



MCN 301

Disaster Management

Module IV
Capacity Building

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Capacity Building: Concept – Structural and Non-structural Measures, Capacity Assessment; Strengthening Capacity for Reducing Risk

Concepts

- Capacity building is an on-going process that equips officials, stakeholders and the community to perform their functions in a better manner during a crisis/disaster.
- In the process of capacity building, we must include elements of human resource development, i.e., individual training, organizational development such as improving the functioning of groups and organizations and institutional development.
 - Examples of capacity are: permanent houses, ownership of land, adequate food and income sources, family and community support in times of crisis, local knowledge, good leadership etc.

Structural and Non-structural Measures

- Structural solutions include engineered solutions such as redesigning buildings and designing physical barriers to disaster events to reduce damage.
- Non-structural solutions include social solutions such as early warning, evacuation planning, and emergency response preparedness

CAPACITY ASSESSMENT

- An analysis of desired capacities against existing capacities; this generates an understanding of capacity assets and needs, which informs the formulation of a capacity development response
- Assessing institutions and capacity is a central element of preparing and implementing any kind of support. It is also prerequisite for deciding if and how donor support to CD is feasible.
- The traditional instruments used by development partners have had a very mixed record of success. Sometimes the instruments are the problem.
- Sometimes the problem is the way in which the instruments are used the instruments at donors' disposal are simply not relevant to the situation at hand.
- It is both complex and delicate to assist others in developing capacity.

Importance of Capacity Assessment

- Assessing capacity serves as input in different processes and may support interlinked decisions on:
 - Strategic and operational choices about overall levels focus areas, operational modalities and timing of aid.
 - Selection of key capacity issues to be included in the on-going policy dialogue, in monitoring, or as indicators.
 - Decision about if and how development partners can support capacity development (CD) processes of partners.

STRENGTHENING CAPACITY FOR REDUCING RISK

- Developed against the backdrop of the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP's) longstanding commitment to supporting developing and high-risk countries through its programmes and services for capacity development and disaster risk reduction.
- The objective of this component is to enhance the capabilities of the implementing entities in managing disaster risks, enhancing preparedness, and achieving resilient recovery.

Capacity building for disaster management:

- The activities will include:
 - Capacity building of the state disaster management authority by strengthening its institutional and organizational structure, staffing, and resources and funding of training programs and regular drills for the emergency operations centre staff and Disaster Management Officers at various levels;
 - Strengthening the Disaster Response Force;
 - Setting up a Decision Support System (DSS) and Emergency Operation Centers to integrate and analyze information from multiple sources in an integrated geo-spatial system.

Technical support for risk reduction and response preparedness:

- To finance activities such as:
 - Preparation of a Hydro-meteorological Resilience Action Plan focusing on extreme weather events to develop resilience solutions/recommendations and a robust, fail safe EWS in the region including optimum use of strengthened networks and facilities;
 - River Morphology Study for some key rivers impacted by the disaster and to analyze and identify critical protective infrastructure works needed for river bank strengthening;
 - Urban vulnerability assessment study with specific focus on seismic risk mitigation to undertake detailed urban vulnerability analysis and model various risks for effective mitigation planning and disaster response preparedness;
 - Upgrading design guidelines and material specification for construction in seismic zones in order to carry out an update of current construction design standards and material specifications to align them with national and international best practices;
 - Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance (DRFI) to work out options to increase the resilience of the PIE's financial response capacity to secure cost-effective access to adequate funding for emergency response, reconstruction, and recovery.