Red Cross Red Crescent support to the Millennium Development Goals – Building community safety and resilience

Red Cross Red Crescent framework for community safety and resilience

Appendix 1: main areas of focus for the core components

Risk assessment and identification and the establishment of community-based early warning and prediction
- Risk assessment and analysis including VCA
- Community empowerment for action
- Information management and dissemination for timely response and for developing resilience to longer-term programming to anticipate future risks
- Climate change and new hazards
- Advocacy for community action
- Construction of disaster risk reduction programme baselines
- Developing links with preparedness
- Capacity-building for early warning

Community-based disaster preparedness
- Building from the priorities of the VCA
- Developing preparedness at community and household levels
- Building community infrastructure
- Contingency planning
- Community organization through branches
- Establishing branch disaster response teams
- Climate change and new hazards
- Skills training
- Identification of target groups – schools, home, workplace
- Developing partnerships with knowledge centres
- Programming at risk disaster preparedness with longer-term disaster risk reduction

Advocacy, education and awareness-raising
- Knowledge and experience sharing
- Awareness-raising for community organizations
- Capacity development for National Society staff and volunteers and the community
- Climate change and new hazards
- Focus on schools
- Developing partnerships with knowledge centres

For further information, please contact:
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Red Cross Red Crescent policies and strategies

Red Cross Red Crescent global framework for community safety and resilience

Global alliance for disaster risk reduction

Other disaster risk reduction efforts and achievements

National commitment

National commitment

Our global commitment

National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies have been implementing DRR for many years although it might not have been characterized as such. The 1990s saw new directives in programming with development-based activities being implemented in Africa, Asia and Latin America, including community-based disaster prevention.

This approach has been extended to our global commitments. In 1999, a new disaster preparedness policy recognized disaster preparedness as the link between emergency response, recovery and development.

In 2005, the 28th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent adopted Final Goal 3.1 of its Agenda for Humanitarian Action which acknowledges the importance of DRR and underlines measures to ensure the impact of disasters on vulnerable populations.

Regional conferences in Algiers, Johannburg and Singapore reinforced this fact. DRR is identified as a key action in achieving the goals of Strategy 2010, stating particularly that we should scale up our actions with vulnerable communities in order to promote disaster prevention and disaster risk reduction.

The 29th International Conference in 2007 adopted the declaration “together for humanity” which underlined the importance of ensuring that “environmental degradation and adaptation to climate change are integrated, where relevant, in disaster risk reduction and disaster management policies.”

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation) also supports and resolves to work towards achieving the priorities of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA), adopted by the global community following the world conference on DRR held in Kobe, Japan in January 2005 (see below).

Background

Disaster risk reduction (DRR) offers unique contributions to the building of safer, resilient communities. Contact with the focus on community and specifically community that are at risk from regular and new disaster impacts. We know that we have been implementing DRR for some years now, but with the world becoming increasingly urban, it is important that we try to build on the foundations of previous endeavors and to meet the needs of today and to those of the future. We also need to be more systematic in what we do as well as enhancing what we are doing to ensure that the basic objectives of safe and resilience are being addressed.

We are not necessarily concerned with a lot of new areas of work but rather with building on, enhancing and adopting what National Societies have already been doing and will continue to do in the future, looking for opportunities to make DRR more effective and relevant to both existing and new disaster risks. Thus, the framework for community safety and resilience is concerned with what contributions the Red Cross Red Crescent can make in building community safety and resilience through a focus on disaster risk and its reduction.

This framework has emerged from a multidisciplinary consultative process. At the National Society level, the framework was presented in five regional meetings for review and feedback. These regional meetings were held in Johannesburg, Santiago, Havana, Panama, and Rabat and were attended by over 70 National Societies.

Across the seven zones, a reference group was established to provide ongoing feedback on the framework reflecting National Society concerns. At the secretariat level the framework has been consistently under the scrutiny of a Global Risk Reduction Group of Participating National Societies (International Federation) also supports and resolves to work towards achieving the priorities of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA), adopted by the global community following the world conference on DRR held in Kobe, Japan in January 2005 (see below).
The use of this framework in programming for safety, resilient communities. Incidentally, it is likely that all the actions we take in the implementation of DRR projects and programmes will be linked to the five principles of the HFA. This is important because the HFA's truly global and has been endorsed by most governments, international agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The principles are part of the global network and it is important, therefore, for us to adhere to the HFA principles as our core values.

1. To ensure that DRR is a local and national priority with a strong institutional framework.
2. To identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and emergency situations.
3. To use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels.
4. To strengthen disaster preparation for effective response and recovery.

The tools in implementing programmes

Our National Societies already have many of the tools they need for implementing programmes to support community safety and resilience and DRR. However, they may not be oriented towards the advancement of community safety and resilience goals and there may be gaps that are identified as risk areas to continue scaling up DRAC action.

To achieve community safety and resilience goals we need to ensure that our National Societies have:

1. The ability and capacity to identify strengths and weaknesses with communities and to respond to identified priorities.
2. The ability to effectively use community knowledge and experience.
4. Better understanding of key legal and policy issues in DRAC to strengthen Sustainable development and human rights.
5. More developed skills in working with communities.
6. Better linkages and partnerships with other donors.
7. A better understanding of the resources to support sustainability.

In the face of disaster risk International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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In the face of disaster risk International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

The ability to effectively use community knowledge and experience.
The Global Alliance on DRR

The Global Alliance on DRR will be the principal instrument for increasing our work in DRR-related activities. The Global Alliance on DRR will focus on specific target countries, and will provide these high-impact partners to achieve agreed DRR goals, and provide additional funding opportunities and resources to achieve the Global Alliance on DRR’s objectives.

Building community safety and resilience through volunteering, collaboration, and advocacy

The Global Alliance on DRR, with its emphasis on the importance of the communities at the community level, can have a significant impact on building safety and resilience agendas and bring them to the attention of the international community. By strengthening community and national level resilience, the Global Alliance on DRR is able to identify and mobilize support to achieve the broader impacts of a major programmatic outcome.

The Global Alliance on DRR is a mechanism for facilitating the implementation of the strategies for disaster risk reduction and planning and programming guidelines, among all other efforts of Red Cross and Red Crescent societies. We have recognized the need to mobilize Red Cross and Red Crescent societies’ support to National Societies through the following three strategic objectives:

1. Risk-informed humanitarian response. The provision of relief and the sustained development of immediate needs following a disaster, as well as follow-up recovery and disaster risk management activities aimed at getting communities back on their feet, are essential in any response to ensure lasting change following long-term risk reduction initiatives. It is understood that humanitarian response to disaster and recovery following a disaster is the absolute priority of the National Societies. However, this is not meant to be an end in itself, but an opportunity to enhance safety and resilience and reduced vulnerability. The advantage for building the safety and resilience of communities is a long-term, continuous process that requires ongoing engagement and investment, and will result in a reduced vulnerability to future disasters.

2. Community-based disaster preparedness. Support for specific country initiatives, preparation and adaptation activities. National Societies will be working with the communities to enhance the knowledge of the National Societies’ strategic framework and their impact on the safety and resilience of communities in both rural and urban settings. They will also be working within existing programs and supported by national governments and civil society generally. Support to community safety and resilience will include, amongst other things, the development of programs and adaptation projects targeted towards the reduction of risks from specific hazards.

3. Sector-based programming to build across the disaster risk reduction agenda. National Societies may have ongoing sector-based programs in place and be looking to invest in new projects and sectors, which will benefit them and the communities they serve.

The need for DRR has been recognized by the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) and endorsed as an element of the United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda 2030. The Global Alliance on DRR should be recognized as an element of the United Nations framework for promoting community safety and resilience.

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The framework for community safety and resilience – In the face of disaster risk, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Objectives

This framework has the following principal goals:

1. Build foundations for effective disaster risk reduction (DRR) programmes, project and interventions in all sectors and in all places
2. Link implementation of DRR and disaster risk management (DRM) policies to sound and resilient communities can be created, developed and sustained

The framework for programming for safety and resilience and DRR supports National Societies to implement the following three strategic objectives:

1. The integration of DRR into economic, social and longer-term programming
2. Improved disaster preparedness, mitigation and pre-event considerations and advocacy
3. Increased focus on the delivery of DRR programmes

Linking what we do to the HFA

All the actions we take in the implementation of DRR projects and programmes will be linked to the five priorities of the HFA. Their importance has led to new and emerging areas of work that we need to focus on in our Red Cross and Red Crescent work.

1. To ensure that DRR is a local and national priority with an institutional framework for implementation
2. To identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance preparedness
3. To use knowledge, innovation and education to build cultures of safety and resilience at all levels
4. To strengthen the underlying risk factors
5. To strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response and recovery

However, the DRR actions that we take are as broad and complex as our societies. Incidentally, it is likely that none of us will be able to do all that we feel are important to the HFA priorities.

The Global Alliance on DRR

The Global Alliance on DRR will be the principal vehicle for involving National Societies in implementing the framework. It will aim to bring together National Societies that are involved in implementing the framework and will give them high profile support to achieve agreed DRR goals and build capacity and efficiencies in this work. It is envisaged that the Global Alliance will be open to all National Societies that have expressed an interest in characteristics that will help define community safety and resilience in various communities globally.

The Global Alliance, with its objective of enhancing the implementation of the community level, can make a significant contribution to building safety and resilience and bring them to the attention of the international Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, mobilizing support to enable it to achieve a major programme outcome. The Global Alliance, as a mechanism for working with National Societies, will define the strategic direction and set the overall programme objectives, conditions and provisions. The framework for community safety and resilience in the face of disaster risk is constructed from a number of interrelated components. The essential and novel, a safe and resilient community, energetic as an effective community, ready and able at all times of avoiding and resolving the vulnerabilities. The element that identifies the Red Cross Red Crescent commitment to DRR as a key action in building community resilience are the following:

1. Risk-informed humanitarian response. The provision of relief and the management of immediate needs following a disaster as well as follow-on recovery and recovery activities aimed at getting communities back on their feet, are an important facet in many ways towards meeting longer-term risk reduction objectives. It is understood that humanitarian response to disaster and recovery following a disaster is the absolute prime objective of National Societies. However, it is not just about our efforts but also the actions and commitments of other countries, particularly those that are more vulnerable to disasters.

2. Community-based disaster preparedness. Governmental policies and programmes require action in order to promote the self-sufficiency of communities and public services for safety and resilience and develop and reduce vulnerability as a part of disaster risk management. It is important to ensure that the long-term social and economic benefits of disaster risk reduction are reaped disaster in the future.

3. Community-based natural disaster prevention and adaptation actions. National Societies will be working with the support of the collective wisdom of society, aspects of climate change, and the degree of urban growth and changing rural patterns, and communities in both urban and rural settings. They will also be working without the support of the communities and supported by national governments and civil society generally. Support to community safety and resilience will include the promotion of the collective wisdom of the community in enabling it to organize and adapt to changes in its environment.

4. Advocacy, education and awareness-raising. National Societies will be working within the framework of the core components to ensure that community-based work that aims to build a greater community understanding of disaster risk reduction and that through the collective wisdom of the community's views, in turn, will directly add to the safety and resilience of the community.

5. Sector-based programming to build across the disaster risk management (DRM) and safety and resilience. National Societies may have ongoing sector-based programmes in areas such as advocacy, education and awareness-raising. These are cross-sectoral and entail a number of priorities, and therefore are important aspects of the framework. The sector-based programmes will be geared to those focusing on programme areas such as health, DFID, the aid and risk that it is reflected within national policies, disaster risk reduction strategies. In particular, National Societies should be encouraged to develop their strategies to promote and develop in the implementation of DRR programmes and policies.

The tools in implementing programmes

One National Society already has many of the tools they need to develop implementing programmes to support community safety and resilience and DRR. However, they may not be oriented towards the advancement of community safety and resilience and may not be those that are identified in the tools to continue to scale-up DRR actions.

To achieve community safety and resilience we need to ensure that our National Societies have:

1. The capacity and ability to identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and hazards that may be reduced by implementing effective disaster risk management (DRM) strategies
2. The capacity and ability to engage with all levels of government and local societies to work jointly on assessing and reducing disaster risk
3. The capacity and ability to develop and implement effective disaster risk management (DRM) strategies
4. The capacity and ability to develop and implement effective policy and legal frameworks
5. The capacity and ability to develop and implement effective institutional and organisational frameworks
6. The capacity and ability to develop and implement effective communication frameworks
7. The capacity and ability to develop and implement effective monitoring and evaluation frameworks
8. The capacity and ability to develop and implement effective resource management frameworks
9. The capacity and ability to develop and implement effective community-based actions
10. The capacity and ability to develop and implement effective community-based actions in the context of disaster risk management (DRM) and safety and resilience.

The framework for community safety and resilience in the face of disaster risk is a tool that many National Societies will be involved with these areas already; therefore, we should consider on scaling up and expanding existing programmes. This framework is an important step in our work, providing assurance that the National Societies can demonstrate clearly the key actions that we need to take. National Societies should be encouraged to ensure that their planning and implementation strategies are in line with this framework. The framework will continue to be a tool that will provide governments, national disaster risk reduction strategies and policies and help them to identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and hazards that may be reduced by implementing effective disaster risk management (DRM) strategies.
Red Cross Red Crescent support to the Millennium Development Goals – Building community safety and resilience

Background

Disaster risk reduction (DRR) offers unique contributions to the building of safer, smarter communities. Conceptually, this is focused on communities and specifically communities that are at risk from regular and new disaster impacts. We know that we have been implementing DRR for some years now, but with the world becoming increasingly unsafe, it is important that we try to build on the foundations of previous endeavours and look at new disaster risks and solutions. We also need to be more systematic in what we do as well as enhancing what we are doing to ensure that the basic objective of safety and security are being addressed.

A new approach has been established in our global commitments. In 1995, a new disaster preparedness policy recognized disaster preparedness as a key action in achieving the goals of Strategy 2010, stating particularly that we should “scale up our actions with vulnerable communities and reduce disaster risk”. The 5th International Conference in 2005 adopted the declaration “together for humanity” which stated the importance of ensuring that “environmental degradation and adaptation to climate change are integrated, when relevant, into disaster risk reduction and disaster management policies and plans.”

Our global commitment

National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies have been implementing DRR for many years although it might not have been characterized as such. The 1980s saw a new direction with development-based actions being implemented in Africa, Asia and Latin America, including community-based disaster management.

This new approach has been embodied in our global commitments. In 1995, a new disaster preparedness policy recognized disaster preparedness as a key action in achieving the goals of Strategy 2010, stating particularly that we should “scale up our actions with vulnerable communities and reduce disaster risk”. The 5th International Conference in 2005 adopted the declaration “together for humanity” which stated the importance of ensuring that “environmental degradation and adaptation to climate change are integrated, when relevant, into disaster risk reduction and disaster management policies and plans.”

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Appendix 1: main areas of focus for the care components

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A framework for community safety and resilience

In the face of disaster risk

Red Cross Red Crescent framework for community safety and resilience

Red Cross Red Crescent global policies and strategies

Community safety and resilience

Risk assessment and identification and the establishment of community-based early warning and prediction

• Risk assessment and analysis including VCA
• Community empowerment for action
• Information management and dissemination for timely response and for developing resilience to long-term programming to anticipate future risks
• Climate change and new hazards
• Advancement for community action
• Construction of emergency programme baselines
• Developing links with preparedness
• Capacity-building for early warnings

Community-based disaster preparedness

• Building from the priorities of the VCA
• Developing preparedness at community and household levels
• Building community infrastructure
• Contingency planning
• Community organization through branches
• Establishing branch disaster response teams
• Climate change and new hazards
• Skills training
• Identification of target groups – schools, homes, workplace
• Developing partnerships with knowledge centres
• Programmes at a disaster preparedness with long-term disaster risk reduction

Advocacy, education and awareness-raising

• Knowledge and experience sharing
• Awareness-raising for community organizations
• Capacity development for National Society staff and volunteers and the community
• Climate change and new hazards
• Focus on schools
• Developing partnerships with knowledge centres.

Other disaster risk reduction efforts/programmes

• Support institution building – the inclusion of National Societies in national policies and plans
• Representation of National Societies on national platforms for DRR
• National Societies as advocates for the identification of community-level delivery in national policies, strategies, plans and programmes
• Promotion of inclusive action at the local level with communities, National Societies, local governments and other stakeholders.

Partnerships with international, governmental, non-governmental and community-based organizations

• The promotion of local platforms for DRR
• The support of multi-stakeholder partnerships in programmes to promote community resilience
• Capacity development at all levels
• Knowledge-sharing at all levels
• Leadership in all aspects of promoting the cause of community resilience
• Advocacy for the Global Agenda and links with the HFA.

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No evidence that a natural disaster has occurred

Red Cross Red Crescent Red Cross Red Crescent framework for community safety and resilience
Red Cross Red Crescent support to the Millennium Development Goals – Building community safety and resilience

Millennium Development Goals

Community safety and resilience

Red Cross Red Crescent framework for community safety and resilience

Global alliance for disaster risk reduction

Red Cross Red Crescent global policies and strategies

Myths Framework for Action.

Other disaster risk reduction efforts/programmes

Risk assessment and identification and the establishment of community-based early warning and prediction
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• Community empowerment for action
• Information management and dissemination for timely response and for developing resilience to longer-term programmes to anticipate future risks
• Climate change and new hazards
• Advocacy for community action
• Construction of common programme baselines
• Developing links with programme partners
• Capacity-building for early warning

Community-based disaster preparedness
• Building from the priorities of the VCA
• Developing preparedness at community and household levels
• Building community infrastructure
• Contingency planning
• Community organization through branches
• Establishing branch disaster response teams
• Climate change and new hazards
• Skills training
• Identification of target groups – schools, home, workplace
• Developing partnerships with knowledge centres
• Programming at all levels to build disaster preparedness with long-term disaster risk reduction.

Advocacy, education and awareness-raising
• Knowledge and experience sharing
• Awareness-raising for community organizations
• Capacity development for National Society staff and volunteers and the community
• Climate change and new hazards
• Focus on schools
• Developing partnerships with knowledge centres.

Appendix 1: main areas of focus for the core components

Strong auxiliary relationships with local and national governments
• Support institution building – the inclusion of National Societies in national policies and plans
• Representation of National Societies on national platforms for DRR
• National Societies as advocates for the identification of community-level delivery of national policies, strategies, plans and programmes
• Promotion of inclusive action at the local level with communities, National Societies, local governments and other stakeholders.

Partnerships with international, governmental, non-governmental and community-based organizations
• The promotion of local platform for DRR
• The support of multi-stakeholder partnerships in programmes to promote community resilience
• Capacity development at all levels
• Knowledge-sharing at all levels
• Leadership in all aspects of promoting the cause of community resilience
• Advocacy for the Global Agenda and links with the HFA.

A framework for community safety and resilience

In the face of disaster risk

Background

Disaster risk reduction (DRR) offers unique contributions to the building of safe, resilient communities. Contact to this article is the focus on communities and specifically communities that are at risk from regular and new disaster impacts. We know that we have been implementing DRR for some years now, but with the world becoming increasingly unsafe, it is important that we try to build on the foundations of previous endeavours and to move of what works and what is effective. We also need to be more systematic in what we do as well as examining what we are doing to ensure that the basic objectives of safety and resilience are being addressed.

We are not necessarily concerned with a lot of new areas of work but rather with building on, enhancing and adapting what National Societies have already been doing and will continue to do in the future, looking for opportunities to make DRR action more effective and relevant to both existing and new disaster risks. Thus, the framework for community safety and resilience is concerned with what contributions the Red Cross Red Crescent can make in building community safety and resilience through a focus on disaster risk and its reduction. This framework has emerged from an international consultation process. At the National Society level, the framework was presented at five regional meetings for national and international level and feedback on the framework reflecting National Society concerns. At the secretariat level the framework has been continuously under the scrutiny of a Global Alliance on DRR advisory group set up from among disaster management staff, while the disaster preparedness and risk reduction group of the Participating National Societies has been regularly consulted. Suggestions and recommendations from all these groups have been incorporated into the framework.

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Our global commitment

National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies have been implementing DRR for many years although it might not have been characterized as such. The 1980s were a time where programmes with development-focused activities being implemented in Africa, Asia and Latin America, including community-based disaster risk reduction.

This new approach has become embedded in our global commitments. In 1995, a new disaster preparedness policy recognized disaster preparedness as the link between emergency response, recovery and development.

In 2005, the 28th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent adopted Final Goal 3.1 of its Agenda for Humanitarian Action which acknowledges the importance of DRR and underlines measures to minimize the impact of disaster on vulnerable populations.

Regional conferences in Algiers, Jakarta, and Singapore reinforced this focus. DRR is identified as a key action in achieving the goals of Strategy 2010, stating particularly that we should ‘scale up our actions with vulnerable communities in priority areas, promotion, planning and disaster risk reductions.’

The 30th International Conference in 2007 adopted the declaration “together for humanity” which stated the importance of ensuring that “environmental degradation and adaptation to climate change are integrated, relevant, in disaster risk reduction and disaster management policies and plans.”

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (International Federation) also supports and resolves to work towards achieving the priorities of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA), adopted by the global community following the world conference on DRR held in Kobe, Japan in January 2005 (see below).

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