

Disaster Risk Reduction

Myanmar

Disaster Risk Reduction in Cyclone-Affected Communities



Needs

The Ayeyarwady delta is a high disaster risk area, and many coastal communities are even more vulnerable following Cyclone Nargis. Community-level disaster preparedness and response plans, and longer-term disaster risk reduction, are critical. There are needs at the local level for basic search and rescue equipment, first aid kits and communications equipment. Community builders need to be trained in disaster-resistant construction methods.

Activities

Under the Human Development Initiative (HDI), UNDP has been implementing and supporting community initiatives in the delta region for more than 14 years.

- The current proposal builds on the HDI, and makes use of its systems and structures, trained staff, and extensive local community networks of more than 6,000 CBOs. This project will undertake the following main activities:
- Initiate public awareness programmes in cyclone-affected villages through various methodologies, including strengthening the existing traditional community-based coping mechanisms.
- Establish village disaster preparedness committees, facilitate development of community-based disaster preparedness plans and conduct periodic mock drills to test village plans.
- Establish communication and response protocols with specialized training on first aid, search and rescue, and warning dissemination and the provision of life saving kits for enabling the community to respond to future disasters
- Promote locally applicable disaster-resistant buildings through training of carpenters and artisans with provision of tool kits and construction of multi-purpose community demonstration units.
- Initiate school safety programmes, including; safer buildings, incorporation of disaster awareness in school curriculum and disaster preparedness plans.
- Integrate risk reduction in key recovery sectors with gender as a cross cutting theme.
- Development of IEC materials for public awareness, manuals and various guidelines to support the Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) initiatives.
- Promoting uniform and comprehensive strategy on DRR through support of various national and local initiatives.
- Supporting the National Action Plan on Disaster Risk Reduction through training and capacity building of various local NGOs and other stakeholders including; facilitating DRR working groups at national and township levels.
- Facilitating effective knowledge networking and capacity building of various agencies through formation of civil society forums at national and local levels.
- Undertaking risk assessment at various levels for informed recovery and reconstruction efforts.
- Knowledge networking with other parts of the region for replication in the hazard prone areas.
- Promoting coordination on disaster preparedness between communities and various other actors including; government, civil society and private sectors.
- Integrating disaster risk reduction into early recovery activities.



Outcomes

- Enhanced awareness and disaster preparedness of 375,000 people in 750 villages.
- Shelters and community buildings built to better disaster resistance standards in 750 villages.
- Large scale awareness generation on various disasters to respond better to all impending disasters.
- Community capacity built with resources available for immediate response to save lives and livelihoods.
- Integration of DRR into various recovery and reconstruction efforts by undertaking some pilots projects on mitigations.
- Uniformity in approaching CBDRM planning and supporting local NGOs and other DRR stakeholders in the process.

Objectives

To enhance community-based disaster preparedness, include DRR measures in recovery activities, and strengthen community-level elements of early warning systems in 750 cyclone-affected villages.

Beneficiaries: 75,000 households in 750 villages

Partners: UN-HABITAT, PACT, ADPC, NGOs, CBOs

Total Budget for 12 months: US \$1,483,557

Funds required: US \$0

Funds committed: US \$3,628,198

Donors: Denmark, DFID, European Commission, UNDP/BCPR

Duration: 24 months

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