CF Challenge Fund

Global Network of Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Reduction

Local risk knowledge to strengthen community resilience

CONTEXT

Targeted risk information is critical to enabling effective policies that reduce risk and make communities safer. Through its innovative Frontline program, the Global Network of Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR) set out to collect local data on risk and resilience in 14 countries and create a global, open source database to allow stakeholders to access and analyze important risk information for effective policy making.

However, civil society organizations (CSOs) have had difficulty utilizing this local evidence base to identify priority issues for communities and support calls for action. In order to better facilitate CSO advocacy, an e-learning platform was designed to close the gap between the available evidence at the local level and the use of that evidence at national and subnational levels, in addition to other tools like videos, guides, and a capacity building workshop. **LINK TO PORTAL**

HIGHLIGHTS

14 countries across the world are now using local risk data to develop joint advocacy campaigns to change national resilience policies.

In Cameroon, CSOs are collaborating to lobby the national government to build more resilient roads after identifying high mortality rates in flood-damaged roadways.

Agencies beyond those involved in the Frontline program are using its data dashboards to gather information on resilience priorities.

7 CSOs have established a cross-regional partnership, regularly sharing experiences and lessons on how to leverage data for resilience policies.

Participants in the e-learning capacity building workshop

APPROACH

An extensive consultation with local CSOs revealed that users needed e-learning modules to learn how to use resilience data better to identify priority problems on the ground and to advocate for disaster risk management policies with their governments. To develop the content and examples within the new tools, GNDR teams worked in close collaboration with 35 local civil society organizations from 21 countries. After initial testing, a capacity building workshop was held to strengthen both CSOs' understanding of the e-learning platform, and to enable them to educate other stakeholders on the platform. The workshop ran through the stages of planning and implementing a national level advocacy initiative around resilience issues, using both the e-learning tool on 'How to Use Evidence in Your Advocacy', and accompanying tools such as a National Advocacy Toolkit. Within two months of this capacity building workshop, 14 CSOs were planning workshops in their own countries to bring together other members of civil society to use the e-learning to better identify local resilience issues and plan evidence-based advocacy initiatives at the national level.

"The e-learning platform highlights practical examples which provide a better understanding about the potential areas of application or development of collaborative evidence-based advocacy in my country. It will be extremely useful for those involved in the Frontline process and other stakeholders, as well."

– Buh Gaston, GEADIRR, Cameroon

NEXT STEPS

A global learning event is being organized at the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction to allow the 14 countries currently using the platform to share their experiences. Donors, national and local governments, and other CSOs will attend to learn how to leverage local resilience information more effectively to better manage climate and disaster risk in their countries. Case studies of the successful use of local data for the identification of priority resilience issues and the lobbying of policy change will also be developed and shared within the GNDR network of 850 organizations, as well as other partners. A webinar version of the capacity building workshop is also being developed to scale up this important exchange of information.

Department for International Development

GFDRR
Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery

LEARN MORE AT
GFDRR.ORG/CHALLENGEFUND