



Disaster Management Community



Visioning Workshop *Transforming Knowledge into Development Effectiveness*

13-14 February 2008
New Delhi

Action Group Concept Note

Topic: Tsunami Learning

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Background

The 2006 Joint Evaluation of the International Response to the Indian Ocean Tsunami: Synthesis Report recommends that, "The international humanitarian community needs a fundamental reorientation from supplying aid to supporting and facilitating communities' own relief and recovery priorities." Yet in nearly two years since the completion of this evaluation, there is little evidence of any such shift. There is a clear need for more rigorous efforts among responding agencies to both support local response capacities and to build back better.

Proposal

All India Disaster Mitigation Institute (AIDMI) is firmly established in the region as an action and learning organization and it serves as a substantive node for advocating DRR through long-term recovery work and sharing lessons learned. Solution Exchange has created a forum for the sharing of lessons and ideas, and members of its Disaster Management community are committed to utilizing this venue to teach, to learn and to affect change. It is within this context AIDMI proposes to organize thematic discussions along the lines of disaster phases and turn the outcomes of such discussions into meaningful documents. This exercise will serve the dual purpose of helping to measure the progress of Tsunami Evaluations utilization in the region.

The broad goal of this process is to review disaster response issues identified by Tsunami evaluations and move forward by developing processes for enacting solutions. Specific objectives include:

- Reiterate key findings of multiple Tsunami evaluations
- Identify the issues of highest relevance to Solution Exchange members
- Facilitate discussion and exchange of ideas for areas of interest
- Synthesize discussion response into a format that can be used to inform disaster management activities

The following grid creates a space for discussion of a variety of topics within the context of each of five thematic DRR priorities and each of four phases of disaster management. For example, within this framework it is possible to discuss microfinance and tsunami recovery with special attention to the long-term recovery phase and thematic priority of building local capacities. Similar high priority combinations would be worked out based

on participants' inputs. This will help participants specify sector specific/issue based advocacy topics most relevant to their work and give focus to discussions.

DRR: Thematic Priorities	Emergency Response & Relief	Rehabilitation/ Reconstruction	Long-Term Recovery	Prevention/Mitigation/ Preparedness
Coordination				
Emergency Needs Assessment				
Building Local Capacities				
LRRD				
Funding Response				

Outcomes

Outcomes of these discussions will include increased awareness of DRR needs and shortcomings as identified by Tsunami evaluations, improved understanding of DRR strategies in each phase, and proposed processes for enacting these strategies.

Outputs

Outputs will include a report or working paper that will help Solution Exchange members and other stakeholders incorporate lessons learned into their own practices. Outputs could also include publications based on discussion outcomes.

Governance

It is proposed to set up an advisory committee for planning and monitoring the progress of planned activities. This committee will include representatives from AIDMI, Solution Exchange/UN, NIDM, and two NGOs.

Resources

If further resources are needed, AIDMI will work jointly with Solution Exchange to secure these.

Target Audiences

The target audience for the discussions includes all members of the Solution Exchange Disaster Management Community. The target audience for dissemination of findings includes stakeholders in government, local and international NGOs, the media and financial institutions throughout Asia.

Next Steps:

Immediate next steps include soliciting feedback at the February Solution Exchange Visioning Workshop, incorporating the feedback into the process, and creating a work plan. Further steps include implementing the work plan by facilitating the proposed discussions, synthesizing outcomes into reports, and disseminating findings.

Duration

The process is expected to take approximately one year.