10th Meeting of the Consultative group

May 9th, 2011
Geneva, Switzerland

GFDRR Civil Society Partnership
By: Mr. Saroj Kumar Jha, GFDRR Manager

GFDRR is able to help developing countries reduce their vulnerability to natural disasters and adapt to climate change, thanks to the continued support of its partners: ACP Secretariat, Arab Academy, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, China, Denmark, Egypt, European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Haiti, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mexico, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Spain, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Vietnam, Yemen, IFRC, UNDP, UN/International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and The World Bank.
Context of a GFDRR Civil Society Partnership Strategy

- Guided by the Partnership Charter and GFDRR Consultative Group.
- Recognizing civil society as a valuable resource and need to utilize their expertise in community level engagement in DRR and local adaptation.
- Ensure country-level DRR framework is translated into local-level policy, action and results.
- Ensure policies and frameworks are people-centered and grounded by local-level realities.
- Views from the Front Line recommendations: significant scope for improvement in ‘local risk governance’.
Proposed pillars of the Strategy for value-added role of Civil Society in GFDRR Governance and Operations

- **CSS 1.** Broadening GFDRR governance to include civil society organizations for *greater accountability and effectiveness* of GFDRR’s mandate.

- **CSS 2.** *Leveraging the power and reach* of civil society organizations in national policy dialogue and local service delivery.

- **CSS 3.** Promote civil society participation in post-disaster *sustainable recovery in most vulnerable communities.*
CSS 1. Civil Society Organizations in GFDRR’s governance

- **Options for GFDRR:**
  1. Annual Civil Society Forum, and/or
  2. A rotating Civil Society representative CG member, or
  3. One or more Civil Society representative as observers

- **Coordination with ISDRR mechanisms**
- **Financial implications**
CSS 2. Civil society engagement in GFDRR’s national policy dialogue and delivery of DRR and adaptation agenda

- **Options for GFDRR:**
  1. Support and facilitate a stronger role for CSOs in national policy dialogue
  2. Support community-based innovative DRR and adaptation to complement national programs
  3. Support knowledge exchange including South-South Cooperation
  4. Leverage and mainstream DRR in existing CSO activities of the Bank

- **National ownership**
- **Financial implications**
CSS 3. Working with Civil Society in sustainable recovery

- **Options for GFDRR:**
  1. CSOs invited to join PDNAs
  2. Support CSOs in measuring/monitoring Social Impact following disasters
  3. Community-based recovery and reconstruction

- **National ownership**
- **Financial implications**
Funding Options for Implementing a Civil Society Partnership Strategy

- Continue to use flexible envelope (20% of MDTF) for targeted civil society engagements.
  - Current GFDRR outlay for specific civil society engagements = USD 1 million

AND/OR

- Develop a dedicated financing mechanism for more extensive and systematic civil society engagement.
  - Mobilize additional funding specifically for civil society engagement in local DRR and adaptation action.
If CG agrees that GFDRR should pursue these options further the following roadmap could be envisaged:

- Mid-May → Options Paper refined based on CG feedback
- June-July → Consultation with civil society organisations
- July-August → First Draft of Civil Society Strategy developed
- September → Consultation with CG members
- October/November → Strategy Paper discussed/endorsed at 11th CG
- October/November → First Civil Society Policy Forum in margins of 11th CG