

THEMATIC SESSION 4

Community-led Recovery

May 13th, 2019/ 11:00-12:30, ROOM 4

Organizers	<p>WB/GFDRR</p> <p>Margaret Arnold Senior Social Development Specialist GCCRA SURR (Social) World Bank</p>
Context	<p>Community recovery from disasters can be a complex and often lengthy process, with different communities recovering at different rates. The recovery element of the comprehensive approach to disaster management - prevention, preparedness, response and recovery - can be the most complicated and protracted. The best outcomes are achieved by ensuring recovery strategies align with community need and are led by the affected community. This requires a collaborative, coordinated, adaptable and scalable approach where the responsibility for disaster recovery is shared among all sectors of the community including individuals, families, community groups, businesses and all levels of government. A community-led approach supports the rapid restoration of services essential to human wellbeing and presents an opportunity to build resilience and improve community circumstances and preparedness.</p> <p>It is essential to tap into grassroots expertise in disaster risk management and promote scalable models that engage directly with communities, making them equal partners with governments. In the event of disaster, studies show that 90% of survivors are rescued by their own neighbors, often with little or no external support. This core community strength in responding to and protecting against natural hazards and climate change needs to be the central pillar of sustainable recovery and reconstruction planning. Strengthening communities' resilience goes some way toward the ultimate goal of strengthening societal resilience.</p> <p>New evidence from flood resilience surveys shows that community investments can build resilience while delivering broader development benefits, such as better education, transportation, and food supply (ADB, 2019). Proper waste management, for example, keeps rivers and drains unclogged and reduces the spread of disease after a flood, while benefitting a community more broadly by improving public health and wellbeing in normal times.</p> <p>Recent experience after major earthquakes and tropical cyclones in Asia further demonstrates the role of local communities and indigenous groups as custodians of local knowledge and experience relevant to effective DRM.</p>

	<p>In particular, indigenous groups, with their long history in their home locations, possess better information about severe but very low-frequency events, catastrophes that are all but invisible to modern modeling techniques and observations using short time periods. The most striking recent example of this is from the Indian Ocean tsunami of 2004. For example, Kelman, Mercer, and Gaillard (2012) identified in communities in the Philippines and Papua New Guinea several ways in which indigenous knowledge pointed to vulnerabilities that were not recognized through more modern scientific knowledge. Another example is traditional building techniques, such as those used to build hazard-resilient vernacular housing in Nepal.</p> <p>Community resilience relies on three essential characteristics: the ability to anticipate and learn from threats; the ability to take action to mitigate and withstand the adverse effects of threats, collectively and as individuals; and the ability to return to a new normalcy, improved by lessons learnt from the adverse experience (IFRC, 2011). It is important to recognize the prominent features and strengths of community-led partnerships for resilience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communities have organized, informed, experienced constituencies • Communities have field-tested practices and solutions • Communities have holistic, multi-dimensional approaches to resilient development • Communities make government programs responsive and accountable to resilience priorities of the poor • Community-led partnerships foster innovation <p>Community-based collaborations underway in Brazil, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Nepal, Philippines and Uganda provide evidence for the creative approaches that grassroots organizations are advancing for resilient development. In connecting community initiatives and priorities to local and national government programs and policies, governments can be increasingly effective in the delivery and implementation of their programs and services, as well as more responsive and accountable to the needs of disaster-prone communities. Communities gain additional important benefits from these institutional partnerships. First, everyday living conditions can be greatly improved for community members, with higher incomes, increased productivity, food security, and access to resources and technology, as well as better public infrastructure and basic services. Any or all of these advances help to reduce the stresses that the poor or vulnerable experience on a daily basis. Second, improved well-being and greater stability equip communities to better withstand and combat the adverse effects of natural disasters, hazards and climate change. Third, the partnerships transform the relationships between local communities and other institutional actors, positioning grassroots communities as proactive, knowledgeable stakeholders taking a determining role in their own resilience and development. Local and</p>
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	<p>national governments are increasingly inviting community representatives to decision-making positions, recognizing them as legitimate recipients of technical support, assigning to them public roles as trainers and monitors, enabling them to influence public policy and decision-making processes and resourcing them through institutional funds.(GFDRR, 2015)</p>
<p>Session Objectives and expected Outcomes</p>	<p>This thematic session seeks to delineate a framework that governments and stakeholders can use to act on their commitment to community-led recovery processes. The emphasis will be on learning from best practices around the world.</p> <p>The session will bring together development partners, CSOs and representation from government to initiate a detailed discussion on identifying the way forward for the international development community. This will provide an ideal platform for mainstreaming community-led recovery and building on the existing consensus in order to promote a framework of thinking and identify the critical aspects of successful community involvement.</p> <p>The expected outcome of this session is to exchange experiences, insights and best practices from around the world, specifically pertaining to governments, CSOs and development agencies to ensure successful practices of successful community-led recovery practices are adopted.</p>
<p>Key elements for the discussion</p>	<p>As people work to forge new policy agreements that re-imagine the future of our planet, community-driven partnerships will play an increasingly critical role in the successful delivery of new policy frameworks to advance development that is pro-poor, gender-equitable and resilient. The session will deliberate on the following issues that are key to promoting community-led partnerships for building disaster and climate resilience, especially in poor communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to develop dialogue mechanisms and forums that enable communities to regularly engage other stakeholders, including the government and private sector? • How to allocate decentralized flexible resources for community-led risk analysis and prioritization, resilience agenda setting, demonstration of resilience practices, and scaling-up of effective community-led resilience practices? • How to create incentives for local, national and sub-national governments, policy institutions and researchers to partner with communities to advance resilient development? • How to formally assign public roles to communities, granting greater visibility for their demonstrated capacities and expertise in planning, training, implementing and monitoring disaster resilience? • How to scale up, institutionalize and formalize community-led practices and partnerships that demonstrate effective win-win solutions?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What kind of best practices around the world that were successful in community empowerment through institutional, financial and technical innovations need to be highlighted? • What are the cutting-edge approaches and tools available to ensure inclusive recovery and how to encourage community-led initiatives, adaptive social protection systems and active civil society engagement? • Can disruptive, innovative and low-cost technologies be leveraged for a paradigm shift in community-led recovery mechanisms? • What kind of basic infrastructure and systems need to be in place for effective community resilience, such as functioning markets, protected ecosystems and good governance; social support systems, community cohesion and a culture of inclusiveness and trust; and connectedness at multiple levels with diverse stakeholders and networks? • How can communities cope with gaps in some of these systems, so that improved states of resilience can better protect people and communities against a range of threats ? • How to develop quantifiable and critical measures of social and community resilience that allow community progress to be tracked over time in a standardized way, enable the prioritization of measures most needed by the community and generate evidence for identifying what characteristics contribute most to community disaster resilience before an event strikes, and what can be done after it strikes ?
Speakers / Panelists	<p>Moderator : Margaret Arnold, World Bank</p> <p>Panelists :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hirabayashi Atsutoshi, Senior Advisor (Recovery and Reconstruction, Community Development, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) - Mario Flores, Habitat for Humanity - Gerald Potutan, International Recovery Platform (IRP)
Discussion agenda and structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction, Icebreaker with audience and agenda setting by Moderator Ms.Margaret Arnold (10 min) - Hirabayashi Atsutoshi, Senior Advisor, JICA (10 min) - Mario Flores, Habitat for Humanity (10 min) - Gerald Potutan, International Recovery Platform (tbc) (10 min) - Panel Discussion (15 min) - Moderator Q & A (15 min) - Wrap -up by Moderator (10 min)
Expected number of participants	250

Technical Equipment Required	Video projector, screen, sound, computer, lapel microphones for panelists + 1 moderator, Panel set-up, 1 podium, interpretation booth (French-English) ??
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