

— on the ROAD TO SENDAI

Visions and voices for a new global disaster framework

UN World Conference on
Disaster Risk Reduction
2015 Sendai Japan

OUR
FRONTLINE SUCCESSES
FROM HFA 1!



PARTNERS



TITLE OF SUCCESS STORY: Community Maps help in evacuations during disasters and emergencies

Secretary, Indian Red Cross Society, Andhra Pradesh State Branch

Secretary, Indian Red Cross Society, Tamil Nadu State Branch

"The Community maps help us remember key routes for escape, whenever sea water starts gushing in the village."

*Komara Paulamma,
community disaster
management committee,
Mogadalapaddu
Garamandal village,
Sreekakulam District,
Andhra Pradesh*



THE PROBLEM:

Coastal villages of India face frequent flooding due to their nearness to the sea. Cyclones cause destruction annually. Post the Tsunami disaster in December 2004, the Indian Red Cross Society with support from the Canadian Red Cross has been training communities in various aspects of disaster risk reduction and preparedness. Disasters strike every year, the Hud Hud Cyclone in 2014 and Cyclones Phailin, Helen and Neelam in 2013 to name the few recent ones. With constant trainings, and efficient emergent tools for evacuation, quick response from civic authorities and humanitarian agencies, deaths have been significantly reduced, but loss to property, crops and livelihood remain a challenge. Communities here largely depend on fishing and agriculture as a source of sustenance, but that is what is the first to be lost in any calamity.

At the time of the disaster, communities are usually at a loss and confused as to what subsequent action to take. Women and children who are the most vulnerable since they are not the decision makers in the family are at most risk.

Your text here



THE ACTIVITIES

The Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction Programme & Integrated Programme for Community Development is being implemented in 29 villages in 6 districts of Tamil Nadu and 32 villages in 12 districts of Andhra Pradesh. Several disaster management committees have been formed at the village and the community level and volunteers from the communities are trained at all the components of DRR like evacuation, rescue, shelter management, first aid, water sanitation etc. They in turn train people from the villages and act as team leaders during emergencies and disasters. Community map or vulnerability and hazard map is an important component of the Community based disaster risk reduction activities being implemented in the village communities.

THE OUTCOMES

All community maps are prepared by the community members themselves right from the basic formatting to painting it on the wall. With information from members of the community and relying on precedence from past disasters, clear indication is given about low lying and vulnerable areas, evacuation routes and vulnerable population that are prone to the calamity. During the evacuations for the cyclone Leher & Helen, in November 2013, the NDRF (National Disaster Response Force) teams operated under the guidance of the CBDRR & District Disaster Response Team members. The Community Contingency Plans and the Community Maps became the main source for evacuation process. Community Maps allowed

WAY FORWARD

The way forward is to get community maps implemented in every village that is vulnerable through coordination with the Government agencies



Indian Red Cross Society



CANADIAN RED CROSS CROIX-ROUGE CANADIENNE

Please submit your success story in word format along with images separately attached to vijayalakshmi@saferworld.in.
The subject line should mention: Road to Sendai-Success Story-Organisation Name