



GETTING CLIMATE SMART FOR DISASTERS

Training Workshop on FORIN and M&E for CSDRM Approach

8th - 9th May 2013

Hotel Marrion, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

BRIEF BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

The purpose of this workshop is to look for pathways through which the disaster risk response to cyclones especially striking the Eastern Indian coastline recurrently can be made climate smart. Intercooperation for Sustainable Development India (ICSD), together with the All India Disaster Management Institute (AIDMI) and Institute of Development Studies (IDS), UK, is looking at the institutional barriers and opportunities for integrating DRR and climate change adaptation at various levels. The rationale of becoming 'climate smart' is to shift away from a reactive response to disasters and focus on preparedness and prevention in view of the likely manifestation of extreme events such as cyclones due to existing climate variability and projected climate change.

To identify the causes of how a hazard becomes a disaster, one of the tools that have been developed is the Forensic Investigation or FORIN tool. The FORIN tool has been designed to identify gaps in disaster risk response by closely examining a particular disaster and then identifies suitable measures to bridge these gaps, enabling the development of a disaster risk reduction approach. Such an evolved approach is focused on preventing disasters and enabling preparedness. This will also be essential to take into consideration the worse impacts of climate change on extreme events such as cyclones. All aspects of management of disasters such as the governance, institutional mechanism, the peoples response etc can be analysed and solutions established.

Further unless, continuous Monitoring and Evaluation techniques are applied, systems in place are likely to fail. This workshop therefore over two days will focus on identifying the M&E steps that will be required to make a sustainable disaster risk reduction mechanism for the future. This will be done through the use of the CSDRM approach, which supports organisations to find the optimum co-operation on DRR, climate change and reducing the root causes of vulnerability.

Organisations that are involved in management of cyclone disaster risk reduction as well as forecasting, tracking and dissemination of information on cyclones will be the ones who will participate in this workshop.

AGENDA

DAY 1: May 8, 2013

0900-0930 hrs Registration

0930-1030 hrs SESSION 1: INAUGURAL

Welcome

Dr. Sumana Bhattacharya, ICSD

Opening remarks

Mr. Mihir Bhatt, AIDMI

Remarks

Ms. Elizabeth Colebourn, CDKN, India

Presentation

Approaches for Cyclone disaster Management and Risk Mitigation in India in a Climate Change Context

Dr Anil K Gupta, NIDM

1030-1100 hrs Tea break

1100-1300 hrs SESSION 2: THE FORIN TOOL

About FORIN – The tool and its applications

FORIN is ‘Forensic Investigation’ tool – a reverse engineering tool for effective disaster management. The session will also include a guidance on how the next session will be organised for identifying gaps in cyclone disaster risk management in India

Dr. Sumana Bhattacharya, ICSD

1300-1400 hrs LUNCH

1400-1630hrs SESSION 3: ROUND TABLE ON FORIN

Round table discussion on sharing experience in cyclone disaster management with special focus on cyclones

Questions to be addressed:

1. what information do we already have regarding Aila and other recent cyclones?
2. What needs to be done to combine and reinterpret the information and data? Can we use the FORIN methodology?

For details See the attached note on “Cyclones: understanding the causes of disaster impacts, preparing for climate change”. The note also explains FORIN and outlines specific questions designed within FORIN in the Bangladesh and India context for understanding the level of (a) Disaster preparedness and hazard awareness in these countries, (b) questions to assess the Post-hazard impact vis a vis disaster characteristics, response and recovery and (c) some generic questions to assess the cascading effects, role of key players in DRR, and the governance issues in disaster management, etc.

Moderator: Dr Sumana Bhattacharya, ICSD

1630-1700 hrs Conclusion and way forward

DAY 2: May 9, 2013

1000-1100 hrs SESSION 4: TRAINING ON M&E FOR CLIMATE SMART DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT

Using M&E for effective climate smart disaster risk reduction management

Paula Silva Villanueva, Principal Consultant, ResilienceMonitor

- The role of M&E in promoting Climate Smart DRM
- Principles for M&E of climate change adaptation from a Climate Smart Disaster Risk Management Perspective

1100-1130 hrs Tea

1130-1300 hrs SESSION 5: TRAINING ON THE M&E APPROACH

The Climate Smart Disaster Risk Management M&E tool

Ms. Paula Silva Villanueva, Principal Consultant, Resilience Monitor

Issues to be taken up

- The M&E cycle within CSDRM programmes
- Identification of programme indicators

The focus will be on using the Climate Smart Disaster Risk Management (CSDRM) approach that was developed 2009-11 and used in several organisations in the region. The aim is to integrate disaster risk reduction with climate change knowledge, in the context of reducing the root causes of vulnerability to hazards like cyclones.

The emphasis will be on training how to use a monitoring and evaluation approach to the use of the CSDRM approach, as a way to check on progress. Participants are encouraged to share the details of their own programmes so they can take this workshop as an opportunity to develop their M&E plans and indicators.

1300-1400 hrs Lunch

1400-1630 hrs SESSION 6: TRAINING ON THE M&E APPROACH (Contd.)

- Working in groups: tailoring the M&E approach to your context and programmes
- Development of M&E plans
- Discussion: challenges and opportunities

1630-1700hrs Conclusion and Way Forward

WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS

Session1: The Workshop was focussed on training on the FORIN tool – a reverse engineering tool to search for additional, wider and more fundamental explanations for the on-going rise in disaster losses. Forensic leads to systematic, probing and dispassionate investigations, rather than suggest links with morbidity, post-mortems or criminal detective work. It also helps accumulate evidence of good practices and other success factors. The tool has a set of 20 questions that focus on assessing gaps in awareness on impending event, impacts, governance priorities, risk assessment, risk reduction and enhancing resilience.

Aila – a severe cyclone crossing the Bay of Bengal towards West Bengal and Bangla Desh was examined by the participants. The intensity of the cyclone was not understood by the people living on its path, though an advance warning was given. It was publicised as a category-I cyclone. Not enough infrastructure in the vicinity for people to evacuate. Damages incurred where by the Fishing sector agriculture and livestock, Forest related livelihoods, credit related households, small traders and education. In terms of impacts, people lost their houses, there was significant water scarcity post Aila, public toilets were damaged. Local production of rice and shrimp reduced considerably. The land use for agriculture post Aila reduced to less than 10% from 47% due to 18 month long inundation period with saline water. The embankment has not been repaired for the last 10-15 years and increasing siltation on the river beds intensified the force of tidal surge. There was extensive Cholera outbreak, and people migrated elsewhere.

The participants concluded that a combination of mismanagements or inadequacy of the institutional mechanism managing the disasters, the planning of the area and the management of the sectors that are vulnerable to disasters or the flawed policies that govern the management of the disasters are the underlying causes of disasters. The department of Environment, Gov of Odisha; the National Institute of Disaster management, UNDP, technical institutions such as KIIT, several NGOs, namely SWAD, IWD, AIDMI and ICSD participated in the round table (see list of participants below the proceedings).

It was concluded that despite all efforts risk is not reducing, economic Losses are increasing, disasters are adversely impacting livelihoods increasing vulnerability undermining the progress towards poverty reduction and Millennium Development Goals and existing approaches alone won't work. Therefore there is a need to think differently with more focus on non structural Ecosystems as natural measures for disaster reduction and climate change adaptation. Additionally it was suggested that Climate resilient DM planning such as Village disaster management plans, Sector based Climate resilient DM planning, CCA Integrated (multi-sector) DRR Strategy planning, Climate induced vulnerability indicators assessment, Role of environmental law and policies in DRR / DM, Undertaking Environmental basis for socio-economic vulnerability/ Mitigation Analysis will all play an important role in disaster management in the future.

Other solutions suggested included the need for Convergence of Disaster Risk Reduction, Development and Climate Change Adaptation ; Improvement of governance infrastructural and resource management; Systematic integration of disaster risk reduction into development planning and programming at all levels ; Development of Technical capacity to manage risks and disasters within the government system at all levels including schools and universities; Implementation of agricultural and fishery risk reduction strategies; River management to be

focus of the core interventions and Enhanced Coordination between government and non-government organisation is necessary.

Session 2: The session 2 ran through the training on Monitoring and Evaluation for steps taken for Climate Smart Disaster Risk Reduction.

PARTICIPANTS LIST

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