



Cross Regional Learning for DRR

Who we are?

- RCRC Movement is a membership based organization
- Main strength is our volunteer network & global presence
- Movement partners: National Societies, IFRC and ICRC
- Our presence is in 186 countries
- Our main implementing partners is our communities

Our mission:

“Improving the lives of vulnerable by mobilizing the power of humanity”



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What unites us globally?

- Our seven Fundamental Principles
- Our mission statement
- Code of Conduct
- Policies/Guidelines/Preparedness & Response Tools, Mechanisms and Approaches
- Community focus mindset
- General Assembly and International Conference
- Red Cross/Red Crescent Day – 8th May

Our commitment:

“ To save lives and livelihoods and to alleviate human sufferings”



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How do we link from local to global ?

- DP/DRR Community committee
- Community volunteers
- National Society and its networks
- Junior RC/Youth RC in schools
- International Federation Country Delegations
- International Federation Regional Delegations
- International Federation Zonal Offices
- Secretariat in Geneva



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How do we do cross regional exchange ?

- RDRT/NDRT/RIT/NIT deployment
- Community/volunteers/members mobilization
- Technical guidelines developed through the global inputs
- Trainings such as VCA, RDRT/NDRT/RIT/NIT
- Reference Centers – Costa Rica
- Workshop, Seminars and meetings
- Staff on loan
- Exchange visit
- Cross regional cooperation through Community, National, Regional, Cross-Regional and Global Level networks

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building safer communities in South Asia

Cross Regional Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

Lessons Learning
Joint Field Exercise

Kathmandu, Nepal

24 - 30 March, 2008



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Why?

- To enhance cross-regional DRR knowledge sharing between Red Cross National Societies, Regional and Country Delegations, communities and and key partners in South Asia, South East Asia and Southern Africa regions.

For what?

- Upscaling grassroots efforts in DRR
- Linking grassroots to Global

For whom?

- 35 participants representing RCRC NS, government agencies and NGOs/INGOs from 17 countries met in Kathmandu, Nepal from March 24-30, 2008 for six days.
(Cross Regional & Multi-Stakeholders)



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Purpose and Objectives

- Understand and identify good practices, lessons learned, gaps, skills, challenges, tools and methods and share experiences in community based disaster risk reduction initiatives to enhance integrated community based DRR programming.
- To find the relevance and the added value of the existing country/regional level DRR and knowledge sharing platforms to enhance the regional and cross regional cooperation and coordination; linking the grass root level DRR initiatives with the national, regional and global level.



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Expected Outcomes

- Mapping the scope of community based disaster risk reduction initiatives in the regions and the shared experiences in good practices, lessons learned and gaps
- The outcomes will contribute significantly in setting the future South Asia DRR Framework



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Expected Outcomes

- Reflections on cross regional cooperation and the existing networks, and their added value to the development of RCRC regional/zonal/global networks
- A documented analysis of the workshop process and reflections on the appropriateness and opportunities of cross regional learning



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Methodology :

- Field visits – 2 days
- Experience sharing
- Presentations
- Document analysis
- Group work
- Plenary discussions
- Formal and informal discussions



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The workshop involved 3 inter-related processes:

1. Field Visits

- Extracting lessons learned, good practices, challenges and gaps
- Use of a variety of information gathering tools to assess projects in real time
- Provide an opportunity for participants to share experiences between themselves and with community members.
- Located in both urban and urban periphery settings



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Types of Project:

- School Based DRR
 - Earthquake preparedness
 - Community based First Aid/Relief
 - Livelihood and income generation
- **The field visit involved Nepal Red Cross & its partners projects**



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2. Experience Sharing

A. Systematically sharing and documenting lessons learned based on the participant experiences

- Participants used the findings from the fieldwork, their own projects and the presentations, to structure lessons learned and good practices along the following **structural themes**:
 - DRR project design
 - DRR project management
 - Understanding/knowledge of concepts
 - DRR Training and methodology
 - Project implementation
 - Partnerships
 - Sustainability



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B. The same process was used addressing the following thematic areas:

- Existing community based organizations and their roles in DRR and their linkages
- Institutionalising community based organizations
- Working together in the community with different stakeholders
- Community Development and integrated planning
- DRR and climate change at the community level
- DRR in schools
- Mainstreaming DRR in recovery and relief



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C. Knowledge sharing platforms

In regional groups participants mapped out existing knowledge sharing platforms at the national regional and global level based on the following questions:

- Are the platforms being used? Do **you** use them?
- Do they provide the information that you or your organization need?
- Do they enhance communication?
- Are they easy to access?
- What is the added value of the platforms?
- Do the national systems feed into the regional platforms? Into global platforms?



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3. Presentations

Throughout the workshop, a series of presentation made by IFRC Regional Delegations, National Societies as well as external organizations such as NGOs/INGOs, donors, UN agencies and government.

These presentations served to:

- Highlight innovative initiatives from other regions
- Address pertinent themes relating to DRR
- Donor criteria for funding DRR projects
- National and regional knowledge sharing platforms



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Document Review

One session was dedicated to reviewing the IFRC document '*A Framework For the Implementation of Disaster Risk Reduction In the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies*' in order to:

- Provide an opportunity for the participants to better situate their own regional and country initiatives within the general IFRC framework.
- Allow IFRC staff to get significant feedback from a wide range of actors
- Participant comments and feedback have been incorporated into the workshop report and submitted to the DPP department at the IFRC secretariat



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Outputs and Follow up

- Identified specific and well articulated lessons learned, good practices, challenges and gaps.
- Knowledge sharing platforms will be shared with the IFRC at the Geneva, Zone, Regional Delegation and Country Office levels for future action
- Feedback on the DRR Framework will support the ongoing development process of this initiative
- Analysis will help those wishing to replicate this type of workshop
- Results are a key source of data for the South Asia Regional Disaster Risk Reduction Framework to be developed over the next several months



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➤ **Expectation from each participant**

**A cross fertilization of ideas have taken
place which needs to be carried
forward to transfer the knowledge and words
into ACTION
in order make the REAL change happen!!!**