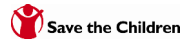


## Child Led Disaster Risk Reduction



## Children are ....



- the majority of those affected in emergencies.....
- the most photographed.....
- and least listened to victims of disasters.....



## Children in all affected countries played active roles during & after Tsunami



- Warning of the wave, so saving lives
- Rescuing lives during the wave
- Helping adults in temporary shelters
- Taking care of younger ones
- Providing support to friends who grieve
- Taking responsibility to run households
- Assuming responsibility for family survival

**In the context of a disaster children can play an even more active role than this, if only allowed to do so...**



## Empowering children



Across the world, including throughout Asia, Save the Children empowers children and young people to become actively involved in their communities' preparedness and mitigation plans and to be able to respond more effectively when disasters DO strike.



## Why Participation of Children?



*Participation is the right of children*

*Children are among the most vulnerable during disasters*

*Children are not mere victims but are active citizens – capable to make decision and take action on issues relevant to their lives*

*Disaster risk reduction strategies and mechanisms should empower & create opportunities for children's full participation*



## Why Disaster Risk Reduction?



*Preparedness is more cost effective than response to disaster*

*It helps by reducing risk of loss of lives & properties*

*Disaster risk reduction gives economical & psychosocial benefits to children, families & communities*

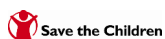
*Disaster risk reduction Promotes a culture of prevention & creates safer communities*



## Why Child – led Disaster Risk Reduction?



*The implementation of child-led disaster risk reduction has shown that when disasters strike fewer lives of both children and members of the community are lost. The impact of CLDRR is that children are more resilient and the negative impacts of disasters on survivors can be significantly reduced.*



## Why Disaster Risk Reduction?



*A child from Sri Lanka said,  
"If children are taught disaster preparedness, they will bring a revolutionary change in society as they are the future keepers of the villages and schools. Further, children of today will be parents of tomorrow which ensures that they pass this knowledge to their children and this will make disaster preparedness a societal practice which will keep on passing from generation to generation."*



## Why Disaster Risk Reduction?



*As a DRR Youth Worker from Thailand says, 'Children and youth are part of society, so regarding whatever is affecting them and their communities, they must participate in thinking, expressing ideas, and solving the problems. Children, especially those in disaster-affected areas, don't just need help or to be all-time receivers. They also want to stand up and fight.'*



## What is Child-led Disaster Risk Reduction?



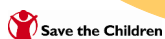
*Save the Children defines CLDRR as a child-centred, community based framework where children play leading roles in their communities to minimise the negative impacts of disasters.*



## What is Child-led Disaster Risk Reduction?



*This will include children meaningfully in: assessing, planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating DRR. Adults will, however, maintain responsibility and accountability as stakeholders and duty bearers.*



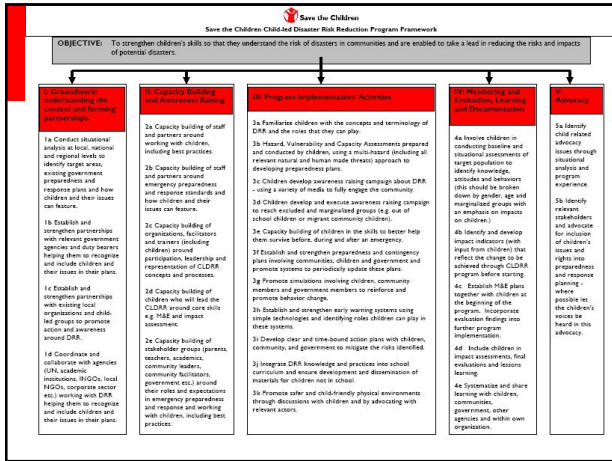
## Child-led Disaster Risk Reduction.



**Objective:** to strengthen children's skills so that they understand the risks of disasters in their communities and are enabled to take a lead in reducing the risks and impacts of potential disasters for themselves and others in their community.


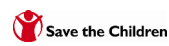
The programme has five components, detailed with examples in the publication, 'Child-led Disaster Risk Reduction – A Practical Guide'.






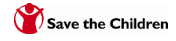
## Highlights from Thailand

- Children interview and map their communities
- Conduct assessments of risks and vulnerabilities
- Educate peers and communities about risks
- Advocate for government understanding of children re: DRR
- Lead community mitigation plans
- Conduct assessments of the DRR programme.



## Highlights from Sri Lanka

- Children take part in formulating community preparedness plans
- Advise on child-friendly school reconstruction
- Create hazard and evacuation maps
- Incorporate children's ideas into district plans.

## Highlights from Vietnam

- Participate equally in community assessments of risk and vulnerability
- Produce school risk maps and action plans
- Advocate for mitigation measures
- Educate communities about response potential
- Educate decision makers about impact of disasters on children.

## Highlights from India



- Children form school committees to identify and mitigate risks and hazards
- They use cultural performances to raise awareness about disasters and risks
- They form task forces to help when disasters strike: drum early warning; first aid; have roles in shelter management and search and rescue
- Run regular mock evacuation drills.



## Child-led Disaster Risk Reduction Process

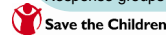


### Training local partners and teachers and children on:

- DRR key concepts (hazard, disaster, risk, resource, vulnerability, capacity, risk management, etc)
- Risk and hazard situation in locale
- Children's participation in DRR & case studies on how this works
- Approach to work with children, schools & communities
- Community Risk and resources mapping
- Educational campaigns
- Mitigation activities
- Simulations
- Response groups

### Build capacity of School Children on CL-DRR

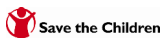
- Orientation of School directors, and Provincial/ State authorities & teachers
- Develop training manual on DRR
- Document process for sharing
- Dialogue with policy makers at national level to share lessons learned
- Incorporation into curriculum or after school activities



## Child-led Disaster Risk Reduction Activities



Children produce a community map identified disaster risks and resources in their communities



## Child-led Disaster Risk Reduction Activities



Children produced education campaigns addressing risk behaviors and raise awareness on disaster risk reduction



## Child-led Disaster Risk Reduction Activities



**India.**  
We want to inform all the community members on knowledge and skills related to disaster preparedness.




## Voices of the children





**Kung**  
*"I'm glad. At least we can help the community members to gain more information about disaster risk reduction. I'm impressed with the cooperation among friends – we've done good work."*



**Nung**  
*"Children have capacity. They can express their ideas so that people know what they want to do. I believe this project can be expanded to other disaster affected areas and every areas, with children in the leading roles. I feel lots of changes... I feel good."*



## Voices of the children






*"We are the most vulnerable and we should be aware of the risks and how to overcome them."*




**Sai**  
*"Children really have a heart to help. Adults may want to do it themselves. They may think we can't do it. But actually, if we are given a chance and some guidance, we children can do everything."*




## Voices of the children






**Naga Durga**  
*"Earlier we responded to disasters with the family individual unit but now we will respond with the whole village/ community as one unit"*



**Fah**  
*"We are just a small group but we can help protect our communities."*



## Child-led Disaster risk reduction Lessons Learned



### ❖ Children can & are willing to participate if ...

- They are informed
- They are empowered by the process
- Activity is fun/attractive made simple enough
- Issues relevant to them
- They get sufficient support from adults



## Child-led Disaster risk reduction Lessons Learned



### ❖ Children's Participation & adults

We have to work with adults as well as children

*Adults need understanding, reasons & skills to facilitate children's participation in schools and communities*



## Child-led Disaster risk reduction Lessons Learned



### ❖ More inclusive: not just school based



- *The programme should involve local authorities and community leaders in its planned activities; and address community based DRR plan/activities*
- *Child-led DRR activities should try to reach out of school children*



## Child-led Disaster risk reduction In Schools



### ❖ How we can take CL-DRR forward

#### Child-led DRR in school

- *Integrating DRR into school safety plans and developing school safety mechanisms*
- *Integrating DRR into schools' curriculum*
- *Strengthen capacity of teachers to play an active role on promoting Child-led DRR in schools*



**Child-led Disaster risk reduction  
Expansion into other areas**



❖ **How we can take CL-DRR forward**



*The full Child-led DRR approach could be easily duplicated in other regions/countries as its principles and activities are so relevant to many places.*



**WHY NOT IMPLEMENT CLDRR  
BROADLY IN YOUR COUNTRY?**



- SAVE LIVES**
- SAVE PROPERTY**
- SAVE MONEY**
- EMPOWER CHILDREN**
- EMPOWER COMMUNITIES**
- ADVOCATE FOR CLDRR**

