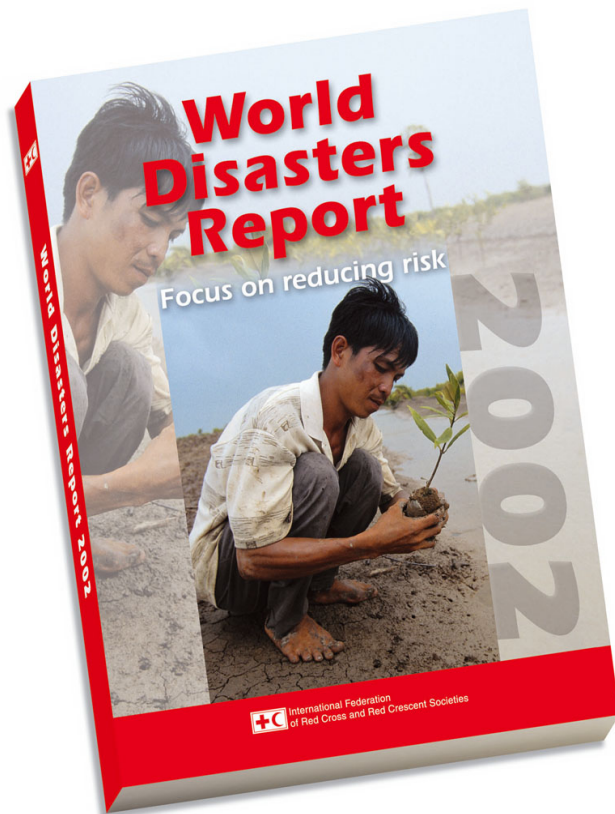


Red Cross & Red Crescent in CBDRR

- Disasters *not* natural.
- Poor and marginalised people more vulnerable to disasters.
- Local people always first to respond.
- Not only "big" disasters destroy life and livelihoods.
- 80 percent of disasters managed at the local level



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- 1984 study “Prevention Better Than Cure”

World Disaster Report 2002

- disaster preparedness pays but is **not enough**
- need for **disaster risk reduction** to protect livelihoods and development
- **development and humanitarian agendas** come together - *disasters erode development gains and disasters are a result of under-development*



Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 - 2015

The five Priorities for Action:



World Conference on Disaster Reduction
18-22 January 2005, Kobe, Hyogo, Japan

Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015*

Building the Resilience of Nations and
Communities to Disasters

www.unisdr.org

*Extract from the final report of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction
(A/C.NF.2/2005)



International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

- 1. Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation.*
- 2. Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning.*
- 3. Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels.*
- 4. Reduce the underlying risk factors.*
- 5. Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels.*



The Global Alliance for disaster risk reduction

To increase community orientation in global and national disaster risk reduction policies and strengthen national and local institutions for disaster risk reduction.

To encourage and support expanded community-based programming to identify and tackle disaster risks.

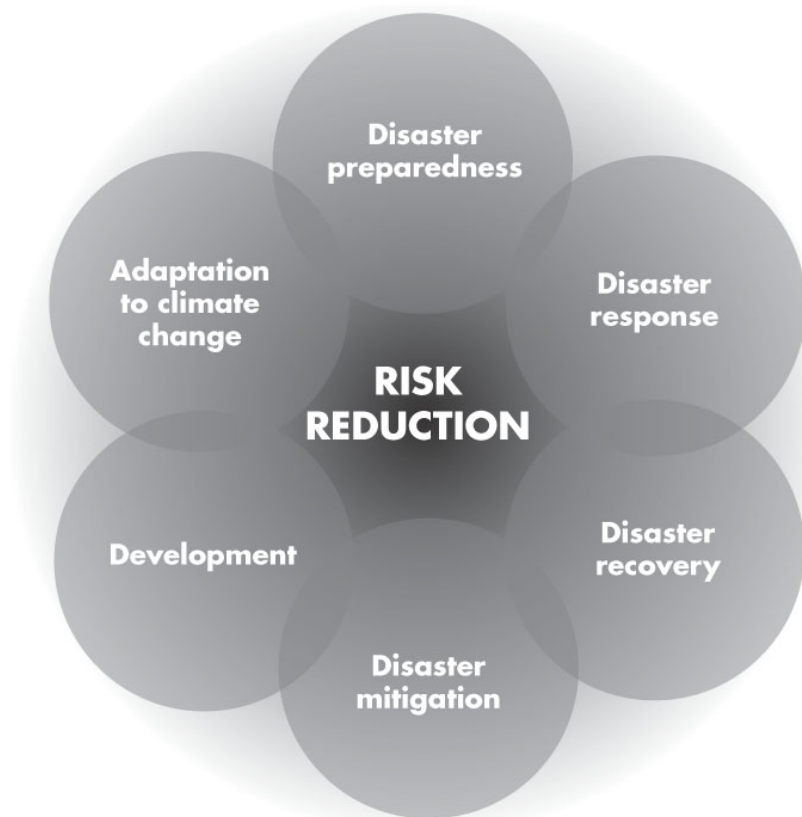
To integrate enhanced community-centered disaster risk reduction measures as part of comprehensive disaster response management whenever this is applied.

Strengthening of National Society capacities to deliver and sustain scaled up programmes in disaster risk reduction.



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DRR is a systematic approach to identifying, assessing and reducing the risks of disaster. It aims to reduce socio-economic vulnerabilities to disaster as well as dealing with the environmental and other hazards that trigger them.





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National Societies what they do

- National Societies act as auxiliaries to the public authorities of their own countries in the humanitarian field.
- emergency shelter, food and medicine
- water and sanitation
- restoring family contact for disaster victims
- disaster preparedness
- community-based health and care
- first aid training and activities
- control and prevention of diseases
- HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness
- blood donor recruitment, collection and supply
- youth and volunteer activities





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Integrated disaster risk reduction and development

Local level activities to **reduce disaster risk**:

- livelihood support
 - food security
 - VCA, risk & capacity mapping
 - local level early warning
 - water and sanitation
 - first aid, health and hygiene promotion
 - community emergency plan
 - evacuation centres and routes
 - safe housing
 - reinforcement of important buildings/infrastructure
 - education/public awareness
 - strengthening national societies (through capacity building/institutional development) to ensure that they play a more significant role within civil society
- **cross-cutting** through disaster preparedness, response, rehabilitation, recovery
 - risk analysis to **protect development projects** (e.g. clinics, water points, schools)
 - should therefore be **mainstreamed** across RC/RC development programmes



Mangrove planting saves lives in Vietnam

The major objectives are :

- Mangrove forest and trees planted
- Raising public awareness
- Renovating the ecology and improving lives
- Building capacity of VNRC

The project started 1994 in 1 pilot area

In 1997, expanded to other 7 Northern coastal provinces

The project has been implemented in 157 communes of 43 districts in 8 provinces.



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Mangrove planting saves lives in Vietnam



“Before the project, our beach was only a desert of white sand, but since we have the mangrove forest, a lot of fish and crabs come to live here”



Tran cong Dan, chairman of Son Hai commune Red Cross in Quynh Luu district.



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Mangrove planting saves lives in Vietnam

Disaster preparedness pays.

Planting of 12,000 hectares of mangroves has cost around US\$1.1m,
reduce the cost of dyke maintenance by US\$7.3m per year.

Mangroves have proven
to reduce loss of life and
damages during several
typhoons since 1994





WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?

Strong community participation and ownership key to success and sustainability

People and communities perceive risks differently. Their own assessment of risks must be valued if we are to succeed.

A community-based disaster risk reduction programme requires skilled staff/volunteers

Collaboration with local government authorities important.



WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?

Early warning and preparedness save lives and helps mitigate economic damage.

Hazard proof development gains.

When disaster strikes – Build Back Better!

DRR a process throughout the Relief-Recovery-Rehabilitation-Development continuum



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Every dollar invested in risk reduction can save between two and ten dollars in disaster response and recovery cost.

