INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT (ICDRM)

Knowledge Management Booklet
The series of knowledge management products from the Inclusive Community Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (ICDRM) project was firstly developed by Plan International Bangladesh, Plan International Philippines and Plan International Asia-Pacific Hub. Supported by the consultant team of Dr. Mizan B. F. Bisri, Mr. Mohammad Syaban, Ms. Rifâ Atsari and Ms. Kamelia Octaviani of CARI!, Indonesia and Ms. Christina Yantis and Mr. Frank Manfredi of Plan International U.S. National Office, the knowledge management products were edited and designed into a booklet under the supervision of Ms. Vanda Lengkong, Head of Disaster Risk Management of Plan International Asia-Pacific Hub.

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Abbreviations:

ADRC : Asia Disaster Reduction Centre
APAC : Plan International Asia Pacific Hub
CBO : Community-Based Organization
CFS : Child-Friendly Space
COVID-19 : Coronavirus Disease 2019
CPiE : Child Protection in Emergencies
DRR : Disaster Risk Reduction
DRRM : Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
EIE : Education in Emergencies
EREF : Emergency Response & Early Recovery Fund
FGD : Focus Group Discussion
ICDRM : Inclusive Community Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
IEC : Information, Education, and Communication
IP : Indigenous People
LDRRMC : Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council
LGBTIQ+ : Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Questioning and other identities
NFI : Non-food items
NGO : Non-Governmental Organization
NTB : Nusa Tenggara Barat (West)
NTT : Nusa Tenggara Timur (East)
PPE : Personal Protection Equipment
USA : United States of America
UK : United Kingdom
WASH : Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
Disasters do not only result in short-term devastation, but also threaten long-term development gains. By impacting the social sectors, they exacerbate inequalities of income and opportunity, thereby leaving poor and marginalized people more vulnerable to future disasters and transmitting poverty over generations. Records of major disasters in South and South-East Asia (floods, earthquakes and cyclones) show that the social sectors suffer impacts that perpetuate inequalities of opportunity.

Funded by Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies, Plan International U.S. National Office and Plan International Asia Pacific Hub (Plan APAC), in collaboration with Plan International Philippines, Plan International Bangladesh and their local partners, have been implementing the Inclusive Community Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (ICDRM) Project since Oct 2017. The project aims to increase disaster preparedness capabilities of communities in Bangladesh and the Philippines. Furthermore, the project also aims to mitigate the impacts of disaster and address the specific needs of girls, boys and their families who are affected by disasters in Asia Pacific through the disbursement of Emergency Response and Early Recovery Funds (EREF).

The project also ensures the identification of elements of a replicable model for building inclusive community level disaster preparedness. In the Philippines, the project covers 20 barangays in Mindoro. In Bangladesh, it covers 27 wards in Bhola. In the Asia Pacific region, to date the EREF funding has supported 11 emergency responses in five countries including the Philippines, Indonesia, Laos, India, and Nepal. The interventions responded to disasters such as typhoons, floods, earthquakes and the COVID-19 pandemic.
Plan International

Founded in 1937, Plan International is a development and humanitarian organisation that has been building powerful partnerships for children for more than 80 years, and is active in 75 countries across the world. We strive for a just world that advances children’s rights and equality for girls.

We engage people and partners to:

- Empower children, young people and communities to make vital changes that tackle the root causes of discrimination against girls, exclusion and vulnerability.
- Drive change in practice and policy at local, national and global levels through our reach, experience and knowledge of the realities children face.
- Work with children and communities to prepare for and respond to crises and to overcome adversity.

Support the safe and successful progression of children from birth to adulthood.

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Plan International Asia-Pacific Hub has been committed to improving the lives of children in Asia region since 1948. We advance children’s rights and equality for girls in Asia by working with children, families, communities, partners, government agencies, other NGOs and the private sector. Through strong partnerships, we support children, especially girls, to learn, lead, decide and thrive.

Our programmes deliver lasting change against discriminatory norms, policies and laws. We listen to the voices of vulnerable groups in the community whose views and needs are frequently overlooked, to support developing an inclusive environment for all communities.

Our key areas of work include:

- Promoting free and equal access to quality education for all children
- Ensuring young people have economic security, access to employment and can make lasting impacts in their communities
- Supporting youth-led youth movements and seeking ways to enable children to understand and defend their rights
- Working with communities, schools and governments to protect children from violence, including from child marriage
- Ensuring girls’ and young women realise their rights to reproductive health and have control over their lives and bodies
- Supporting parents to give their children a healthy start in life and the vital care they need
- Responding to emergencies across the region.

Find out more about Plan International Asia Pacific Hub on https://plan-international.org/asia
This booklet has been prepared by Plan International Asia Pacific Hub with the financial support of Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies. The aim of this booklet is to show how the ICDRM Project succeeded in supporting communities in the Asia Region to become more inclusive, especially in disaster risk management. It aims to provide examples of how to create an inclusive environment.

The chapters featured in this booklet cover the interventions made by Plan International in Asia Region countries under the ICDRM Project. The chapters describe the interventions for community disaster preparedness in Bangladesh and the Philippines, the efforts to support inclusive community disaster risk management, and the implementation of the emergency response and early recovery funds in Asia Region. The interventions during implementation of the project are documented through case stories, research findings, infographics, videos, and other supporting documents.
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COMMUNITY DISASTER PREPAREDNESS IN BANGLADESH AND THE PHILIPPINES
Bangladesh is frequently visited by disasters including tropical cyclones, storm surges, floods, droughts, tornadoes, and “norwesters.” Similarly, according to the Asia Disaster Reduction Centre (ADRC), the Philippines is visited by an average of 20 typhoons every year1. In areas with recurrent disasters in both countries, there is a need to build the disaster preparedness capabilities of communities. However, traditionally marginalized voices, including youth and children, women, persons with disabilities, the elderly, LGBTIQ+ individuals, religious minorities, and ethnic minorities, are often excluded from DRRM planning. As a result, communities’ plans and procedures are not responsive to the needs of all of their community members.

Recognizing the right of all individuals to meaningfully participate in the critical decisions that affect them, the ICDRM project helped to raise marginalized groups’ voices in community DRRM planning processes, ensuring these processes are open and inclusive. Plan International Bangladesh and Plan International Philippines have made significant breakthroughs for enhancing the community disaster preparedness in both countries. Series of simulations and evacuation drills have been organized in Bhola in Bangladesh and Occidental Mindoro in the Philippines involving active participation from all groups in the community. Both organizations also helped to communicate to the government about the needs of the communities as identified during the practices. As a result, in Bhola in Bangladesh and Occidental Mindoro in the Philippines, the plans and procedures that were developed better served the needs of the communities as a whole.

This chapter documents the interventions made by Plan International Bangladesh and Plan International Philippines in supporting community disaster preparedness under the ICDRM Project. Both organizations have provided various information, education, and communication (IEC) materials to raise the communities’ disaster awareness and preparedness, especially in battling COVID-19. Plan International Philippines also provided risk communication and community engagement to educate the public about COVID-19 by arranging public radio announcements. The media covered the community disaster preparedness activities including drills and relevant events held in Bangladesh. In the Philippines, the Local Government selected Plan International Philippines as a member of the Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council through an official enactment. More project highlights are documented in the gallery.

HANDWASHING LEAFLET USED IN BANGLADESH FOR COVID-19 AWARENESS RAISING

This leaflet was developed in Bangladesh during the COVID-19 pandemic and shared to enhance community preparedness. Plan International Bangladesh raised community awareness to encourage individuals to protect themselves from COVID-19 by practicing hygiene in daily activities.

HYGIENE PRACTICE POSTER USED IN BANGLADESH FOR COVID-19 AWARENESS RAISING

This poster was developed in Bangladesh during the COVID-19 pandemic and shared to enhance community preparedness. Plan International Bangladesh raised community awareness to encourage individuals to protect themselves from COVID-19 by practicing hygiene in daily activities.

HOW TO DOWNLOAD THE PRODUCTS

FAMILY GUIDE BOOKLET IN THE PHILIPPINES TO SUPPORT DISASTER PREPAREDNESS ENHANCEMENT

This booklet provides general guidance on family disaster preparedness. It consists of a family preparedness guide for various disasters including earthquakes, storms, floods, storm surges, tsunamis, fires, and even the COVID-19 pandemic.

FAMILY PLAN BOOKLET IN THE PHILIPPINES FOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

The booklet provides education and information on how to create a family disaster preparedness plan. Families in the Philippines can use this to create a simple Family Preparedness Structure and Evacuation Plan.

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COVID-19 PROTECTION GUIDELINE BROCHURE IN THE PHILIPPINES

The brochure was created to disseminate information regarding COVID-19 protection guidelines to the community. It consists of hygiene practices, social distancing measures, and also protection hotlines in the Philippines.

HAND WASHING POSTER IN THE PHILIPPINES FOR COVID-19 PROTECTION

The poster was disseminated in the Philippines to promote proper and regular hand washing as one of the effective ways to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The poster provides guidelines on how to wash your hands properly.

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SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS
of Community Disaster Preparedness in Bangladesh and The Philippines

SOCIAL DISTANCING POSTER IN THE PHILIPPINES FOR COVID-19 PROTECTION

Social Distancing is an effort to reduce close contact with other people, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. The poster was created to provide information to the community on why the measures are important.

COMICS PROMOTING COVID-19 PROTECTION IN THE PHILIPPINES

Hygiene practices were represented in the form of comics as an effort to spread the awareness of COVID-19 health protocols to the community.

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WORD PUZZLE GAME PROMOTING COVID-19 IN THE PHILIPPINES

COVID-19 guidelines were represented in the form of word puzzle as an effort to spread the awareness of COVID-19 health protocols to the community.

SNAKES AND LADDERS GAME PROMOTING COVID-19 PROTECTION IN THE PHILIPPINES

COVID-19 guidelines were presented in the form of a board game as an effort to spread the awareness of COVID-19 health protocols to the community.

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RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES FOR COVID-19 AWARENESS RAISING

Plan International Philippines released a series of radio announcements as an effort to spread the awareness of COVID-19 health protocols to a wider range of community members.

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In an effort to inform the community about project activities, the ICDRM project has collaborated with local and national electronic and print media from the inception phase onwards. As a result of this engagement, project news was published by national and local media which had a positive impact on project implementation and consensus building on disaster awareness. The booklet documents the articles published from the media.
The Executive Orders were issued by the partner municipalities recognizing Plan International as a member of the Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (LDRRMC). These documents also show that vulnerable sectors are represented in the LDRRMCs. The slides provide clippings for each of the endorsements made by the Government.

HOW TO DOWNLOAD THE PRODUCTS
GALLERY
of Community Disaster Preparedness in Bangladesh and The Philippines

NATIONAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS OBSERVATION DAY 2021 (HEALTH PROTOCOL FOR COVID-19 PROTECTION APPLIED DURING THE ACTIVITY IN BANGLADESH).

COMMUNITY IN BHOLA, BANGLADESH UPDATES THE RRAP CONTINGENCY PLAN (TAKEN BEFORE COVID-19 PANDEMIC).

HYGIENE KITS DISTRIBUTION FOR COVID-19 PREVENTION (HEALTH PROTOCOL FOR COVID-19 PROTECTION APPLIED DURING THE ACTIVITY IN BANGLADESH).

EARLY WARNING BILLBOARD SETTING IN BHOLA, BANGLADESH (TAKEN BEFORE COVID-19 PANDEMIC).
Community disaster preparedness in Bangladesh and the Philippines

Inclusive Community Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (ICDRM) Knowledge Management Booklet

Staff from the Office of the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management facilitating an orientation with Mangyan communities about emergency preparedness (Health protocol for COVID-19 protection applied during the activity in the Philippines).

Battery (not her real name) facilitating a session with children and youth about climate change and their roles on environment protection (Taken before COVID-19 pandemic in the Philippines).

A community volunteer telling stories to children while in evacuation center. The activity is part of the emergency simulation exercise being done with Mangyan communities (Taken before COVID-19 pandemic in the Philippines).

Quarterly reflection meeting on ICDRM project in Bangladesh with WDMC, Jago Nari, and PLAN International Bangladesh (Taken before COVID-19 pandemic in Bangladesh).
In addition to supporting the enhancement of community disaster preparedness, a critical element of this project is to promote inclusion through each of the disaster risk reduction and response activities. Inclusion, within the project context, is defined as encompassing everyone in the community. It also emphasizes those who have been traditionally marginalized, disempowered, and left out of designing and implementing plans related to disaster risk reduction and management. Therefore, the ICDRM project was intended to support the voices of vulnerable groups within the community.

Through the project, children, youths, people with special needs, indigenous people, LGBTIQ+ groups, the elderly, and other vulnerable groups have taken on roles where they could be heard. They could stand up for their rights and prevent themselves from becoming more vulnerable to physical and economic harms and the inability to recover from the hardships brought on by the disasters.

Plan International Bangladesh implemented the disaster risk management activities inclusively by supporting youths to take an active part in the disaster risk reduction and emergency response efforts in their village. They also encouraged the elderly, people with special needs, and LGBTIQ+ individuals to participate in the disaster risk management initiatives at the village level. Similarly, Plan International Philippines initiated trainings for the indigenous groups regarding modern disaster risk management strategies. Furthermore, they continued the training sessions by conducting several disaster drills specifically for these groups. Plan International Philippines also provided youths with leadership capacity building in disaster risk management efforts.

The chapter documents the efforts made under the ICDRM project to promote inclusive community disaster risk management. The project conducted research to identify elements of replicable models for inclusive disaster risk management and response activities in Bangladesh and the Philippines. The interventions during the project implementation are also described in case stories and videos based on the program participants’ valuable experiences. The ICDRM project also intervened to assist in combating COVID-19 transmission in Bangladesh and the Philippines by distributing hygiene kits as shown on the infographics. The vulnerable groups became the focus for the distribution activities to help them fulfill their needs during the pandemic. Additional highlights are documented in the gallery.
A RESEARCH SUMMARY FROM THE PHILIPPINES:
ELEMENTS OF REPLICABLE MODELS TO INCREASE INCLUSION OF VULNERABLE GROUPS IN COMMUNITY DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES

This report presents the results of the formative study titled, Elements of Replicable Models to Increase Inclusion of Vulnerable Groups in Community Disaster Risk Management in the municipality of Sablayan in Occidental Mindoro, Philippines. The study was commissioned by Plan International USA in collaboration with Plan International Asia Pacific Regional Office as part of the implementation of the ICDRM project in Bangladesh and the Philippines.

The study aimed to assess the potential of the program elements to be developed into strong replicable models for making Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) more inclusive. To do so, this study focused on the experiences of two Mangyan indigenous peoples (IP) groups — the Alangan in sitio Calamansian, Barangay San Agustin, and the Tau-buid in sitio Malatongtong, Barangay Burgos. A total of 59 respondents were interviewed, including representatives from the Alangan and Tau-buid communities, municipal and barangay local government officials, civil society organization leaders, and Plan International Mindoro Field Office staff.

Using a combination of data gathering methods, such as a desk review, key informant and in-depth interviews and focus group discussions (FGDs), the study was conducted from the period of April to December 2020.

The study reveals that replicable elements of a potential model of inclusive community-based DRRM are present under Plan International’s ICDRM project intervention in Sablayan. Summarized in the diagram below are the specific project interventions, policies and implementation approaches that can further be developed to form part of a strong ICDRM model. These are categorized into four domains: (1) Increase IP participation in DRRM structures and policy making; (2) Strengthen risk governance processes; (3) Reduce IP vulnerability to disasters; and (4) Increase women’s participation and leadership in DRRM.

Opportunities remain for further developing these replicable elements to form part of a more robust and inclusive ICDRM model. The research uncovered gaps in ICDRM practice that, once addressed, strengthen the model as a promising practice:

- Increase the representation of women and other vulnerable IP members in DRRM structures and risk governance processes, such as risk assessments, planning, implementation and monitoring of DRRM interventions.
- Increase the number of IP organizations sitting as members of DRRM committees.
- Focus on the underlying causes of risk among IPs, especially those related to poverty, social exclusion, historical marginalization and discrimination that remain unaddressed by most DRRM interventions.
- Address gender-based inequalities within Mangyan communities, which limit women’s participation and leadership in disaster risk management.

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A RESEARCH SUMMARY FROM BANGLADESH: 
ELEMENTS OF REPLICABLE MODELS TO INCREASE INCLUSION OF VULNERABLE GROUPS IN COMMUNITY DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT IN BANGLADESH

This study on women and girls’ participation in community-based disaster risk management in Bangladesh is part of Plan International’s ICDRM project. The project aims to increase the level of inclusion and participation of women, girls and marginalized groups in DRM. In cooperation with local NGO Jago Nari, the project has successfully set up community-based organizations (CBOs) in Bhola, a rural region in southern Bangladesh that is particularly prone to flooding and cyclones. These CBOs are mandated to have gender parity as a first step to including women and girls in decision-making and planning for disaster risk reduction (DRR) at the community level. The CBOs also provide training on gender equality, women’s and girls’ rights and inclusiveness of marginalized groups in disaster planning and response.

The study found that overall, the CBOs have made an initial impact on gender equality and inclusion in DRM in Bhola. A significant part of this appears to be due to the fact that such CBOs have previously not existed, and women’s subjugation in Bangladeshi society prevented any pathways for them to become involved in DRM. The CBOs have successfully opened the door for women and girls to be involved in DRM, even though the actual nature and extent of their participation recapitulate existing gender norms, with women taking on gendered roles in disaster preparation, mitigation and response. For example, it was consistently highlighted that both men and women found women’s greatest asset in disasters is their ability to mobilize other women, girls and marginalized groups, groups previously left in the home while the men evacuate by themselves.

The recognition of women and girls’ contribution to DRM is therefore seen through a practical and operational lens, and their involvement is seen to be positive as it results in more lives saved or less damage wrought by flooding. Men and male youth interviewed in the study frequently commented on this aspect, while also recognizing that women and girls do indeed suffer more during disasters, and recognizing that this is largely due to women’s heavily restricted roles, where they are dependent on men and are mostly confined at home, unable to play a meaningful role in public life.

The extent to which CBOs in DRM can achieve meaningful gender transformation is yet to be seen, as the CBOs are still in their early days, but it will likely be through increasing recognition of women and girls’ value and contributions during disasters that will pave the way for women and girls to begin to claim greater agency and leadership in community-based processes and decision-making.

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A STORY FROM BANGLADESH: AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS TO CREATE AN INCLUSIVE DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

Asir and Atika (not their real names) experienced significant changes once the ICDRM project was launched in 2017. They always thought that there was no point participating in community activities, as existing programs ignored their voices in expressing their special needs. Seeing this lack of inclusivity, Plan International Bangladesh and Jago Nari encouraged people from various backgrounds to participate in and become an active part of the WDMC. Asir and Atika were happy to be involved in the trainings and meetings in their community, and felt accepted and proud to be able to contribute more to the community.

A STORY FROM BANGLADESH: “THE ICDRM PROJECT ELEVATED MY DIGNITY”, INCLUDING THE LGBTIQ+ VOICE IN COMMUNITY DISASTER PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES

One representative from the LGBTIQ+ group saw significant changes when she returned to her hometown after the ICDRM project was launched. She found that vulnerable groups, including women, people with special needs, and LGBTIQ+ individuals were warmly welcomed to the recently established inclusive community level committee (WDMC). After years of being silent, now her voice seemed important. She was respected and listened to, and her opinions were responded too.

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A STORY FROM BANGLADESH: PREPARING THE YOUNGER GENERATION TO BECOME AGENTS OF CHANGE IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (COMMUNITY INCLUSION TOWARDS YOUTHS IN DECISION MAKING)

Along with climate change risks, Bhola District is exposed to frequent cyclones, salinity intrusion, floods, and storm surges, as well as delta island erosion due to sea-level rise. The frequency of these disasters challenges the Bhola District community to build community capacity and resilience against disasters and climate change impacts. Through the ICDRM project, the youth groups were given training on inclusive disaster risk management, disability and inclusion, culture and gender sensitivity, and the value of child rights-based programming.

A STORY FROM PHILIPPINES: MAKING PREPAREDNESS AS A WAY OF LIFE (VULNERABLE GROUPS INCLUSION IN DISASTER PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES)

To build an understanding of climate change and its impact on people’s lives, Plan International is continuously educating the community, particularly vulnerable groups, to be more knowledgeable, prepared, and alert. The culture of preparedness is being taught to every family so that proper planning and timely execution can protect lives and preserve livelihoods. Reaching out to isolated areas and gaining active participation is vital to implementing future activities and projects.

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A STORY FROM PHILIPPINES: INCLUDING YOUTH AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

In the past, indigenous people were not given the opportunity to participate in decision-making and were not invited to consultative meetings. Through the ICDRM project, the indigenous youth champions were responsible for helping their elders to disseminate information about the preparedness program, the potential hazards, and what to do before, during, and after a disaster. They also encouraged other fellow youth to attend the community meetings and listen to the elders and barangay council.

A STORY FROM PHILIPPINES: HELPING THE MANGYAN PEOPLE PREPARE FAMILY DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PLANS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Mangyan refers to an indigenous Philippine ethnic group living on Mindoro Island. Indigenous people of Mindoro have suffered from discrimination, displacement, and cultural degradation, as do many indigenous groups globally. The seclusion of indigenous people means they lack access to health care from outside the community, which has made them one of the country’s most vulnerable communities to health threats, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. The ICDRM project conducted COVID-19 awareness rising and family disaster preparedness training in response to this issue.

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INFographics Products

of Inclusive Disaster Risk Management

Hygiene Kits Distribution as a COVID-19 Emergency Response for Vulnerable Groups in Bangladesh

The economic and social disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic is devastating all over the world. The situation affected the ability of people in rural areas to meet their basic needs. To support families from vulnerable groups in battling COVID-19, Plan International Bangladesh distributed hygiene kits to households under the ICDRM Project. Recipients included families with adolescents and young women, families with people with special needs, female-headed families, child-headed families, families with limited or no income, and families with little or no land.

The Implementation of the ICDRM Project in the Philippines (vulnerable groups active involvement in disaster risk management)

The four-year ICDRM project in the Philippines has successfully strengthened the disaster preparedness capability in 20 communities under the Province of Occidental Mindoro. This project also gained support from two local governments (Municipality of Sablayan and Municipality of San Jose). Vulnerable groups including women, girls, people with special needs, indigenous people, and youths became a priority and were actively involved in decision making for an inclusive community, especially for disaster risk management.

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A VIDEO FROM BANGLADESH: A REPLICABLE MODEL IN DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT IN BANGLADESH (CHILD AND YOUTH GROUP INITIATIVES AND ACHIEVEMENT)

Supported by the ICDRM project, youth-led activities contributed to fast and reliable disaster management efforts in wards in Bhola. This video showcases youth contributions supporting the disaster risk management activities in Bangladesh, especially during the emergency response of Cyclone Amphan in May 2020. They provided support by disseminating early warning messages and escorting the vulnerable groups to safe areas. Their active initiatives helped other vulnerable groups including women, pregnant women, women with infants, the elderly, and people with special needs to arrive safely in the evacuation area. This movement could become a replicable model for disaster risk management throughout the world.

HOW TO ACCESS THE PRODUCT
https://youtu.be/JcVrdyqSM7Q

A VIDEO FROM BANGLADESH: NAYON’S EXPERIENCE IN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT PROJECT

Nayon, a 17 year-old teenager with special needs, shares his experience during ICDRM project implementation. The project helped him to increase his knowledge and skills in disaster risk management. Furthermore, as a new member to the local committee, his gave voice to the concerns of people with special needs in the decision-making process.

HOW TO ACCESS THE PRODUCT
https://youtu.be/5hXtftG-rBc
A VIDEO FROM BANGLADESH: INCLUSION APPROACH IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION IN BANGLADESH (COMMUNITY INCLUSION IN THE DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE)

In Bangladesh, the ICDRM project implementation promoted inclusion in disaster risk reduction and management efforts. The program supported involving youth, the elderly, people with special needs, and LGBTQ individuals in the Ward and the Union Disaster Management Committee. The vulnerable groups now have active roles in decision making at the union level disaster management committees. Their needs are starting to be met as their voices are heard by the authorities. The goal is that no one is left behind in the disaster risk reduction efforts in the area.

HOW TO ACCESS THE PRODUCT
https://youtu.be/5jfLV7t7yxc

A VIDEO FROM THE PHILIPPINES: CLIMATE CHANGE TRAINING COURSE EMERGENCY DRILL, OCCIDENTAL MINDORO, THE PHILIPPINES (EDUCATING YOUTHS AND CHILDREN INCLUSIVELY FOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS)

Collaborating with the RED UK, Plan International Philippines conducted a climate change training course emergency drill for youth and children. This inclusive initiative provided disaster risk management information, especially disaster preparedness education for the younger generation. The approach was designed for students to receive disaster preparedness to mentally prepare them for saving their lives. The video exposed the vulnerability of young people to climate change impacts and how the training could help them be more resilient towards climate change-related disasters.

HOW TO ACCESS THE PRODUCT
https://youtu.be/OZOToKmeslc
A massive evacuation drill was organized at the village level in the Province of Occidental Mindoro under the ICDRM project. The evacuation drill was held to prepare all groups of the community for an emergency response to a cyclone. The evacuation drill was designed to practice an actual scenario for disaster emergency response. During the drill, the committee prioritized mothers with their children, pregnant women and lactating mothers, single parents with children, the elderly, people with special needs, children, and people with illnesses. The practice provided a simulation with an inclusive approach for vulnerable groups by providing specific areas and services to fulfill their needs.

**How to access the product**

https://youtu.be/b4l93XlE4tE

In an effort to provide an inclusive approach, Plan International Philippines organized an evacuation drill in Barangay San Agustin. The drill included active participation from all groups of the community, including the vulnerable groups. Children, the elderly, indigenous people, and people with special needs had the chance to participate actively throughout the sessions, although they were previously excluded from the drill before the project was implemented. The vulnerable groups also provided valuable feedback at the end of the session and their voices and needs were heard.

**How to access the product**

https://youtu.be/ipx3wq4mPC8
GALLERY
of Inclusive Disaster Risk Management

TRAINED CHILD AND YOUTH GROUP MEMBERS ARE CASCADING LEADERSHIP TRAINING IN THEIR GROUP (HEALTH PROTOCOL FOR COVID-19 PROTECTION APPLIED DURING THE ACTIVITY IN BANGLADESH).

GROUP WORK DURING COMPREHENSIVE SAFE SCHOOL FRAMEWORK TRAINING (HEALTH PROTOCOL FOR COVID-19 PROTECTION APPLIED DURING THE ACTIVITY IN BANGLADESH).


COVID-19 AWARENESS POSTER DISTRIBUTION (HEALTH PROTOCOL FOR COVID-19 PROTECTION APPLIED DURING THE ACTIVITY IN BANGLADESH).
COVID-19 RESPONSE TRAINING FOR UPAZILA DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (THE ACTIVITY CONDUCTED BEFORE COVID-19 INFECTION BEGAN IN BANGLADESH).

GENDER RESPONSIVE AND INCLUSIVE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLANNING SESSION FOR LOCAL HEALTH CENTER (HEALTH PROTOCOL FOR COVID-19 PROTECTION APPLIED DURING THE ACTIVITY IN BANGLADESH).

ORIENTATION FOR VULNERABLE GROUP TO UNDERSTAND AND ADVOCATE FOR THEIR RIGHTS (HEALTH PROTOCOL FOR COVID-19 PROTECTION APPLIED DURING THE ACTIVITY IN BANGLADESH).

EFFECTIVE MAINSTREAMING OF GENDER, DISABILITY AND CULTURE SENSITIVITY IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION PLANNING, INVESTMENT PROGRAMMING AND EVALUATIONS TRAINING (THE ACTIVITY CONDUCTED BEFORE COVID-19 INFECTION BEGAN IN BANGLADESH).
EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND EARLY RECOVERY FUNDS IN ASIA REGION
Emergency Response and Early Recovery Fund (EREF) supported rapid emergency response and transition to recovery for a resilience-building for recent disaster events. This initiative was developed under the ICDRM project and targeted isolated and under-reported disasters, as well as under-funded sectors in large-scale responses. The EREF funding mechanism aimed to support Plan Country Offices in the Asia Region to support the government in addressing the specific needs of affected people, especially girls, young women and their families in response to disasters and the COVID-19 pandemic.

The EREF supported minimizing huge gaps in risk communications, increasing access of vulnerable people to life-supporting essential items, and providing an opportunity to revive the livelihoods of the most affected households. Risk communication is integral to minimize the spread of COVID-19, especially in the context and threat of the second wave of the infection. Inclusive risk communication materials also have been developed and disseminated to vulnerable and hard-to-reach communities under the funding.

“The EREF has been an invaluable support to emergency response across the Asia Pacific Region. It has enabled Plan teams on the ground to start humanitarian responses much more quickly.

That has meant that over 360,000 girls and boys, women and men impacted by natural hazards in Indonesia, the Philippines, Laos, and India, have had some of their basic needs met in often very challenging time.”

Andrew Baker, Director, South Asia and China, Plan International

EREF has been significant support for 11 humanitarian responses in five countries: India, Indonesia, Laos, Nepal, and the Philippines. The total budget disbursed is $966,315 and this reached 351,507 people covering children, people with special needs, and the elderly. The disaster emergency responses included typhoons, cyclones, earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, floods, and COVID-19. The types of interventions under this program included water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), non-food items (NFI), Education in Emergencies (EiE), Child Protection in Emergencies (CPiE), emergency shelters, food security, health, cash in emergencies, and psychosocial support.

The interventions included meeting the basic WASH needs of the most vulnerable households and the menstrual hygiene needs of girls and women through the distribution of hygiene kits and hygiene promotion that included PPE items. In addition, the funds also supplemented vulnerable households with emergency relief items while they prepared themselves to cope with the pandemic. The initiatives supported the concerned government stakeholders at the local level for the sustainability of the project interventions to expedite the process.

The chapter provides a summary of the supporting documents from the implementation in India, Indonesia, Laos, Nepal, and the Philippines. There are stories learned from the EREF implementation based on the participants’ experiences. More detailed interventions in each country are also summarized into infographics. The participants also provided feedback and testimonies on how the EREF helped them overcome difficult situations during disaster events and the COVID-19 pandemic.
A STORY FROM NEPAL: STAYING RESILIENT DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

A total of $92,174 has been disbursed to Plan International Nepal to support COVID-19 pandemic response, especially for the most vulnerable groups. The implementation aimed to address essential needs through water, basic sanitation and hygiene kits that included promotion of hygiene practices to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The initiatives were implemented to complement the response from the government during the national lockdown. Kiwari (not her real name), one of the program participants, expressed her gratitude and shared her experience after receiving the aid.

STORIES FROM INDIA AND INDONESIA: CHILD-FRIENDLY SPACES SUPPORT CHILDREN’S RESILIENCE AND HELP THEM REGAIN A SENSE OF NORMALCY, STABILITY AND HOPE AFTER DISASTER

The EREF funding mechanism has successfully assisted five Asia-Pacific countries in obtaining immediate response amid the emergency and critical situation from disasters and reached a total of 21,009 children. Through the EREF funding mechanism, Plan International has supported nine child-friendly spaces in Indonesia, India, the Philippines, and Laos. This intervention allowed the affected children and young people to actively protect themselves in the face of adversity, and recognize and strengthen their resilience. This article shares personal experiences from participants in India and Indonesia during project implementation.

HOW TO DOWNLOAD THE PRODUCTS

A STORY FROM INDONESIA: KAMISA CAN PLAY IN LEMBATA AGAIN WITH PLAN INDONESIA

When the flood caused by the Seroja tropical cyclone occurred in Lembata, Kamisa, her grandmother and her family, along with other residents, saved themselves by going to a hill next to the village. After that, Kamisa and her family continued to live in one of the evacuation centers prepared by the government. In conjunction with the evacuation of Lembata residents, the disaster preparedness team from Plan Indonesia immediately distributed shelter packages to the survivors in the evacuation area. These include blankets, mats and a hygiene management package containing towels, laundry soap and toothpaste. The Plan Indonesia team provided psychosocial support and direct assistance when she fled the disaster.

HOW TO ACCESS THE PRODUCT

EREF FOR ICDRM PROJECT

The EREF has disbursed $966,315 for responding to emergencies from disasters and COVID-19 in five countries including the Philippines, India, Indonesia, Laos and Nepal. The relief distribution has reached 351,507 people, including children, the elderly, and people with special needs to ensure inclusion and to provide assistance to the most vulnerable people.

EREF IN NEPAL

An ongoing implementation in Nepal with a total of $92,174 in funding has reached a total of 565 people with aid distribution since March 2021. The funds were used for COVID-19 pandemic emergency response. The activity was dedicated to supporting a response for vulnerable groups in fulfilling their basic hygiene needs.

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EREF IN LAOS

In 2018 the collapse of Saddle Dam D, part of a larger hydroelectric dam system under construction in southeast Laos’s Champasak Province led to widespread destruction and homelessness among the local population in neighbouring Attapeu Province. Laos received a total of $189,624 to serve a total of 309,992 people. The funds were used to respond to floods in Attapeu Province. The EREF was dedicated to supporting response for children and reached 3,071 children in the Attapeu Flood response. In addition, EREF funds were also used for a COVID-19 response activity in Saravan Province.

EREF IN INDIA

In 2018, severe floods affected the south Indian state Kerala due to unusually high rainfall during the monsoon season. Following the devastation, India was also hit by Cyclone Fani in 2019, which has been classified as an extremely severe cyclone (ESC). India received a total of $166,773 to serve a total of 9,368 people. The EREF fund was used to respond to the flood in Kerala State and Cyclone Fani in Odisha State. The fund was used to provide children with educational support and ensure the families could serve warm meals through Dry Ration Kits.

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EREF IN INDONESIA

In 2018, repeated large earthquakes hit Lombok Island in Indonesia causing heavy destruction across the island. Three years later, extreme weather including flash flooding, landslides, and tropical cyclones, swept across Indonesia’s East Nusa Tenggara Province (NTT). Through the EREF, Indonesia received a total of $198,671 to serve a total of 3,952 people. The EREF fund was used to respond to the earthquake in Lombok Island, West Nusa Tenggara province and flood in Lembata, East Nusa Tenggara province. In response to the Lembata Flood, the EREF provided psychosocial support for children and helped prevent COVID-19 transmission by distributing the prevention kits.

EREF IN THE PHILIPPINES

The Philippines have been struck by large disasters for the past four years. In 2018, Mayon Volcano had been exhibiting increased seismic unrest, lava fountaining and summit explosions impacted Tabaco area. Months later, Typhoon Mangkhut (known locally as Ompong) made landfall in the north-eastern Philippines in the early hours of 15 September 2018 and swept large areas in the Philippines. A year later, an earthquake of 6.6-magnitude at a depth of seven kilometres struck an area 25 kilometres southeast of the municipality of Tulunan in North Cotabato province. In 2019, Typhoon Rolly left extensive destruction and damage in its path, affecting at least two million people in eight of the country’s 17 regions. The Philippines implemented EREF activities to respond to four disasters from 2018-2021, with total disbursed aid of $319,073 to reach 17,730 people. The support given from the EREF was included education kits, WASH support, and psycho-social support for children and women.

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ICDRM QUOTES

Participants expressed how the EREF has been a significant help for children in India, Indonesia, Laos, Nepal, and the Philippines. The program helped them to rebuild their life after experiencing devastating events.

EREF OVERVIEW

As one of the most disaster-prone regions, Asia-Pacific needs to be prepared for any potentially disastrous situation. The EREF has been a great support in helping five countries to be resilient in disaster, responding to emergencies with a wide range of support, from goods to psychosocial support.

HOW TO DOWNLOAD THE PRODUCTS

GALLERY
of Emergency Response and Early Recovery Fund in Asia Region