

Communities around the world, especially in Asia, are facing a serious challenge towards establishing sustained progress due to the changing climate pattern. Farmers and pastoralists in Africa who are experiencing delayed rains are coping to bridge the gaps of food insecurity and adapting new ways to recover for the next season. Increasing frequency of flooding in South Asia and hurricanes in Central America are some of the manifestations of climate variability.

Disaster happens when the foundation of safety is weak and disaster risk reduction measures are not in place. If the capacities of communities are limited and the risk is not reduced, they are not able to cope. The impact of the disaster is intensified. An approach that would safeguard the accumulated years of development gains is necessary.

The Community Managed Disaster Risk Reduction (CMDRR) approach builds people's capacities to prevent and mitigate the impact of hazards and reduce the degree of vulnerability of communities at risk. This is achieved by enhancing individual survivability and community readiness. Building resilient communities therefore means strengthening the foundation of safety and enhancing disaster risk reduction measures to fully attain resilience against impending hazards.

Course content

This course is designed for senior managers and facilitators enabling them to learn together the ways, hows and a way forward in CMDRR.

Module 1: Concepts, Principles and Practices in CMDRR

This module tackles the link between disaster and development and explains the concept, process and approach to CMDRR. It discusses the role of facilitation, clarifying basic conceptual foundations of both content and process.

TRAINING SCHEDULE

May 7 – 18, 2012



Module 2: Facilitating CMDRR: Methods and Process

This module introduces to participants the principles and techniques of conducting disaster risk assessment premised on the following disaster risk formula:

$$\text{Disaster Risk} = \frac{\text{Hazard} \times \text{Vulnerability}}{\text{Capacity}}$$

It discusses the key principles and practical steps in undertaking hazard, vulnerability and capacity assessment in order to come up with a disaster risk assessment. It tackles other key considerations in disaster risk assessment, namely perception of risk and gender.

Employing a guided field practicum approach, this module equips participants with the tools, methodologies and skills to facilitate communities to assess and plan for CMDRR and design and conduct self-monitoring, evaluation and learning activities.

Module 3: Sustaining CMDRR

This module teaches participants how to facilitate documenting and sharing of CMDRR experiences as part of policy advocacy, resource mobilization, networking, monitoring and evaluation, and organizational learning. Participants' understanding will be enhanced on ways to link community organizations with other actors who are active in disaster risk reduction and on how to access resources for CMDRR. Participants are provided with various ways of mobilizing communities towards influencing policies supportive of CMDRR. It engages participants in clarifying the concepts and use of self-sustainability assessment and action framework and how to integrate these in the CMDRR process.

Module 4: Action Planning

Synthesizing and applying lessons from Modules 1 to 3, Module 4 guides the participants in developing an action plan for implementation. The plans, which are based on the realities of the communities and implemented in line with organizational, program or project thrusts, are critiqued by course facilitators and other course participants.

COURSE HIGHLIGHTS

- **Highly participatory methods (simulation exercises, focus group discussions, workshops, role play, video showing, case stories, games, field practicum, etc.)**
- **Participants are active key resource persons, facilitators and learners**
- **Field practicum for hands-on practice of participatory community risk assessment**
- **Action plan**

Who should attend

The course targets key staff (senior managers and facilitators) of both local and international NGOs and government agencies and departments that need to sharpen their skills in facilitating community managed disaster risk reduction and enable them to integrate CMDRR into institutional policies and programs.

When and where

The two-week course will be held at IIRR's Y.C. James Yen Center in Cavite, Philippines. Course participants are expected to arrive one day before the start of the course.

IIRR is an ideal environment for learning and reflection. Courses are held in IIRR's 50-hectare campus in Silang, Cavite, about an hour's drive from Manila. Facilities include air-conditioned training rooms, open-air centers for outdoor sessions, a dining hall, and participants' hostel and dormitories. It also has recreational facilities and nature trails.

Course Fees and Related Terms

The course fee of USD1800 includes course-related materials, field and agency visits, airport transfers and a weekend excursion. Participants will pay USD850 per person for double room occupancy and board for the duration of the course. Single room occupancy is available for an additional cost. The food includes three full meals and two coffee breaks. The fees do not include all international and local airfares, laundry, and incidental expenses. A minimum pocket allowance of USD100 per week is suggested for incidental and personal expenses. Applicants are encouraged to secure financial support from their organizations or donor agencies. IIRR reserves the right to cancel the course one month before its schedule if the required quorum is not met. This will be immediately conveyed to the applicants. Course fees will be refunded in full.

How and when to Apply?

For more information and to receive an application form, contact:

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Email: dulce.dominguez@iirr.org

Deadline for application: April 6, 2012

Deadline for payment: April 14, 2012

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