

BRIEF INTRODUCTION OF ORGANISATIONS

Six core organisations from the Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network were selected from the Asian countries to participate the training, as follows:

BDPC [Bangladesh Disaster Preparedness Centre]

The Bangladesh Disaster Preparedness Centre (BDPC) is a truly professional organisation in the field of disaster management. Founded in 1992 and registered as a Bangladeshi non-governmental organisation, the BDPC pays special attention to disaster risk reduction through community empowerment, community-based adaptation research, advocacy, lobbying and networking at the community, local and national levels. It enhances the capacity of the vulnerable communities in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and develops Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials related to awareness-raising, knowledge dissemination, communication, innovation and risk reduction practices. The BDPC has played a pioneering role in facilitating the capacity enhancement of actors and institutions engaged in disaster management and risk reduction activities over the past 17 years. The organisation has gained recognition among various stakeholder groups both at the national and international levels.



CDP [Center for Disaster Preparedness]

The Center for Disaster Preparedness (CDP) has been functioning as a resource center based in the Philippines which works with non-governmental, governmental, community, academic, media, religious and youth organisations at the local and international levels to advance safe and disaster-resilient communities for more than a decade. The organisation utilizes a community-based framework in enhancing the stakeholders' capacities for disaster preparedness and mitigation, and emergency response and recovery. The CDP believes that active individual participation is a fundamental factor in reducing existing vulnerabilities since it allows collective knowledge, skills and attitudes to be harnessed. Through its core programs, namely training and course development, networking and advocacy, research and publication and interactive learning and consultancy services on DM-related subjects, the center aims to achieve its vision of making disaster preparedness a way of life.



CHA [Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance]

The Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance (CHA) is a non-profit, non-sectarian and non-political humanitarian organisation working in Afghanistan. The CHA is committed to encouraging the active participation of communities in the development of their social lives.



The CHA was created in 1987 by a team of educated and experienced Afghan volunteers. With more than two decades of experience, the CHA has played an important role in providing emergency assistance as well as delivering basic services in health, agriculture, education and infrastructure rehabilitation across its coverage areas. It targets its activities to a population of almost three million people living in nine provinces of Afghanistan. The CHA is recognized as one of the most relevant organisations for humanitarian assistance and social development in Afghanistan.

The CHA aims to serve poor people in Afghanistan, especially women, the disadvantaged majority and vulnerable groups, in particular children and disabled people. It is working to raise community awareness of social needs and rights, as essential motive in facilitating communities' moves from emergency relief and rehabilitation to development.

The CHA has been implementing the Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR) project funded by Oxfam-Novib since January 2007. The CBDRR project is considered to be one of the missing

components of the CHA's projects and programs for promoting relief, rehabilitation and development in Afghanistan.

The main objective of this program is to develop communities' capacity for disaster risk reduction in the targeted areas. The project has been welcomed by targeted communities and supported by their participation in the interactive process of hazard, vulnerability and capacity assessment. The tools presented here by the CHA in this toolkit have been practiced as part of this project, and have had a positive impact in the targeted communities.

MERCY Malaysia

MERCY Malaysia is a non-profit organisation focusing on providing medical relief, sustainable health-related development, and risk reduction activities for vulnerable communities in both crisis and non-crisis situations. The organisation has matured to include projects covering areas of recovery, rehabilitation and rebuilding, as well as capacity building and transfer of knowledge over a period of time.



MERCY Malaysia recognizes the value of working with partners and volunteers as well as providing opportunities for individuals to serve with professionalism. MERCY Malaysia upholds the Code of Conduct of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief and holds itself accountable to its donors and beneficiaries. MERCY Malaysia is also a member of the Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN) and the International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA). MERCY Malaysia has Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic & Social Council (ECOSOC) and is certified by the Humanitarian Accountability Partnership (HAP) International.

Sarvodaya

Sarvodaya is Sri Lanka's largest civil organisation. Over the last 50 years, it has become a network of over 15,000 villages. Today, it is engaged in relief efforts in the war-torn north as well as ongoing development projects.

Sarvodaya is comprised of 345 divisional units, 34 district offices, 10 specialist development education institutes, a program with more than 100,000 youth mobilised for peace building under Shantisena, the country's largest micro-credit organisation with a cumulative loan portfolio of over US\$ 1 million (through the Sarvodaya Economic Enterprise Development Services, or SEEDS), a major welfare service organisation serving over 1,000 orphaned and destitute children, underage mothers and elders (Sarvodaya Suwa Setha) and 4,335 preschools serving over 98,000 children.



Sarvodaya (formally known as Lanka Jatika Sarvodaya Shramadana Sangamaya) is an organisation developed around a set of coherent philosophical tenets drawn from Buddhism and Gandhian thought, and it has been operational for almost 50 years. It has been described as an international role model by international bodies. Its founder and charismatic leader, Dr A.T. Ariyaratne, whose visionary contributions have been recognised in multiple countries, continues to provide ideological and inspirational leadership to the organisation while the day-to-day operations are in the hands of a new generation, receptive to modern forms of management that are compatible with the overall vision of this volunteer-based civil organisation.

SEEDS [Sustainable Environment & Ecological Development Society]

The Sustainable Environment and Ecological Development Society (SEEDS) is a non-profit volunteer-based organisation, based in India that is working to make vulnerable communities resilient to disasters. SEEDS adopts a multi-hazard locally based approach seeking to empower communities through awareness-raising, training and action. Founded in 1994, SEEDS is comprised of professionals drawn from various development-related fields. It is governed and advised by a board of eminent academics and practitioners from international organisations. Its vision of making communities more resilient is accomplished by pursuing its mission to equip the most vulnerable with appropriate tools and technologies, sharing knowledge and skills and promoting linkages among stakeholders to prevent the loss of life and suffering. SEEDS has been actively involved in disaster risk reduction projects encompassing themes such as community-based disaster



management, safe construction practices, climate change, adaptation to risks, school safety and preparedness, hospital safety and preparedness, open learning on DRR and international cooperation. SEEDS works on the principles of reaching out to the most needy and vulnerable by facilitating community participation in decision making and leading the process of risk reduction by adapting to local culture, traditions and the environment.