

Implementing Psychosocial Support Programs

Dr. Joseph O. Prewitt Diaz
Head of Programs
India Delegation

Ms. Anjana Dayal
Country Manager, PSP
Sri Lanka Delegation
American Red Cross

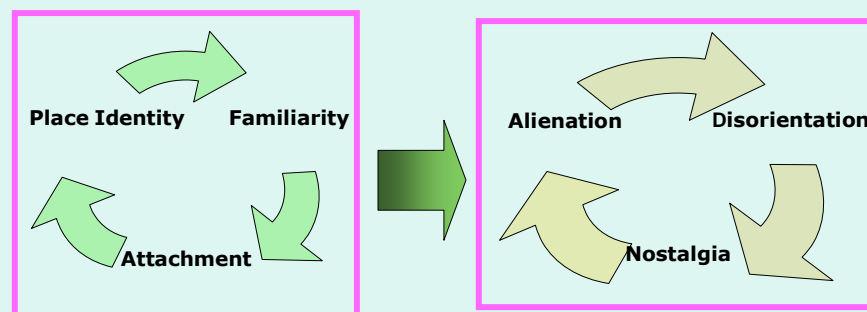
Objectives of the Presentation

- Identify and discuss the four program areas of the IRCS/ARC Psychosocial Support Program.
- Explain the relationship between PSP program elements and psychosocial competence and resilience.
- Discuss how the IRCS/ARC Psychosocial support Program can be tailored to meet the cultural, ethnic, and linguistic needs of the beneficiaries.

Psychological Need for Place: Theory Base

- One's place is understood according to its symbolic construction for those within the place and by the larger society.
- The soundness of individual place identity rests on having a place and knowing that one's place is held in esteem by others.

Loss of Place



Primary beneficiaries speak

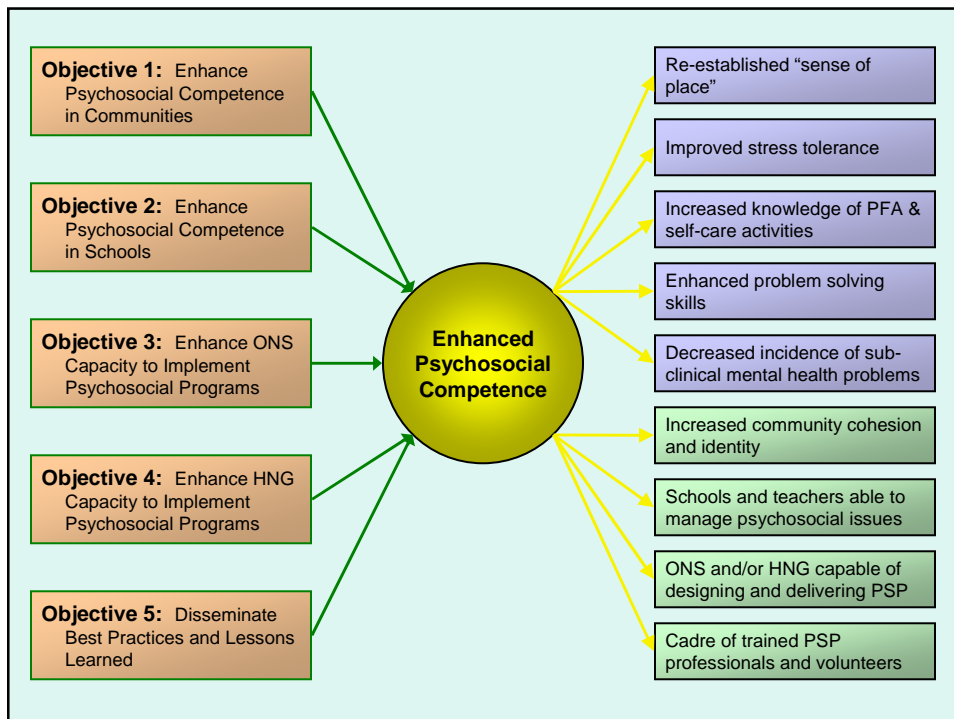
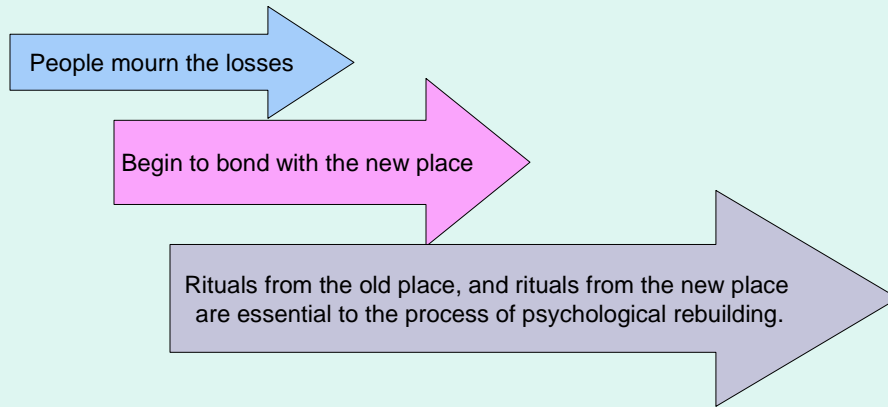
- The key to success in disaster rehabilitation is to ensure that the people affected are involved in the planning and implementing of recovery programs from day one, based on an open dialogue and a strong partnership between the communities and government and aid agencies.
- Communities must prepare for future disasters by building on their strengths and solidarity and developing their own capacities.
- Equity and respect for human rights are central to the recovery process, especially for the more marginalized and poorest communities such as ethnic minorities, migrants, the elderly, and children.

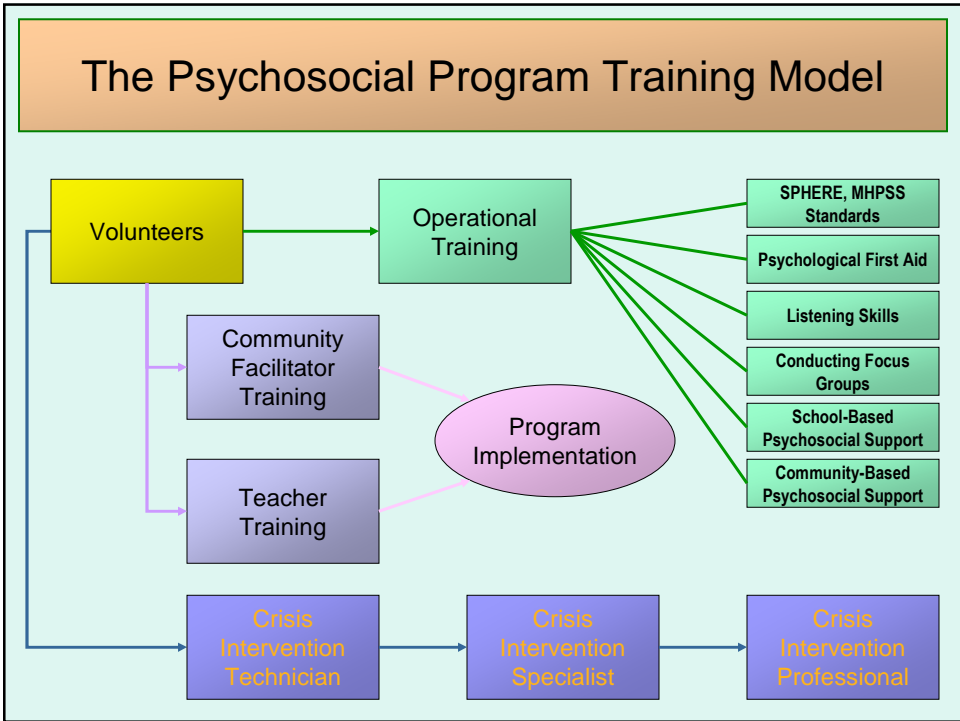
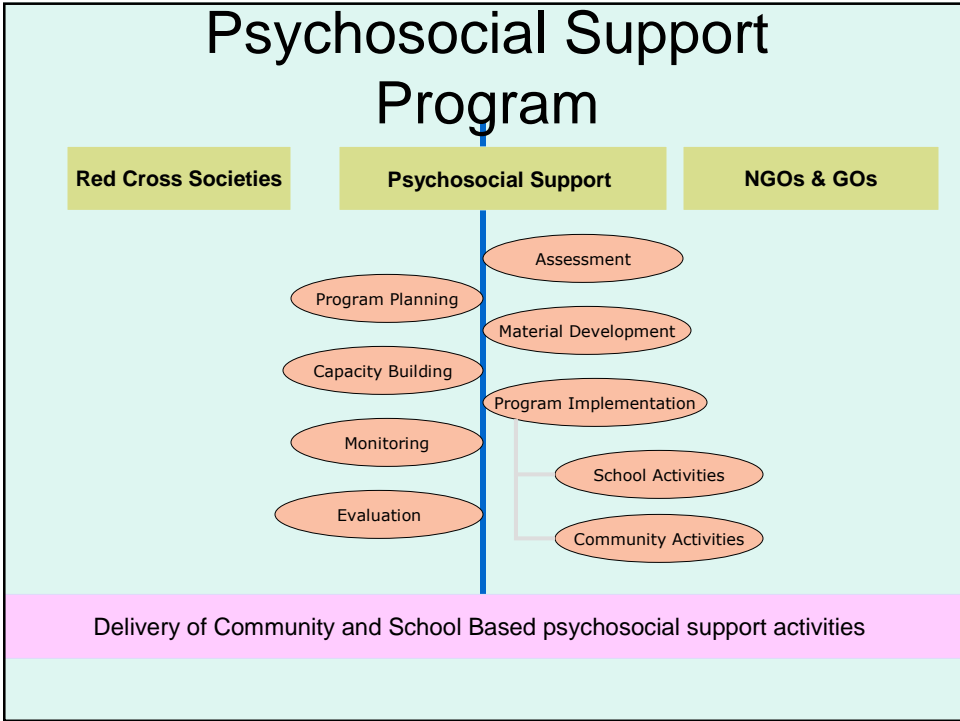
Source: UNDP (2 Nov 2006) Disaster-hit communities from Thailand, across Asia and New Orleans call for greater voice in recovery process. "People's Leadership in Disaster Recovery: Rights, Resilience and Empowerment"

Interventions are based on Local culture and traditions

- Spiritual customs
- Festivals and rituals
- Dance and music
- Street theatre
- Traditional activities and games
- Natural support systems

Reconstruction to Development





Indicators of Community Psychosocial Competence

- People report that that they live in a good enough place.
- People feel settled in home, neighborhood, and community.
- People contribute in the care-taking of the personal and shared portion of the environment.
- People know their neighbors and interact with them to solve community problems.

Best Practices

- Ensure sense of ownership of the target communities.
- Assess and build on local resources
- Follow high standards for staff development, program implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
- Institutionalize interventions through collaborations with the local government.
- Develop contextual, simple, illustrative material pertaining to psychosocial well being
- Use of mass media to disseminate messages

Thank You