

## Presented by.....

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## REDUCTION OF POVERTY – AN IMPORTANT KEY FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Natural disasters like earthquake, cyclone, flood etc. have unusually large impact on the developing countries and on poor people within those countries. Owing to their geographical location and higher vulnerability, many developing countries suffer more severely from the effects of natural disasters than developed countries.

### What is Poverty?

*Poverty is lack of assets, income, endowments and capital for which people are unable to make the minimum expenditures required for food, housing, health, education, energy and transport etc. It is usually accompanied by lack of access to powerlessness and isolation, gender discrimination, social exclusion, illiteracy, poor sanitation, livelihood vulnerability and others.*

### Reasons of vulnerability due to poverty

- Less savings and lack of financial flexibility
- High levels of illiteracy
- Inadequate health care
- Extremely limited access to social services
- Lack of right to land ownership
- No means to built safe infrastructure
- Lack of warning and means of evacuation

### What is Disaster

There are many definitions of disaster, but the most relevant one in this context is .....

‘An event which causes loss of life, human suffering, damage to and destruction of property, and/or degradation of Environment and/or which disrupts the normal functioning of societies, Government and/or communities and/or adversely affects individuals and families with severity’.

### Impacts of disaster

- The magnitude of impact is directly associated to the intensity and scale of a hazard and the vulnerability of individuals and communities.
- The trend during the last three decades shows an increase in the number of natural hazard events and an increase in the number of people affected.
- In the last 2 decades, more than 1.5 million people have been killed by natural disasters.

### Development, disasters & poverty

- Disasters destroy and erode development gains.
- Disasters put development at risk.
- The development choices made by individuals, communities and nations can also generate new disaster risk.
- Natural disasters also worsen poverty.
- A destructive event results in malnutrition, homelessness and epidemics.
- The destruction of infrastructure, the erosion of livelihoods, damage to the integrity of ecosystems and architectural heritage, injury, illness and death are direct outcomes of disaster.
- A natural disaster can thwart any social and economic development for a long time.

### Disaster Risk Reduction

- Disaster Risk Reduction is a process of reducing the gap between development and humanitarian programmes and can be seen as a means of strengthening livelihood security.
- DRR provides a balanced approach to reduce the consequences of disaster by addressing prevention, mitigation, response and recovery services.

### Poverty Reduction Tools

- *The reasonability of policy matters*
- *Economic growth*
- *Population control*
- *Political will*
- *Microfinance*

### Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction with Poverty Reduction

- Governments around the world have agreed to take action to reduce disaster risk, and have accepted a guideline for reduction of vulnerabilities to natural hazards, called the Hyogo Framework for Action (Hyogo Framework).
- The Hyogo Framework supports the efforts of nations and communities to become more flexible to, and cope better with the hazards that threaten their development gains.
- In the year 2000, 190 countries agreed on the Millennium Declaration and its practical and achievable targets, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), to eradicate poverty in its different dimensions.

There are significantly few examples of methodical integration of poverty reduction and disaster reduction programs .....

Some approaches are.....

## Successful Measures for Integrating Poverty & Disaster Risk reduction

- a) Livelihood framework devised in development context
- b) Risk Transfer and Finance
- c) Community Based Disaster Risk Management

## Livelihood framework devised in development context

- Within the livelihoods model, development interventions can be thought of as activities that increase the capital assets of individuals and communities.
- These activities cover the whole spectrum of development sectors and can include programmes such as education, HIV awareness, micro-credit, agricultural diversity or re-forestation.

## Risk Transfer and Finance

- Risk transfer, defined as shifting the burden or responsibility of disaster loss to another party through legislation, contract, insurance or other means, can play an important role in helping to manage natural hazard risk and mitigate or minimise disaster losses.
- Recent developments in this field include the use of a range of risk transfer mechanisms like micro-finance and micro-insurance schemes

## Community Based Disaster Risk Management

- Community Based Disaster Risk Management is the reduction of vulnerabilities and strengthening of people's capacity to cope with disasters.
- A systematic assessment of a community's understanding of hazards and an analysis of their detailed vulnerabilities and capacities is the basis for projects, programs and activities that can reduce risks of disasters.

## Characteristics of Community Based Disaster Risk Management

- The focus of attention in disaster risk management must be the local community
- Disaster risk or vulnerability reduction is the basis of CBDRM
- CBDRM enables community stakeholders for to develop its resource base
- CBDRM is an involving and dynamic framework

## CONCLUSION

reduction of poverty can help to reduce disaster risk, but this needs an active focus on disaster issues to be developed into poverty reduction programmes. Integrating poverty reduction into disaster risk reduction can help to reduce the vulnerability of the poor. This can save lives, reduce migration, protect the environment, and achieve and protect development objectives from future disaster losses.

**THANK YOU**