



DISASTER PROOFING THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs)



ENHANCING RESILIENCE AND ACCELERATING ACHIEVEMENT OF MDGs
AND HFA IMPLEMENTATION IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION BY 2015





of climate change, impeding progress towards sustainable development” (Source: MDG Summit 2010 Outcome Document, Sept 2010)

2010 MDG SUMMIT OUTCOME

At the recently held High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, the Heads of State and Governments gathered at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 20 to 22 September, 2010, while welcoming the progress made since 2005, expressed deep concern that the progress falls far short of what is needed.

Recognising the mixed story of successes, uneven progress, challenges and opportunities, the outcome of the summit *“acknowledged that disaster risk reduction and increasing resilience to all types of natural hazard, including geological and hydro-meteorological hazards, in developing countries, in line with the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters, can have multiplier effects and accelerate achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Reducing vulnerabilities to these hazards is therefore a high priority for developing countries. We recognise that small island developing States continue to grapple with natural disasters, some of which are of increased intensity, including as a result of the effects of climate change, impeding progress towards sustainable development”.*

In January 2005, at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, 168 Governments adopted the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA); a 10 year plan to make the world safer from natural hazards. From the global blueprint for disaster risk reduction efforts, the HFA offers guiding principles, priorities for action and practical means for achieving disaster resilience for vulnerable communities.

HYOGO FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION (HFA) 2005-2015

While significant progress has been made in implementing the HFA, much more needs to be done to integrate disaster risk reduction into sustainable development policies and planning, thus contributing towards achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. The Outcome Document: Chair’s Summary of the Second Session of Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction held in Geneva, June 2009 and attended by 152 Governments, 137 organisations and 1688 participants, recognised that “significant progress has been achieved since the Hyogo Framework for Action was endorsed by UN Member States in 2005, as reported in the Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction, particularly in terms of life-saving measures such as improved disaster preparedness and response, but that much more needed to be done. Governments, NGOs and other partners were united in the belief that greater urgency is now required to address the factors that are driving the increase in disaster risk, such as rural poverty and vulnerability, unplanned and poorly managed urban growth and declining ecosystems. Urgent action is necessary not only to reduce disaster risk, but also to maintain momentum in Millennium Development Goal achievement, including poverty reduction, adaptation to climate change and better health outcomes.

So too in the Asia Pacific region, recognising much needs to be done in implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action, the Ministers and Heads of Delegation of the countries



MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGS)

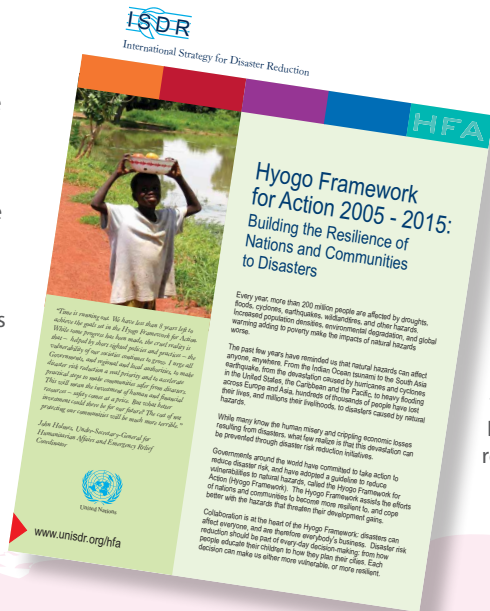
The eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) form a blueprint agreed to by 189 member states of the UN and major international development agencies at the Millennium Summit in 2000. They define a series of concrete, well defined quantitative targets across key development sectors which are to be met by the year 2015.

While there have been concerted efforts by the Governments to achieve the Goals, which had made definite progress, much more needs to be done in the remaining five years to achieve these objectives. Therefore countries cannot afford to face set back to developmental initiatives from either natural disasters or other events.

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of Asia and the Pacific attending the Second Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in New Delhi, November 2007, called for the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action by “Encourage the national governments and regional and sub-regional organisations to develop reporting mechanisms to monitor the progress made to achieve the goals of the Hyogo Framework for Action and to link such reports to other development processes, including the national strategies for poverty reduction and the Millennium Development Goals”.



At the Third Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in Kuala Lumpur, December 2008, the Ministers and Heads of Delegation of the countries of Asia and the Pacific expressed their concern on the “region being most affected by disasters in terms of human and economic impacts, but also in occurrence, threatening to roll back hard-earned development gains and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the region”.

The first version of this brochure was developed as the first step ‘Disaster Proofing the Millennium Development Goals’ by the Asia Regional Campaign and the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC). The brochure was launched simultaneously at the 2nd Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR), 7-8 November, 2008, New Delhi, India as well at the Asian Forum of the Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD); “Brainstorming Meeting of Parliamentarians Advocacy on MDG”, 6-7 November, Bangkok, Thailand.

Since its initial launch in 2007, much progress has taken place in advancing the MDGs as well as implementation of the HFA, and linkages between the two in contributing each other has increasingly been recognised by the Heads of State and Governments. This linkage in reducing disaster risk for achieving the MDGs is reflected in the Outcome Document of High-level Plenary Meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, September 2010 as well as in the outcome of the Second Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, June 2009.

At the 2nd and 3rd Asian Ministerial Conferences on Disaster Risk Reduction, the Ministers attending the event had expressed their sincere concerns on the threat posed to the achievement of the MDGs by the risk from disasters. While the Honorable Ministers from the Asia and Pacific region are meeting at the 4th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Incheon, October, 2010, this updated brochure is released to emphasise the urgency of taking concrete actions collectively, in the remaining five years of the MDGs and the implementation of the HFA, to reduce risk and advance the MDGs.

This brochure is launched by the Regional Consultative Committee on Disaster Management (RCC) at the Side Event on ‘Experiences of RCC on Mainstreaming DRR into development’ on 26th October, 2010 at the 4th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, Incheon, Korea. The event focusing on the importance of safer development and good governance will emphasize the urgency of taking concrete actions in accelerating achievement of MDGs and HFA implementation in Asia and the Pacific region.

The cost of disasters is just far too high.

- Disasters wipe out decades of progress and development in just a few seconds. Their impact, both in terms of deaths and economic losses, is increasing dramatically. In 2008, the death toll from natural disasters tripled to 235,000 from an annual average of 66,000 over the period 2000-2007. Economic losses totaled \$181 billion, more than double the annual average of \$82 billion over the same period. (Source; GFDRR, 2009)

Disasters do not discriminate between rich and poor, but their impacts do.

- 11 percent of people exposed to natural hazards live in low human development index countries, but account for more than 53 percent of the total recorded deaths resulting from natural disasters

Disaster risk reduction pays

- A Vietnam Red Cross mangrove planting programme implemented in eight provinces in Vietnam to provide protection to coastal inhabitants from typhoons and storms cost an average US\$0.13 million a year over the period 1994 to 2001, but reduced the annual cost of dyke maintenance by US \$ 7.1 m. The programme also helped save lives, protect livelihoods and generate livelihood opportunities. (Source; World Disaster Report, IFRC, 2002)



UNITED NATIONS

In 2010, we are at the midpoint of our collective efforts to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action and only five years away from the Millennium Development Goals target date. This is not the time to rest on our achievements but to redouble our efforts. The urgency of meeting these goals increases steadily. In urban areas, for instance, migration, unplanned settlements and poor construction standards contribute to unprecedented concentrations of risk. For resilience to be strengthened and MDG targets to be achieved, we must be bold and ensure that our investments in development take the causes and consequences of disaster into account.

MARGARETA WAHLSTRÖM

Special Representative of UN Secretary-General on Disaster Risk Reduction



ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Little doubt remains that disasters impair development efforts. The global effort to achieve the MDGs could be in jeopardy if development programs do not incorporate disaster resilient components. As we embark upon the final push to achieve the MDGs, it is in the interest of every individual, government, and development partner to ensure that no Goal is derailed by failing to act decisively to reduce disaster risks.

URSULA SCHAEFER-PREUSS

**Vice President, Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development
Asian Development Bank**



UN MILLENNIUM CAMPAIGN

With just five years left and a reaffirmation of a commitment to accelerate the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals at the UN MDG Summit 2010, it is no longer a choice but an imperative to make sure risk reduction from natural hazards are integrated in each of the Goals and their relevant targets. This will increase resilience at all levels and act as a multiplier effect to accelerate the achievements of the MDGs. Engaging communities in planning and monitoring for resilience and MDG achievement is a way forward to 2015. We need to disaster proof the MDGs to honour this promise."

UN Millennium Campaign is facilitating in number of countries a process of Citizen's monitoring and tracking of MDGs which will encapsulate elements of resilience against disasters.

MINAR PIMPLE

Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific



GOVERNMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

On behalf of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC, formerly the NDCC or National Disaster Coordinating Council), let me express the Philippines' unqualified commitment and full support to the advocacy of the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) on disaster proofing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

As challenging and as daunting maybe our own struggle to match the aspirations in the MDGs, the Filipino people deserve no less than equal protection and safety as their neighbors cherish in Asia and the rest of the world. Thus, with the NDRRMC at the forefront of disaster risk reduction management, we shall contribute our share in building upon current efforts and in bridging existing gaps towards disaster proofing.

This brochure is a fitting document in communicating the imperative of disaster proofing MDGs as it adds value to other similar on-going efforts.

With assurances of our continued collaboration and partnership.

Mabuhay!

VOLTAIRE TUVERA GAZMIN

**Secretary of National Defense and
Chairperson, National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council**



ASIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

The Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) has been providing academic curricula on “Sustainable Development” across three schools and outreach units. AIT is a regional institute with international, multilingual, and cross-cultural attributes, contributing for meeting regional needs a through planning, technological, developmental and management related education, research, training, outreach and networking activities

The ASEAN Regional Center of Excellence on MDGs (ARCMDG) was created to promote, educate and train on MDGs throughout the region.

This initiative has been endorsed by the UN Secretary-General as the world’s first Regional Center of Excellence on MDGs for its establishment and functioning at AIT, Bangkok, Thailand. The center is established and functional since 1 May 2008.

The academic program Disaster Preparedness, Mitigation and Management Program is offered at AIT to instill the interdisciplinary capacities to manage and minimise the effects of disasters in people on the front-lines of disaster response and preparedness. Courses are designed to accommodate applicants with engineering, architecture, natural and social science, as well as management backgrounds.

AIT understands that progress in science and technology and related disaster coping mechanisms have made it possible to save significant lives and properties. It is apparent that science and technology along with proper planning and management can certainly help to understand the mechanism of these natural hazards. Additionally, AIT believes that disaster mitigation is both possible and feasible if the social and technical aspects related to natural hazards are correctly addressed.

SAID IRANDOOS President of the Asian Institute of Technology



ASIAN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS CENTER

We celebrate the progress made in the achievement of the MDGs till date but at the same time recognise that it falls far short of what is needed. Accordingly, the outcome of the 2010 Millennium Campaign provides us with the framework for accelerating the achievement of the MDGs. A closer look at this MDG acceleration framework clearly reveals the importance of considering disaster risk reduction and increasing resilience to all types of natural hazards, be it through enhancing sustainable agricultural production, developing efficient water management systems, land-use planning or addressing environmental challenges through measures such as deforestation, for accelerating the achievement of the MDGs.

At ADPC, mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into development remains one of our primary goals and is addressed in our programmatic interventions such as climate risk management, urban disaster risk management, public health in emergencies, flood preparedness and emergency management and community-based disaster risk reduction. As the secretariat to the Regional Consultative Committee on Disaster Management (RCC), since 2004 ADPC is providing technical assistance to the RCC member countries in implementing the RCC Program on Mainstreaming DRR into Development. In this aspect, guided by the MDG acceleration framework, the future direction of our work would include working closely with national agencies and development partners responsible for implementing the MDGs and supporting them in the process of integrating disaster risk reduction in the MDGs, related targets and specific programs designed for achieving the Goals.

DR. BHICHIT RATTAKUL Executive Director Asian Disaster Preparedness Center

HOW DISASTERS SET BACK EACH OF THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGS)





MDG 1: ERADICATE EXTREME POVERTY AND HUNGER

Halving the world's population of poor people by 2015 is impossible to achieve without taking widespread measures to minimise the impacts of recurrent floods, droughts and other natural or man-made hazards that push people back into poverty.

As a result of the losses in incomes due to lower economic activity because of Typhoons Ondoy and Pepeng, the number of poor people in the Philippines is estimated to increase by 480,000 in 2009. (Source; Post disaster needs assessment Report, 2009)

In Aceh, Indonesia, the 2004 tsunami is estimated to have increased the proportion of people living below the poverty line from 30 per cent to 50 per cent. (Source; DFID, 2006)

In Vietnam, it is estimated that a further 4-5 per cent of the population could be pushed into poverty in the event of a disaster. (Source; ADB, 2004)

Precious food and livestock resources can be wiped out overnight by a sudden disaster

One-fifth of Cambodia's rice crop was destroyed by a flood followed by a drought in 1994. The effect of the flood and drought led to a 20 percent reduction in the volume of rice crop produced, which resulted in a reduction in the overall share of GDP by 2 percent

In the delta region in Myanmar, indebtedness is a big problem for many villagers. Farmers borrow for agricultural inputs and home consumption. Fishing households borrow boats and fishing supplies from traders. The landless poor often sell their labour in advance, at roughly half of going wage rate, in order to meet consumption requirements during the "hungry season" of June-October. In 2005 rainy season, 43 percent of households in the Delta were in debt, compared to the national average of 33 percent. (Source; Post-Nargis Joint Assessment, July, 2008)

Hunger rises.

"We only eat when I can manage to get some money, but I have not worked for the past three months. Now I have taken a loan from a money lender at ten per cent interest every month. It's a trap I cannot escape."

Komela (Bangladesh flood victim)



MDG 2: ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL PRIMARY EDUCATION

"We lost everything in the floods last year...and had to move to the city looking for work to feed ourselves...now all of us work on this construction site...even my ten year old daughter...we can't afford to send her to school now..."

Cambodia flood victim

Every disaster sets back progress towards the goal of achieving universal education for all ...

The Sichuan earthquake, 2008, killed more than 7000 children in their schools and an estimated 7000 classrooms were destroyed.

An estimated 5,927 educational institutions were fully or partially damaged by Cyclone Sidr in Bangladesh, resulting in a total value of damage and losses of BDT 4.7 billion. However, the education sector's needs are approximately BDT 7.8 billion (US\$ 113 million), due primarily to increased cost of constructing new schools that would also serve as emergency shelters. (Source; Damage, Loss and Needs Assessment, Government of Bangladesh, April 2008)

Schools and other educational infrastructure suffer extensive damage ... teachers lose their lives...classes get disrupted....

In Sri Lanka, because of the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami, along the nation's battered southern and eastern shorelines, classroom teaching came to an almost complete halt for several weeks, 182 schools were severely damaged or destroyed, while 287 schools serves as emergency shelters for thousands made homeless. (Source; Teaching Disaster Risk Management in Sri Lanka's Schools, Government of Sri Lanka and GTZ)

For a family hit by disaster, sending children to school becomes a second priority...

forced by circumstances to migrate, the continuity of children's schooling gets disrupted....

30 percent of children in Dallah, Myanmar, are predicting that they will soon have to drop out of school if their workloads within the household remain as they are post-Nargis. (Source; Save the Children, 2008)



MDG 3 :PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY / EMPOWERING WOMEN

Women and girls number more amongst the dead and missing

61 percent of those dead due to Cyclone Nargis in Myanmar were female, with significant higher figures in individual villages. This type of demographic change will have significant impacts on the roles of, and relationships between, different genders in many villages and is also likely to have an effect on migration patterns. (Source; Post-Nargis Joint Assessment, July, 2008)

Women always tend to suffer most from the impact of disasters...women suffer four types of indirect losses following disasters; loss of productive employment outside the home, loss of household production and income, increase in reproductive work, and other economic damage resulting from outstanding debts or loans. (Source; Women's participation in disaster relief and recovery)

Their workloads and the pressure of managing household resources increases...

they consume less, so as to save scarce emergency rations for the family...

they are subject to greater violence and abuse...

young girls are often forced to stop their education and enter the workforce because of increased economic pressures...

"I lost my husband in the earthquake... his father took all the compensation and gave me no share...now I have to feed my children all on my own...so I have started doing some tailoring work to earn an income...that means I have to get up even earlier to do the cooking and fetch the water...and I always feel unsafe when it is dark..."

Pakistan earthquake victim



MDG 4: REDUCING CHILD MORTALITY

Child mortality rates during disasters are usually much higher compared to those of adult populations....

In the 1971 Bangladesh cyclone, children aged less than 10 years made up about a third of the population but accounted for half of all deaths (www.bmj.com)

The earthquake in Pakistan (2005) killed at least 17,000 students in schools and seriously injured another 50,000, leaving many disabled and over 300,000 children affected.

Smaller children are more likely to drown in a flood, or die in a house collapse when an earthquake occurs....

Children are also more prone to death from disease and epidemics in post disaster situations...

In recent years, annual flooding in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam has claimed hundreds of lives, the vast majority of which have been young children. The worst year was 2000, when 400 children died, closely followed by over 300 child deaths in 2001. In 2002, 99 children died – out of a total death toll of 106 in the Delta.

Most deaths were among children aged under six from poor families.





MDG 5: IMPROVING MATERNAL HEALTH

Pregnant women and young mothers are an especially vulnerable group in disaster situations....

During the Pakistan earthquake of October 2005, the estimated number of pregnant women in the affected areas was 40,000 (source : Medical news today)

The Cyclone Sidr in Bangladesh eroded the household capacity to access adequate food supplies—due to the destruction of standing crops and gardens, household food stocks and assets, and livelihoods that poor households depend on to purchase food. Under these circumstances, infants, young children, and pregnant and lactating women were vulnerable to malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies, especially since their nutritional requirements are relatively high, but they are least able to negotiate their fair share of food within the household. (Source; Damage, Loss and Needs Assessment, Government of Bangladesh, April 2008)

Theresa Shaver, executive director of the White Motherhood: “Pregnant women face greater risks low birth weight babies and infant deaths -during conditions of a disaster. This can make delivering difficult and potentially life-threatening”

Ribbon Alliance for Safe
- like premature births,
the stressful
a child

“Our experience in responding to the earthquake in Bam, Iran, and to the tsunami, has confirmed that needs relating to pregnancy and hygiene must be addressed from the outset. Maternal care, including emergency obstetric care, saves lives.”

UNFPA Executive Director Thoraya Ahmed Obaid
(source: UNFPA)



MDG 6: COMBATING HIV, AIDS, MALARIA AND OTHER DISEASES

“The experience from emergency situations, like in South Africa or in East Timor, has demonstrated how the incidence of sexually-transmitted disease, including HIV / AIDS can change...the mass displacement of people, social instability, worsening poverty due to income loss, and the influx of new populations, including reconstruction and relief workers, soldiers and transporters, are factors associated with its transmission,”

Yannick Guegan
Humanitarian Affairs Department of UNAIDS.

Disasters cause widespread damage to hospitals and the medical infrastructure....

Epidemics like malaria, dengue or diarrhoea that spread in the wake of a disaster could take as much of a toll of life as the disaster itself....

An outbreak of diarrhoeal disease post flooding in Bangladesh in 2004 involved more than 17000 cases (source: WHO)

In Muzaffarabad, Pakistan, following the 2005 earthquake, an outbreak of acute watery diarrhoea occurred in an unplanned, poorly-equipped camp of 1800 persons. The outbreak involved over 750 cases (source: WHO)

Prevalence of night blindness increased after the devastating floods of 1988 in Bangladesh. (Source; Hellen Keller International)

The Cyclone Sidr in Bangladesh can be blamed for 3,200 deaths and increased numbers of diarrhea, respiratory tract infection, eye infection, various skin diseases, and fever. Most of these were caused by a shortage of clean drinking water. (Source; Damage, Loss and Needs Assessment, Government of Bangladesh, April 2008)

HIV infection rates are observed to increase in the wake of a disaster...Men who migrate in search of work from disaster prone areas are likely to indulge in high risk sexual behaviour...poverty may push more women into sex work...



MDG 7: ENSURING ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Disasters have severe large scale impacts on key natural resources...fields, soil, forests, biodiversity...restoring such assets is often near impossible in the short run...

The Cyclone Sidr caused extensive disruption to the normal functions of the Sunderban ecosystem in Bangladesh. Damaged and broken trees restricted the movement of animals, prevented regeneration capacity, and lead to scarcity of food. Fifty-seven ponds of varying size-the source of drinking water for local animal were contaminated by saline water. (Source; Damage, Loss and Needs Assessment, Government of Bangladesh, April 2008)

The loss and damage of mangrove forests as a result of Cyclone Nargis is particularly critical, which affected about 16,800 ha (41,514 acres) of natural forest and 21,000 ha (51,892 acres) of forest plantations. The loss of both natural and plantation trees has significant implications for the environment and livelihoods in the Ayeyarwady Delta. Mangroves are an important source of subsistence and income for local communities, particularly for landless labourers, through the collection of firewood, production of charcoal, and the harvesting of fisheries as well as material for shelter....(Source; Learning from Cyclone Nargis, UNEP)

Major losses also happen to infrastructure like housing, water supply, roads and sanitation systems...repairing these is always a huge drain on development budgets...

At Mao town in Nagaland, a major landslide occurred in July 2004. With a width of about 150 meters and stretching along 1,100 meters, the landslide destroyed 80 houses and blocked a major road transport corridor for more than one month.

In the Indian Ocean tsunami, several thousand kilometers of main, secondary and tertiary roads and nearly 490 bridges were damaged to a varying extent.

More than 38,600 latrines and septic tanks were destroyed in the rural areas, some of which overflowed discharging its contents in the surrounding areas, thus posing an additional health hazard to its users.



MDG 8: DEVELOPING A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT

Disasters divert huge amounts of resources from aid programmes to relief and rehabilitation...

Typhoon Ondoy and Pepeng caused substantial damage and losses-estimated at 2.7 percent of GDP-as they directly affected regions accounting for over half of the Philippines' GDP. At regional level in particular the impacts were substantial with as much as 10 percent of Region I's GDP, 9 percent of Region II and IV-A's GDP, and 7 percent of Region III's GDP. (Source; Post disaster needs assessment Report, 2009)

Small national economies and island states are the ones usually hit the hardest ... Since the economies of these countries are small, the impact of disasters is felt by the islands even though the actual event might take place in some other surrounding island.

For instance, during disaster years, Samoa's economic losses have averaged 46 percent of the GDP and over 40 percent of the population has been affected. (Source; The World Bank, 2006)

The burden of debt increases, and unemployment rises...

Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Thailand and the Maldives – pay \$23.1 billion a year to rich countries and multi-lateral institutions such as the World Bank and International Monetary Fund in debt repayments for tsunami relief (source: World Development movement website)





How Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) can help achieve MDG



Better land use planning enhances food productivity, and strengthens sustainability...(MDG 1/ MDG 8)

"The drought planning experts give us advice on when to plant our crops...and we've also been given a new variety of seeds at subsidized rates...which need much less water..."

Income diversification projects broaden the livelihood base (MDG 1)

"I took a loan to buy two cows under the drought relief scheme...now we make a good income from the milk, and don't have to worry so much about what will happen if the rains don't come"

"Livelihoods was our priority, with the raised income we build a machha (raised platform) in my house and also one for my livestock" (Zorina, Tangail, Bangladesh)

Investments in disaster risk reduction assets can have other development spin offs (MDG 1 / 8)

In Semarang, Indonesia, a dam is planned upstream of a major river for flood control purposes, but will also provide water and will act as a source of electricity through hydroelectricity generation

Public warning systems bring in new information and communication technologies to disaster prone communities and widens access to these...(MDG 8)

"Our local government office has been provided with a mobile phone and internet facility after the last cyclone...now we can be informed as soon as there is a cyclone warning in our area... its also made communicating with the district headquarters so much easier..."

Shelters built to protect communities against natural hazards can double up as schools or medical facilities...(MDG 2 / 4/5/6)

Schools in Bangladesh built at a raised level also double up as a refuge for the community when there are floods...

Women's participation in resilience building and recovery efforts improves their status in the community(MDG 3)

In India, women supported by Swayam Shikshan Prayog in earthquake- hit areas of Maharashtra, Gujarat and in tsunami hit Tamil Nadu women have organized their own federations of savings and credit groups. These federations provide thousands of women with access to crisis credit and enterprise loans.(source alertnet.org)

The Joint Land Titling Policy in Aceh has enabled s women to register their names in the title deed as exclusive or joint owner of land distributed by the authorities in the aftermath of the tsunami. Previously ,property was held only in the men's names.

Schoolchildren trained in first aid and emergency drills can save lives (MDG 4)

At the end of the May 2006, when an earthquake hit Yogyakarta in Indonesia, although 5,000 people lost their lives, the figures would have been much higher had the children not just learnt at school what to do in the case of an earthquake, and had they not passed this knowledge to their parents.



Strengthening and improving the quality of the health infrastructure builds the resistance of communities to disease and raises life expectancy...(MDG 4/5/6)

Before last year's cyclone, the nearest hospital was twenty kilometers away...now we have one in our own village, which was built under the cyclone relief program...all our children have been inoculated now against cholera and typhoid...and there's even a trained midwife who does deliveries"

More resilient infrastructural construction results in huge savings...(MDG 7)

A year after constructing a deepwater port in Dominica, Hurricane David necessitated reconstruction costs equivalent to 41% of the original investment; while building the port to a standard that could resist such a hurricane would have cost only about 12%.

Disaster mitigation efforts can create new cross border partnerships and mobilisation of resources for development...(MDG 8)

The Indian Ocean tsunami affected India, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Burma, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia...the amount of assistance generated was on an unprecedented scale...there was huge international media coverage... thirty-five different armed forces were involved in the relief effort... and a strong spirit of global solidarity was created...

Periodic hurricanes and cyclones have brought the problems of smaller island states into global focus, and compelled the world community to address them.....(MDG 8)

INCOPORATING RESILIENCE AND INTEGRATING DRR INTO THE MDG ACCELERATION FRAMEWORK.

For accelerating the implementation of the MDGs it is essential to integrate DRR in the Goals and related targets. The RCC through its Program on Mainstreaming DRR into Development and ADPC as its secretariat remains committed in developing specific guidelines on integrating DRR in MDGs for selected RCC member countries in close partnership with UN Millennium Campaign, UN Country Teams and national agencies responsible for implementation of the MDGs.

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UN MILLENNIUM CAMPAIGN

The UN Millennium Campaign was established by UN Secretary-General in 2002. It supports and inspires people from around the world to take action in support of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The MDGs are an eight-point road map with measurable targets and clear deadlines for improving the lives of the world's poorest people. World leaders have agreed to achieve the MDGs by 2015.

Join the UN Millennium Campaign and be part of the generation that puts an end to poverty.

For more information please visit www.endpoverty2015.org

REGIONAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT (RCC)



The Regional Consultative Committee of Disaster Management (RCC) comprises of members who are working in key Government position in national disaster management systems of countries of the Asia and the Pacific region and was established at the initiative of the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC).

Since 2004, RCC had been implementing the Program on Mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into development policy and planning and implementation in RCC member countries

The second phase of the Program titled Partnerships for Safe Development and Good Governance (2008-2012) aims at increasing community resilience to natural disasters that contribute to realise the Millennium Development Goals. The Program has five components and the component 3 specifically looks into Advocacy for building awareness and political support for mainstreaming DRR into development.

For more information on RCC and the RCC Program please visit www.rccdm.net

ASIAN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS CENTER



Established in 1986, ADPC is a leading regional resource center based in Thailand, dedicated to create safer communities and sustainable development through disaster risk reduction. Mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into development remains one of the key goals of ADPC.

For more information on ADPC please visit www.adpc.net