

Resilience Building:

**A Guide to Flood, Cyclone, Earthquake, Drought
and Safe Schools Programming**

Version 1.0



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Resilience Building:
A guide to flood, cyclone, earthquake, drought and safe schools programming

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This document has been the result of a large collaborative effort by ActionAid country offices, ActionAid International, local and international partners, and government stakeholders. For a full list of contributing staff and partners, please refer to the annex towards the end of this document.

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Cover Photo: Boy drawing a peacock in the sand, India, by Florian Lang/ActionAid

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Why Resilience

Over the past few decades, it has become increasingly clear that conflicts, climate change and disasters are affecting the poorest and most vulnerable people in greatest numbers, with years of development gains being destroyed time and time again. They often face a complex array of threats, which need to be addressed by taking a holistic view, and considering problems and their answers in relation to each other.

Resilience building offers a response to the increasingly complex realities faced by communities by linking disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation with other programmatic areas.

Defining Resilience

ActionAid defines Resilience as:

The ability of people to recognise, challenge and transform the unjust and unequal power relations that dictate their vulnerability, to adapt positively to changing circumstances, and to mitigate, prepare for and rapidly recover from shocks and stresses such that their wellbeing and enjoyment of human rights is safeguarded.

Understanding vulnerability

ActionAid's resilience work starts with gaining an understanding of people's vulnerability to shocks and stresses, as well as the underlying causes that make them vulnerable. ActionAid's analysis shows that vulnerability is primarily caused by three factors:

- Social exclusion
- Lack of skills, access to basic services & economic opportunities
- Lack of assets and secured access to natural resources

These three mutually reinforce each other. Individually or together, they deepen inequality and injustice.

Tools to Assess Vulnerability to Disasters

ActionAid uses different participatory tools to engage with communities to help identify vulnerabilities and existing capacities. These include the **Reflection-Action Approach** coupled with the **Participatory Vulnerability Analysis**.

Reflection-Action Approach

The Reflection-Action Approach promotes a democratic space for people to discuss issues according to their own priorities with the support of a local facilitator. It is guided by Human Rights Principles to help identify the structural causes of people's poverty. Underpinning the approach are numerous participatory tools that enable participants to communicate their knowledge, experience and feelings without being restricted by literacy or language barriers:

- **Visual tools** (maps, venn diagrams)
- **Creative tools** (songs, dance, drama)
- **ICT tools** (video, radio, mobile phones)
- **Accountability tools** (social audits, participatory budgeting)

Participatory Vulnerability Analysis

In disaster prone areas the Participatory Vulnerability Analysis is merged with the Reflection-Action approach. It encourages communities to look at the root causes of their vulnerability to disasters. Through multilevel, multi stakeholder engagements, action plans are developed to address them, often linked with national and international governance processes and policies.

Building Resilience

It has become clear that resilience building requires challenging the status quo around dominant groups and the unequal power structures that are keeping people vulnerable to disasters and crises.

ActionAid has a long history of building the resilience of poor women, their families and the larger community. We have been doing this through efforts focused on disaster risk reduction, climate resilient sustainable agriculture and resilient livelihoods. Recently, we have been looking more closely at the importance of power relations between men and women, rich and poor, young and old, and how this impacts people's vulnerability to disasters and crises.

ActionAid's Resilience Framework

The resilience framework helps us to design programmes that build the capacity of individuals, households, communities and governments. It is solidly anchored in ActionAid's Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) by identifying 'equal and just power' as the overarching aim of ActionAid's resilience work. It includes the different elements of resilience that are crucial in addressing the risks and vulnerabilities of disaster- or crises-prone communities which link to ActionAid's different fields of work on access to land, agriculture, education, governance and women's rights. The different elements of resilience are:

- Realising human rights and accessing basic services
- Gaining awareness, knowledge and skills
- Collective action and partnership
- Strengthening institutions and influencing policy

Resilience programming also needs to be guided by 5 principles: Diversity and flexibility, long-term and future orientation, ecological sustainability, working across different levels, and integrated programming.

Resilience is about Building Capacity

To address the direct and underlying causes of people's vulnerability to shocks and stresses, ActionAid has identified three key capacities that need to be build:

Absorptive Capacity

The ability to cope with and absorb the effects of shocks and stresses.

Adaptive Capacity

The ability to structurally adapt to shocks and stresses.

Transformative Capacity

The ability to change the existing status quo and tackle unequal power balances.

Resilience Frameworks for Hazards and Safe Schools

ActionAid has developed resilience programming frameworks for the four most common hazards:

- Flood
- Cyclone
- Earthquake
- Drought

In addition, there is a framework to support *Safe Schools* in disaster prone areas. These frameworks are designed to support practitioners develop and implement more effective integrated resilience programmes. They promote programming that cuts across different fields of work like livelihoods, education, health etc. whilst promoting work at different levels: individual, household, community and national.

Flood

Flood is defined as a ‘relatively high stream flow that overtops the stream banks in any part of its course, covering land that is not normally under water.’

This could be in the form of river floods, coastal floods, flash floods, urban floods and sewer floods, and can be caused by intense and/or long-lasting precipitation, snowmelt, dam failure, or reduced conveyance due to ice jams or landslides.

Impacts

Changes in weather affect people globally, especially those who are already living in vulnerable areas like coastal belts, floodplains, mountains or drylands. Flooding is an increasingly common event in informal, urban settlements, especially those located in low lying areas with sub-standard housing and poor drainage systems.

ActionAid's Approach

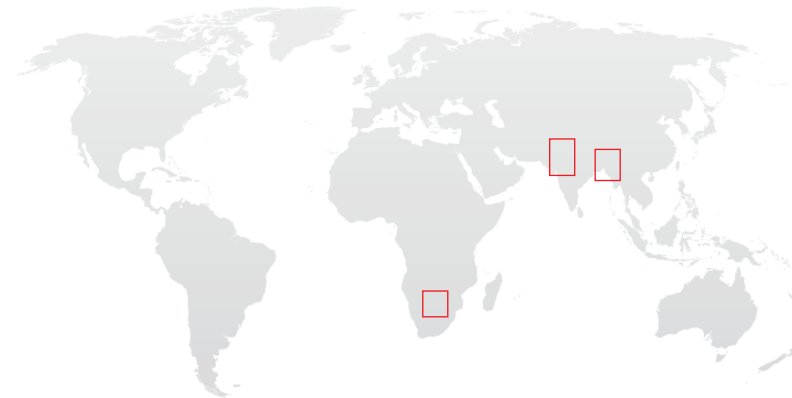
ActionAid works with poor women, their families and the larger community to address the root causes of their vulnerabilities to floods. With the help of the Reflection-Action Approach coupled with Participatory Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis, communities can:

- ❑ Identify disaster risks through hazard mapping
- ❑ Understand the nature of their impact on the community
- ❑ Analyse the drivers of risk and their vulnerability
- ❑ Identify critical gaps in local infrastructure
- ❑ Demand equitable rights

Examples of Resilience Building Activities

- Raise awareness of flood resistant houses by providing training on suitable construction methods
- Encourage media (TV, radio, newspapers) to improve coverage of flood risks and household preparedness
- Advocate for safety net programmes to support the most vulnerable women and their families

CASE STUDIES



Pakistan: The 2011 flood response was an opportunity to empower and unify women’s demand for the right to equal relief compensation.

Myanmar: Demonstrating the significance of conducting participatory vulnerability assessments (PVA) to help a community identify its own needs in order to become more resilient to flooding.

Zimbabwe: Strengthening market access linkages and livestock commodity associations to help a vulnerable community become more resilient.

Cyclone

Cyclones are characterised by high wind speeds and heavy rainfall. The damage associated with a high intensity cyclone is usually severe, especially to fragile infrastructure and housing. In addition, strong winds and heavy rains can trigger floods spread over large areas due to tidal waves, particularly in the flat coastal plains.

Climate change affects the frequency and intensity of cyclones. It is generally expected that tropical cyclones will become more intense, with greater peak wind speeds and heavier precipitation associated with increases in tropical sea surface temperatures.

Impacts

Cyclones can have a devastating impact at many different levels, with far reaching consequences. They are responsible for loss of life and damage to physical and social infrastructure; they can result in a complete collapse of livelihoods, destruction of drinking water supplies, damage to crops and available food stocks, devastation of livestock and fishery infrastructure, and, severely disrupted medical facilities, schools, community shelters, and electricity supplies.

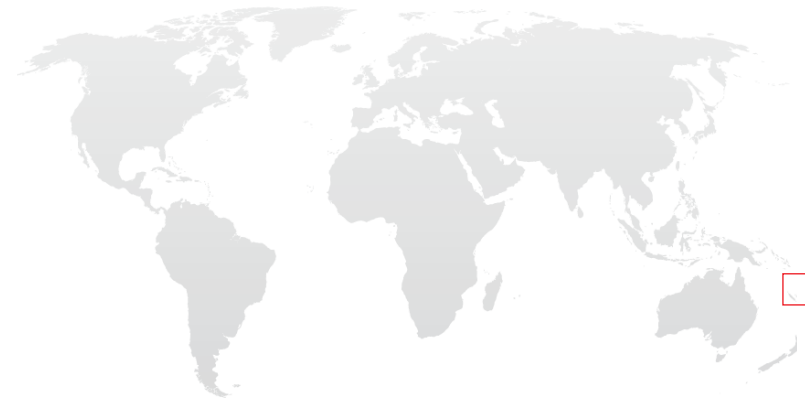
ActionAid's Approach

ActionAid works with several communities that are vulnerable to cyclones. The experience and approach of its activities portray the diversity of methodologies used in responding to cyclones and working towards cyclone resilience. ActionAid's programming strength lies in its long term association with communities. In this way it is able to understand the vulnerabilities of different community groups and address their specific needs. Restoration of livelihoods and food security needs, as well as rebuilding the local economy are all key factors.

Examples of Resilience Building Activities

- Promote coastal forestation/ mangrove plantation to protect against high wind speeds
- Identify local seed varieties that are able to withstand cyclones as well as related floods
- Advocate with the government for the construction and retrofitting of cyclone shelters

CASE STUDIES



Vanuatu: This case study shows how disasters like cyclones have a different impact on women, and therefore require a different approach to resilience building that tackles power inequalities. Structural inequalities, existing gender discrimination and unequal power relations mean that women are often hardest hit, take longer to recover, and may not recover as fully.

Earthquake

Earthquakes are generally caused by sudden and abrupt movement along fault lines, at the boundaries of tectonic plates. Apart from the ground movement, there are other associated phenomena like landfall, rock fall, avalanche, and tsunami which can cause widespread destruction and loss of lives.

Even though researchers expect earthquakes to occur along faults, their exact location, timing and intensity cannot be reliably predicted. This makes earthquakes the most unpredictable natural disaster known to humans.

Impacts

Earthquake damage is generally associated with urban areas on account of the severe damages to buildings and loss of lives. In developing countries, population growth and rapid urbanisation has led to the proliferation of new buildings without adherence to building codes or standards. The poor are disproportionately affected, often not able to afford Earthquake-safe housing.

Earthquakes can also affect public infrastructure services like water supply and sewerage services, transportation networks including roads, bridges, airports and harbours, telecommunication networks, electricity supply, and public services like hospitals, police and fire stations.

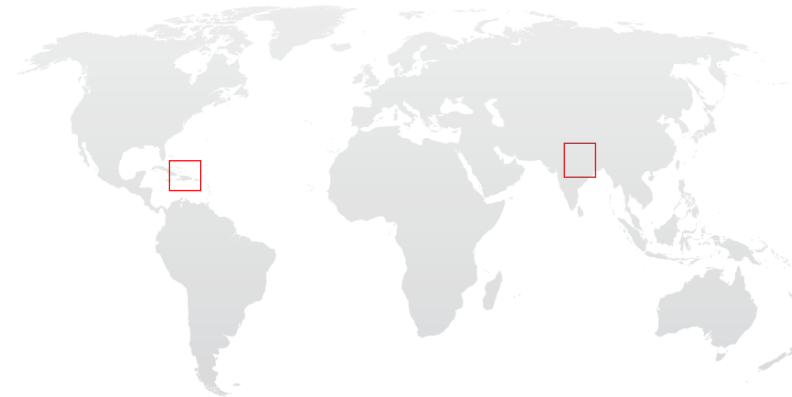
ActionAid's Approach

ActionAid has been working with communities in several countries affected by earthquakes in the recent past like Afghanistan, China, Pakistan, and Haiti. In addition to emergency response in the aftermath of an earthquake, ActionAid firmly believes in harnessing the existing capacities of communities to cope with and recover from a disaster. Thus, an early transition is made from relief to recovery through livelihood support, provision of safe shelter and reconstruction, and psychosocial support.

Examples of Resilience Building Activities

- Train people in essential life saving skills during an earthquake including identifying safe locations
- Support local governments in the design and testing of evacuation plans, routes and centres
- Support governments to ensure that all tradesmen are trained in earthquake proof building practices

CASE STUDIES



Nepal: The 2015 Nepal earthquake demonstrated that damage is not limited to urban centres. Rural areas were not only severely affected, some remained cut off from relief efforts due to the scattered nature and inaccessibility of the settlements.

Haiti: In 2011, ActionAid Haiti led a campaign called 'Je nan Je' (meaning "Eye to Eye") to help guarantee Haitians' rights to land and safe affordable housing in the context of the country's reconstruction.

Drought

Drought is a naturally occurring phenomenon that exists when precipitation has been significantly below normal recorded levels, causing serious hydrological imbalances that adversely affect land resource production systems.

A drought does not necessarily lead to a disaster, but only becomes a disaster when it causes a serious disruption in the functioning of a community or society due to human, material, economic or environmental losses which go beyond the coping capacity of the affected community.

Impacts

Droughts impact heavily on the farming sector as a result of destroyed harvests due to inadequate rainfall. Protracted periods of drought also impact pasture production and livestock rearing. Household members often migrate elsewhere to earn income.

Drought affects men, women, girls and boys in a different manner because of their different societal roles. While it is often the men who migrate from rural to urban areas, the women remain behind to take on the additional responsibility of agricultural production and livestock rearing along with their traditional roles as caregivers.

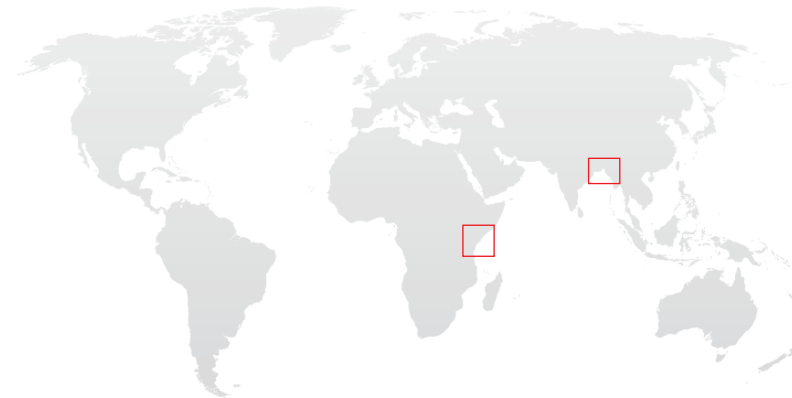
ActionAid's Approach

ActionAid helps communities to identify the underlying causes of drought, address basic needs and loss of livelihoods. This long term engagement with drought affected communities aims to help in promoting income generating opportunities, livelihood diversification, promoting women's leadership in natural resource management, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and in promoting women and girls' protection.

Examples of Resilience Building Activities

- Provide easy to understand meteorological forecasts to farmers and advice on drought preparedness
- Train women and the larger communities on diversified livelihoods
- Advocate and support local governments to promote sustainable water management methods

CASE STUDIES



Kenya: This case study illustrates how water scarcity compromises the health and safety of women and girls, and what can be done to improve their resilience during times of drought.

Bangladesh: ActionAid works with vulnerable communities and helps them to identify the risks they face, their vulnerabilities to drought, and understand their capacities to cope better.

School Safety

Each year disasters have a devastating impact on education. In the 2015 Nepal earthquake, more than 8000 public community schools were damaged. More than two million children and youth were forced to stay out of school for a significant amount of time as the earthquake and its aftershocks led to the complete closure of schools and colleges in severely affected districts.

Besides the measurable infrastructure losses, the earthquake is expected to impact on the continuity of education, enrolment, attendance and efficiency of teaching personnel and infrastructure.

ActionAid's Promoting Rights in School Initiative

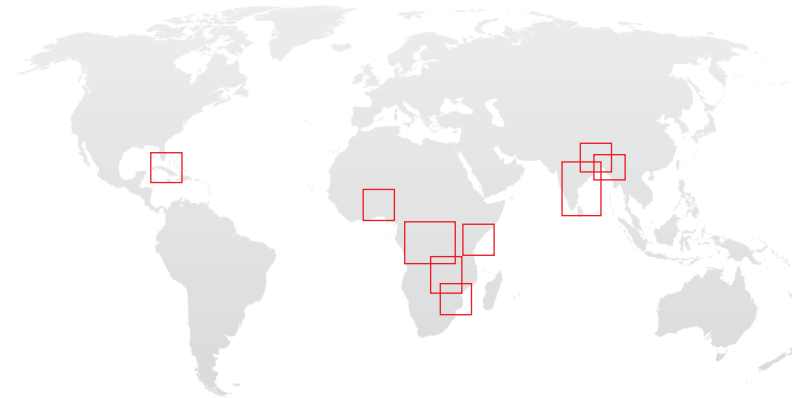
ActionAid works towards Promoting Rights in School (PRS initiative) with a focus on strengthening public education. As part of this initiative '10 rights in school' have been formulated which are based on international human rights treaties and conventions. Three Rights that highlight the importance of disaster risk reduction include:

- **Right 3:** Right to adequate infrastructure which emphasises the need to ensure school's infrastructure is resilient to natural disasters.
- **Right 4:** Right to quality trained teachers refers to teachers that have received training in disaster risk reduction allowing them to respond quickly to any hazard event as well as passing on knowledge and skills to pupils.
- **Right 6:** Right to relevant education implies that the school curriculum is relevant to the local context. In hazard prone contexts it is essential that the curriculum includes lessons on disaster risk reduction, environmental protection and climate change.

Examples of Resilience Building Activities

- █ Conduct regular mock drills with students and teachers
- █ Support schools in developing a curriculum inclusive of climate change adaptation and DRR
- █ Hold governments to account for required retrofitting of school buildings

CASE STUDIES



Between 2006 and 2011, ActionAid pioneered a Disaster Risk Reduction through School (DRRS) project in nine countries, which addressed:

- **DRR in schools:** Schools are safe for children and promote a culture and practice of safety
- **DRR through schools:** Making new and existing structures safe
- **Beyond disasters:** Awareness of disaster, capacity to analyse vulnerabilities, and power to act

1 Introduction

Background and Context 1.1

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Drought in Kenya
PHOTO: JESSICA HARTOG / ACTIONAID

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1. Introduction

1.1 Background and Context

Disasters, climate change impacts and conflicts affect millions of people every year. They destroy livelihoods and cause huge and often irreversible damage to the economic, social and cultural fabric of communities and nations.¹ The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) warns that climate change will lead to an increase in the frequency of extreme weather events. While communities across the world will be affected by climate change, it is the poor, least developed countries and small island states that will face the most severe impacts as disasters destroy years of development gains.

The severity of disaster impact is closely associated with inequality, conflict, environmental degradation, badly planned and managed urban development and weak governance. It is often the poor who are forced to stay in marginalised, unstable and disaster prone areas. And it is the economically weak who inhabit the densely populated slums of urban sprawls in developing countries. As people's vulnerability and exposure to disasters increases, a greater number of people than before are getting affected by disasters. Even though the last decade saw reduction in mortality and economic losses, there has not been significant reduction in disaster risk. Additionally, there is an increasing trend of disaster losses incurred from smaller scale recurrent localized disasters.

The Sendai framework 2015 identifies 'Public and private investment in disaster risk prevention and reduction through structural and non-structural measures for economic, social, health and cultural resilience of persons, communities, countries

and assets and environment' as one of the five priorities for action. There is a strong realisation that shocks and stresses can reverse years of development gains and efforts to eradicate poverty by 2030. It lays emphasis on mainstreaming disaster risk assessment for sustainable development, ensuring development that is responsive to environmental and ecological considerations through the proper planning and management of natural resources like mountains, rivers, coastal flood plain areas, drylands, wetlands, etc.

The Sendai framework emphasises the need for the design and implementation of inclusive policies, finding durable solutions to empower and assist the vulnerable who are disproportionately affected by disasters. It identifies social safety-nets, community involvement, and integrated livelihood enhancement programmes, with access to basic health care services as requisites.

1.2 Why Resilience?

ActionAid defines Resilience as:

The ability of people to recognise, challenge and transform the unjust and unequal power relations that dictate their vulnerability, to adapt positively to changing circumstances, and to mitigate, prepare for and rapidly recover from shocks and stresses such that their wellbeing and enjoyment of human rights is safeguarded.

Broadly speaking, resilience is about capacity – the capacity of an individual, a household or a community to cope with and absorb the effects of shocks (absorptive capacity); the capacity of the individual, community or society to adapt to shocks (adaptive capacity); and the capacity to change the system (transformative

capacity).² Resilience prompts development managers to look beyond sectoral compartments and to consider several issues and perspectives together. For instance a resilient community is not just a food secure community, but one which is able to decide the best livelihood options, has the ability to access resources, can access markets, has the ability to transform or adapt their livelihoods to shocks and stresses, and one in which marginalised groups are as included as dominant groups in decision making processes.

Thus, while resilience may appear as a cure-all for developmental problems, it is in reality an opportunity to understand and deal with the several complexities of poverty. Resilience, as a concept, provides scope to link with other analytical tools like vulnerability analysis, rights analysis and others. When understood in this form, resilience programming provides an opportunity to develop indicators across various sectors which can complement each other.

Resilience has become the central theme interconnecting disaster risk reduction and climate change. Different organisations have developed their own literature and conceptual thinking to link current resilience discourse with programmes. This has led to the proliferation of models and frameworks dealing with livelihood resilience, resilient agriculture, resilient infrastructure, resilient housing and more.

ActionAid has developed its own Resilience Framework, which is outlined in Section 3 of this guidance document. The aim of ActionAid's Resilience framework is to strengthen its resilience programming by considering the multitude of shocks and stresses that communities are experiencing, and by designing integrated programmes that address the direct and underlying causes of vulnerabilities within communities.

1.3 A Guidance Document to Operationalise Resilience

ActionAid is committed to building the resilience of communities, and different country offices have strategically integrated resilience-building initiatives into their programming and project activities. Most of the organisation's resilience programming involves building community resilience by implementing projects on Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). Apart from these fields of work, ActionAid works with communities globally on various other issues ranging from women's empowerment and land rights to vocational training, all with smallholder farmers, youth and children. Not all of these programmes appear to directly contribute towards resilience. However when their impact on the community is analysed over time, these programmes are seen to be strengthening the capacity of communities through improved livelihoods, empowering communities and groups of people to demand their rights and enabling them to initiate dialogue with government authorities and run campaigns for better living conditions. All these outcomes contribute in one way or another to people's resilience to disasters or conflicts.

This guidance document is meant to support practitioners working in disaster prone contexts to develop and implement more effective integrated resilience programming. It promotes programming that cuts across different fields of work (ActionAid's strategic objectives) like livelihoods, education, health etc. whilst at the same time targeting different levels: individual, household, community and national level.

Section 2 of this document introduces ActionAid's Human Rights Based Approach to resilience, closely followed in Section 3 by an introduction to ActionAid's Resilience Framework.

In Section 4, ActionAid's participatory tools used under its Reflection Action Approach are presented. This is followed, in Section 5, with Resilience Frameworks on four different disaster types: flood, cyclone, earthquake and drought.

In addition to these four disaster types, the guidance document also draws on ActionAid's experience working on disaster risk reduction in schools and incorporates a School Safety Framework which outlines activities that will help ensure children in high risk disaster areas can continue to access education and schools safely. Before introducing the different frameworks, Section 5 will explain how they have been developed as part of an extensive validation process. It also provides positive stories of how communities have benefitted from ActionAid's interventions and made them more resilient.

References

1. ActionAid (2013), Discussion Paper on Resilience. ActionAid: Johannesburg.
2. Béné, C., Newsham, A., and Davies, M. (2013), Making the most of resilience. IDS in focus policy briefing, issue 32. Brighton, UK: Institute of Development Studies.



Women making soap in The Gambia

PHOTO: SYLVAIN CHERKAOUI / COSMOS / ACTIONAID

2 A Rights-Based Approach to Understanding Vulnerability and Resilience

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- Understanding Vulnerability 2.2
- Promoting Rights Awareness on Resilience 2.3
- Rights Awareness Programming Frameworks 2.4

Community gathering in Zimbabwe
PHOTO: JESSICA HARTOG / ACTIONAID

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2. A Rights-Based Approach to Understanding Vulnerability and Resilience

2.1. ActionAid's Approach to Building Resilience

ActionAid uses a distinctive Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) to development that centres around active agency, that is, supporting people living in poverty to become conscious of their rights, organise and claim their rights and hold duty bearers to account. ActionAid believes that the indignity of poverty is a violation of human rights, arising from unequal and unjust power relations from the household to the global level. It keeps equal and just power at the core of resilience work.

ActionAid's work is centred on people's vulnerability to shocks and stresses as well as addressing the underlying causes that make them vulnerable. In doing so, ActionAid incorporates perspectives of people living in poverty on the causes of their vulnerability and the solutions. ActionAid is currently engaging with poor and vulnerable communities in over fifteen countries with resilience-related activities.

ActionAid defines Vulnerability (to disaster) as:

The characteristics and circumstances of a community, system or asset that make it susceptible to the damaging effects of a hazard.

ActionAid firmly believes that a Human Rights-Based Approach

(HRBA) towards enhancing resilience provides sustainable long term solutions for people and communities who are the most vulnerable to disaster and whose lives and livelihoods are under the constant threat of destruction.

A Human Rights-Based Approach to emergencies and enhancing resilience puts people's vulnerabilities at the centre and tackles the key underlying causes that make individuals and communities vulnerable and reinforce inequalities.

2.2. Understanding Vulnerability

Poverty is not just about a lack of income or a lack of material resources. It is about a lack of power to access, acquire, use or control the resource, skills and knowledge that people need to live a life in dignity. People living in poverty, especially women, have limited resources and capacities to deal with and recover from the impacts of shocks and stresses, keeping them in a vicious cycle of poverty and making them more vulnerable.

ActionAid's work is centred on people's vulnerability to shocks and stresses as well as addressing the underlying causes that make them vulnerable. Shock is a broad term which encapsulates the full range of stressors faced by communities including physical, social, economic, cultural and political. Disasters, climate change impacts and conflict are also included in this concept. Examples of shocks and stresses include earthquake, cyclone, drought, flood, epidemic, sea-level rise, deforestation, loss of biodiversity, food crisis, economic crisis, political unrest, violent conflict. ActionAid works with those who are poor and excluded, thus the most vulnerable to shocks and stresses.

ActionAid's analysis shows that vulnerability is primarily caused by three factors (Diagram 1):

1. Social exclusion;
2. Lack of skills, access to basic services and economic opportunities;
3. Lack of assets and secured access to natural resources.

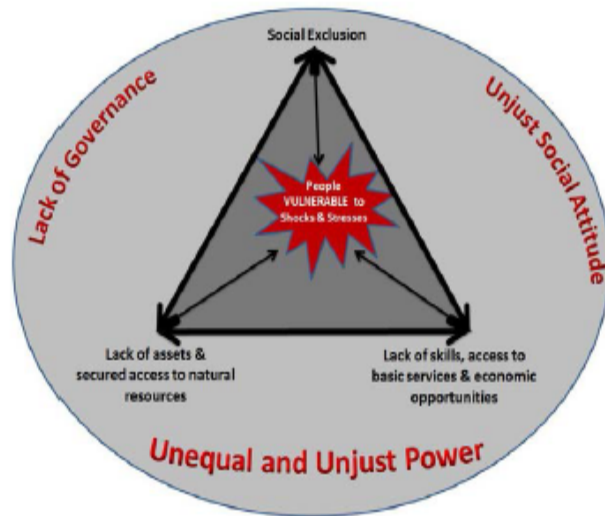


Diagram 1: The Underlying causes of Vulnerability

The underlying causes of vulnerability arise primarily from unequal and unjust power, which leads to lack of governance. This happens mainly through government bodies and/or institutions leading to systematic failures of development planning, design and execution. It also leads to unjust social attitudes from people or groups that seek to exclude the most vulnerable. These three mutually reinforce each other. Individually or together, they deepen the institutional perpetuation of inequality and injustice. ActionAid’s work integrates perspectives of people living in poverty in tackling these three dynamics that make poor and excluded people more vulnerable to shocks and stresses.

2.3. Promoting Rights Awareness on Resilience

Increasing rights awareness among women, their families and the larger community is a key requirement as part of any resilience building initiative. This will sensitise people on their rights and entitlements in regards to disaster resilience. This relates to land rights, right to food, housing and education, right to safe drinking water, right to sanitation, right to emergency relief, women’s rights, rights of people living with disability, right to information, right to safety and security etc. Once people are aware of their rights, they are more likely to mobilise themselves and demand action from their governments to build resilient communities.

On the next two pages we explain the different rights awareness activities that should be considered as part of any resilience building programmes.



Community search and rescue team in Vietnam.
PHOTO: HARRY FREELAND / ACTIONAID

2.4 Programming Frameworks: Rights Awareness

RIGHTS AWARENESS			
Goal	Communities are aware of their rights, entitlements and duties to ensure a disaster safe living and working environment		
Context	Rights awareness is a first step in building the resilient communities and is applicable to all four hazards discussed in this document. Through a process of people led 'reflection and action' as well as 'Participatory Vulnerability Analysis', ActionAid sensitises communities on their rights and entitlements in regards to disaster resilience. This relates to land rights, right to food, housing and education, right to safe drinking water, right to sanitation, right to emergency relief, women's rights, rights of people living with disability, right to information, right to safety and security etc. We help them understand that a lot of measures can be taken by them and their governments to reduce the impact of disasters on their lives, assets and livelihoods. ActionAid supports them to demand accountability from government authorities in terms of their safety.		
	Household	Community	Government
General Vulnerable Population	Raise public awareness on people's rights and entitlements in regards to protection from disasters in their community (inclusive of information, material, infrastructure and services). Also include land rights, right to food, housing rights, right to education, right to emergency aid, and right to safe drinking water in awareness raising activity	Facilitate a collective realisation of community's rights and mobilise communities around an understanding of their rights and entitlements. This can be done by building awareness through community level institutions i.e. schools, religious institutions, any informal groups at village level (agriculture, fishers etc.)	Partner with governments to organise a dialogue at national, regional and local level on the rights and entitlements of people and communities; and responsibilities of duty-bearers based on the existing policy instruments.
	Raise people's awareness on the existing laws, policies, schemes, budget and practices in disaster preparedness and emergency response. Ensure all segments of society are included (women, children, elderly, people living with disabilities etc).	Facilitate community-led analysis of how disasters can affect different groups of people in the community, and how this links with their right to food, housing, health care, education and safe drinking water. Support community to articulate their right demands	Facilitate dialogues on the legal and institutional frameworks in place, the opportunities and gaps, articulate required modifications, and advocate for implementation of dialogue agreements.
	Raise awareness on: - The different types of hazards the community is exposed to, its causes and impacts on different sectors such as infrastructure and livelihoods - Individual's and HHs agency (responsibilities and roles) in reducing the impact of disasters - Structural and non-structural safety and mitigation measures		Strengthen the capacity of relevant local government authorities to provide space for communities to exercise their rights
	Empower communities to liaise with government in demanding for their rights and entitlements		Facilitate a dialogue on: - The existing legal and institutional frameworks for disaster safety, the opportunities and gaps - Recognise the strengths and weaknesses and identify steps needed for resilience - Advocate for the implementation of dialogue agreements

RIGHTS AWARENESS			
Goal	Communities are aware of their rights, entitlements and duties to ensure a disaster safe living and working environment		
Context	Rights awareness is a first step in building the resilient communities and is applicable to all four hazards discussed in this document. Through a process of people led 'reflection and action' as well as 'Participatory Vulnerability Analysis', ActionAid sensitises communities on their rights and entitlements in regards to disaster resilience. This relates to land rights, right to food, housing and education, right to safe drinking water, right to sanitation, right to emergency relief, women's rights, rights of people living with disability, right to information, right to safety and security etc. We help them understand that a lot of measures can be taken by them and their governments to reduce the impact of disasters on their lives, assets and livelihoods. ActionAid supports them to demand accountability from government authorities in terms of their safety.		
	Household	Community	Government
	- Raise awareness on the increased vulnerability of women, children and very vulnerable groups such as the elderly, people living with disabilities, ethnic and religious minorities during disasters, their contributions in risk reduction efforts, and their right to information, to participate, resources, safe living places and support. - Raise awareness on importance of inclusion and meaningful participation of women and very vulnerable groups in disaster preparedness/ response		
	Raise awareness on the rights of women and very vulnerable groups to access justice to enjoy equal access to support and assistance in disaster preparedness and response		Train duty bearers and in particular law enforcement and the judiciary on the rights and entitlements of women and very vulnerable groups in disaster resilience, preparedness and response
Women & Children	In a targeted activity, enhance women's understanding of hazards, their vulnerability to disasters, and the impact of climate change. Raise awareness on their roles and responsibilities for disaster resilience, preparedness and response		Raise awareness on importance of targeted approaches to include women in decision-making
	Empower women to recognise and champion their leadership role in resilience	Raise awareness among children of disasters and how to be safe during and after specific disaster events. This can be done through schools and children programmes on tv/radio or in magazines	Raise awareness on importance of targeted approaches to reach out to children in all ages above 3 years to educate them on being safe
Very Vulnerable Groups	In a targeted activity, enhance understanding of very vulnerable groups (i.e. elderly, people living with disabilities, ethnic and religious minorities) of their rights, entitlements and their role in being safe from disasters		Raise awareness on importance of targeted approaches to include very vulnerable groups in decision-making in disaster preparedness and resilience activities
	Empower very vulnerable groups to recognise and champion their leadership role in disaster mitigation and response	Raise awareness and empower vulnerable groups to engage in decision making processes.	

3 ActionAid's Resilience Framework



Communities participate in education projects in Bangladesh
PHOTO: ACTIONAID



3. ActionAid's Resilience Framework

Building on ActionAid's resilience programming work using the HRBA to resilience, ActionAid has widened its understanding of what makes communities more resilient and outlined the key concepts of this understanding in its Resilience Framework.

This chapter presents ActionAid's Resilience Framework, which is based on an unpublished technical paper on resilience that ActionAid developed with the Overseas Development Institute.¹

ActionAid's resilience framework includes the different elements of resilience that are crucial areas of work to address the risks and vulnerabilities of disaster-prone communities. The flower diagram below depicts ActionAid's goal of equal and just power by putting it at the centre of its activities. A community will only be able to be fully resilient, or to blossom to put it in flower terms, when the power imbalances that keep people vulnerable are redressed. This can be achieved by working on four core interventions, which are grounded in a holistic vulnerability and risk assessment and analysis. These are:

❖ Realising human rights and access to basic services

Resilience building cannot take place in the absence of achieving human rights for all, as vulnerability cannot be reduced without ensuring that its underlying drivers have been understood and eradicated. Initiatives to build resilience therefore must actively advance towards the fulfilment of human rights for the most marginalised people.

❖ Gaining awareness, knowledge and skills

Enhancing knowledge, reflection and learning and developing skills is a progressive step towards transformational resilience,

which entails individuals and communities becoming aware of the power within them to challenge inherited ways of thinking, assumptions and biases, as well as recognising and negotiating power structures. ActionAid works with women, children and their communities to raise their awareness about disaster risks and the power they themselves have to reduce these risks, but also to help them recognise the responsibilities of their governments in this respect. It is about linking them with the relevant authorities and institutions to provide them with information about, for example, evacuation routes or the nearest evacuation centres. ActionAid also builds their skills in other ways, for instance, through natural resource management.

❖ Collective action and partnership

Resilience is most effectively built through initiatives that establish and strengthen community institutions, and build collective action and partnerships across and between the local, district, national, regional and/or international levels. This is about organising and mobilising a group of people to work together (power with) to achieve long-term, deep-rooted social and political change. Examples include ActionAid's work with women's groups or cooperatives to establish, for example, women-led early warning systems, to run a community compensation system for households affected by disasters, or self-help groups that help women strengthen their livelihoods.

❖ Strengthening Institutions and Influencing policy

In order to address the underlying causes of people's vulnerability to shocks and stresses, the policies and practices of both state and non-state institutions will have to be changed for the better in many countries. For example, policies that allocate an adequate budget for disaster risk reduction to local authorities can be very effective, and hence need to be

promoted. However, this needs to be coupled with strong local authorities that will take the right decisions on how to spend these budgets wisely, and ensure the most marginalised groups and individuals in the community will benefit. Therefore, resilience programmes must also focus on supporting local authorities that can enhance communities' ability to prepare for change.

This requires women and community groups, or civil society networks, to exercise power to create deep-rooted, long-lasting change through voicing demands for concrete action, strengthening governance structures, and increasing the accountability of institutions to address people's vulnerabilities to disaster. ActionAid provides extensive support to women's groups to, for example, influence the policy and budget of local authorities for gender-inclusive DRR strategies, or very specifically for the rehabilitation of river embankments.

Next to the four areas of intervention described above, there are five principles that need to be considered and ensured as part of any resilience building programme. They are to: enhance diversity and flexibility; work across different levels; interlinked systems and integrated programming; take into account long term and future orientation; and build ecological sustainability

By focusing on the areas noted above, ActionAid's resilience framework will help to design programmes that build the capacities of communities. It is solidly anchored in the HRBA approach by identifying 'equal and just power' as the overarching aim of ActionAid's resilience work, and the three pillars of empowerment, solidarity and campaigning are central to the framework.

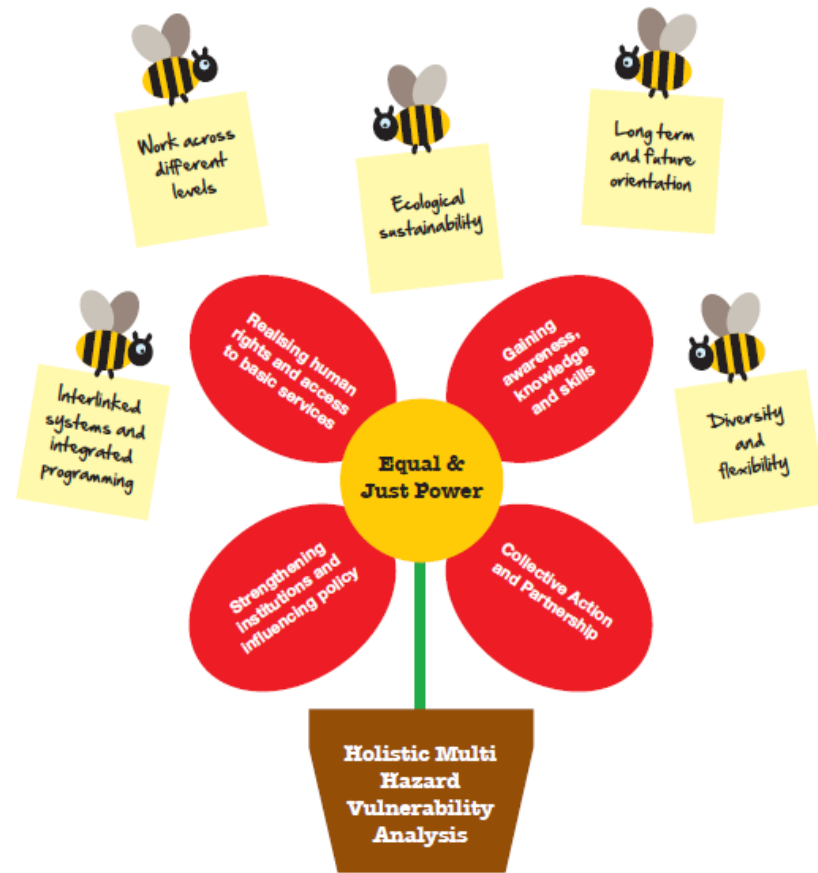


Diagram 2: Human rights based approach to resilience

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1. ActionAid (2016), Through a different lens: ActionAid's resilience framework. ActionAid: Johannesburg.

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4 Tools

Reflection-Action Approach 4.1
Participatory Vulnerability Analysis 4.2



Map of a village in India
PHOTO: SILVA FERRETTI / ACTIONAID



4. Tools

One of the five Programmatic Strategic Objectives of ActionAid is to ‘Build the resilience of people living in poverty to conflicts and disasters and respond to disasters with people-centred, rights-based alternatives’.¹

Using a Rights Based Approach, ActionAid works with communities to enable them to identify their multiple vulnerabilities related to social, political, environmental, policy and economic factors. Action plans are developed to address people’s vulnerabilities at the local level, linking them with national and international policies. ActionAid enables communities to be aware of their rights and supports communities to lobby with rights holders.

Empowering women is central to ActionAid’s programmes, enabling and strengthening them to be leaders in this process, resulting in increased protection, promotion of rights, access to justice and reduction of risks and vulnerabilities.

ActionAid uses a wide selection of participatory tools to engage with communities. The primary ones are the Reflection-Action approach and Participatory Vulnerability Analysis (PVA).

4.1 Reflection-Action Approach

The Reflection-Action approach promotes an on-going democratic space for people to meet and discuss issues relevant to them. The participants are free to choose the topics themselves, according to their own priorities and supported by a local facilitator.

Underpinning the approach is a huge (and ever expanding) range of participatory methods. Prominent among these are graphics

such as calendars, maps, matrices, rivers and trees, which enable participants to communicate their knowledge, experience and feelings without being restricted by literacy and language barriers. Drama, storytelling and songs are also used to identify and analyse social, economic, cultural and political issues. In this process the development of literacy and other communication skills are closely linked to the engagement of people in wider processes of development and social change.²

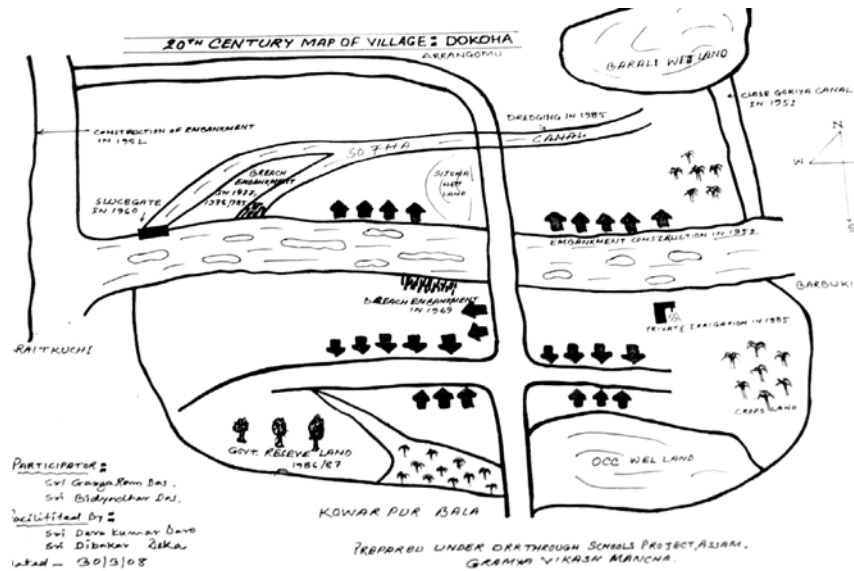
The different tools in the Reflection-Action approach can be categorised as follows:

- **Visual tools** can be a very effective means of assessing the context and the dynamics at play in specific communities. They are normally constructed by the communities themselves, making the process more participatory and more flexible to accommodate agreed changes. One of the main strengths of visual tools is that they allow for immediate validation of information with other people. Moreover, they allow for the empowerment and participation of illiterate people, who would otherwise not be able to benefit from these processes. Examples of visual tools include maps, Venn/chapatti diagrams, rivers etc.
- **Creative tools** can also be used in programme activities to help reach a specific objective. These include songs, dance and drama – these tools can help people explore the issues they face, communicate their messages to a wider audience and also provide material and scope for analysis.
- **Participatory ICT tools**, such as videos, the use of community radio stations and mobile phones can be a great way to raise awareness about certain issues and keep people informed.

- **Accountability tools** can be used to engage people in policy making and budgets and to hold governments accountable. These include social audits, people's report cards and participatory budgeting.³

This approach facilitates a clear and dynamic community understanding of the reasons for people's vulnerability, the opportunities they have, and the steps they can take.

The Reflection-Action approach is guided by the eight HRBA principles that underpin all of ActionAid's work. It analyses 7 key HRBA areas such as vulnerability, power and women's rights, to give a comprehensive picture of the context on the ground and the structural causes of vulnerability.



Map of a village in India
 PHOTO: ACTIONAID

The 7 areas of HRBA analysis are:

1. Rights analysis - identifying people living in poverty and excluded groups and their condition and positions; the key areas of rights violations; the perpetrators and duty bearers; and the state of people's rights awareness and organisation.
2. Power analysis - identifying the economic, social and political resources people have (disaggregated for men and women); and exploring different forms of power (visible, hidden and invisible; public, private and intimate) and how these are manifested.
3. Actor and institution analysis - identifying the actors and institutions that are friends/enemies/neutral/not to be trusted, and analysing the reasons for their action or quietness.
4. Women's rights analysis - identifying the division of labour; productive and reproductive roles; unpaid care; economic status; decision-making power; patterns of violence; and harmful practices that violate rights.
5. Vulnerability analysis - identifying the disasters people are most vulnerable to (for example, floods, conflict, drought, earthquakes, landslides and loss of productive ecosystems and/or natural resources); the groups that are most affected in such situations; their problems; and institutions that can help them.
6. Communications analysis - identifying the most powerful media and the skills people living in poverty have to access them; and developing plans to support people to enhance the skills they need to contribute to changing power relations.
7. Risk and feasibility analysis - identifying the risk to people, including frontline rights activists; exploring political risks (harassment and arrests); operational risks (funding, closure of the organisation or inability to deliver, for example); socioeconomic risks (social marginalisation in the family or community or risk to future employment opportunities, for example); and risk to human lives.

NB risk analysis is risk to the project or its people from the project itself; this is not the same process as evaluating climate or disaster risks.

4.2 Participatory Vulnerability Analysis

Participatory Vulnerability Analysis (PVA) is a participatory approach developed by ActionAid, which looks at root causes of vulnerabilities and, through multilevel, multi-stakeholder engagements, generates plans to address them. At the centre of the process is the community's understanding of the root causes of their vulnerabilities and the subsequent actions they choose to take to reduce their risk of exposure to disaster. PVA is often used to complement the reflection-action approach when working with disaster prone communities.

The PVA process⁴ facilitates:

- In depth analysis of vulnerabilities and root causes of disaster – as well as an appreciation of past action and opportunities for future intervention – enabling communities to develop action plans and demands;
- Engagement of a variety of key stakeholders in the process (keeping vulnerable communities at the centre), thus facilitating effective, transparent and accountable decision-making on disaster prevention and response;
- Tackling vulnerabilities at different levels, from local to national and global, always rooting asks and interventions in the needs, demands and knowledge of the most vulnerable people

In summary, the Reflection Action approach is used to help communities understand their own rights using different participatory tools whereas PVA serves as more of an advocacy tool which enables people to lobby for their rights at different levels.

The next section of the document describes the process of

developing this guidance document. It also looks at resilience frameworks for flood, cyclone, earthquake and drought, as well as safe schools, in some detail and how they can be used to improve community resilience.



Looking at a Participatory Vulnerability Assessment in India
PHOTO: SILVA FERRETTI / ACTIONAID

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5 Operationalising Resilience

About the Project 5.1

Introducing the Resilience Framework for Hazards 5.2

Purpose 5.3

Reading the Frameworks 5.4

People teaming up for reflection-action and local advocacy in Bangladesh
PHOTO: ACTIONAID



5. Operationalising Resilience

5.1. About the Project

ActionAid is working on different conceptual and programming-related activities linked to disaster risk reduction, disaster preparedness, climate change and resilience in more than fifteen countries. This document draws from several years of learning across these countries. It was developed as part of the Hazard Programming Framework project funded by DFID through their PPA (Programme Partnership Arrangement) funding stream to improve organisational effectiveness. This project was implemented between April 2014 and March 2016. It was designed to unpack the Resilience Framework, which was briefly explained in Section 3, and provide support to staff, and national and LRP offices to build the resilience of communities holistically across different strategic objectives.

5.2. Introducing the Resilience Frameworks for Hazards

This chapter introduces the importance and ways of building community resilience to four different hazards that were prioritised as part of this project: cyclone, flood, earthquake and drought. Furthermore, it provides guidance on how to ensure children living in disaster prone areas can access education and schools safely, at all times.

The frameworks include menu of actions in table form that provide a comprehensive overview of activities that can be implemented in the fields of rights awareness, livelihoods, food security, agriculture, health, education, water & sanitation, infrastructure,

housing and shelter, and emergency preparedness to build the resilience of communities and school pupils to natural disasters.

The frameworks have been prepared through a consultative, iterative process by ActionAid International in close coordination with six country teams to ensure the proposed activities are relevant to different contexts across Africa and Asia: Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Kenya, Pakistan, Vietnam and Zimbabwe. For this purpose the six countries have validated the menus of action with their country and LRP staff, community members, NGO counterparts and government stakeholders. The validation process included focus group discussions, roundtable discussions and workshops where the structure, contents, utility, and ways to make the frameworks more relevant and acceptable to programme implementers were discussed. ActionAid offices in Afghanistan, Malawi and Myanmar also conducted a 'light-touch' validation by asking their staff and partners to reflect on the frameworks and they provided input and feedback.

5.3. Purpose

This guidance document was developed for practitioners working in contexts where communities are facing shocks and stresses related to natural, economic, social and/or political events. The guidance document is expected to help programme managers, project managers and social mobilisers working with NGOs and governments authorities to develop programming and identify activities that will build the resilience of communities.

A word of caution needs to be added here though that the listed activities in the tables need to be validated by any country who would like to make use of the guidance documents in order to ensure that they are specific to that country's context. Furthermore, it must be acknowledged that the suggested activities are very comprehensive and would require collaboration with different stakeholders.

5.4. Reading the frameworks

The following sections present the four hazard frameworks (flood, cyclone, earthquake and drought), and the safe school framework. Each section contains an introduction to the hazard, an overview of the trends, the impact of the hazard, a description of what vulnerability to the particular hazard looks like and examples of ActionAid's resilience work in addressing the underlying drivers of risk.

The frameworks provide an indicative list of activities in a table form. These activities can be undertaken by programme teams after adapting them to local conditions. The programme areas covered are (i) Rights awareness, (ii) Food Security, (iii) Farm Based Livelihoods, (iv) Off-Farm Livelihoods, (v) Health, Water and Sanitation, (vi) Housing and Infrastructure. In the safe school framework there is also a section on Education. These programme areas have been identified as they are believed to contribute in some way or another to the resilience of people and communities. The rights awareness framework is applicable in any of the hazard contexts.

The activities outlined are targeted at three levels (columns): household, community and government. The actions identified at household level are activities that can be considered at family and individual level. Activities proposed at the community level are aimed at a group of individuals and households living close to each other in a neighbourhood, village or town, depending on the local context. Lastly, the government column includes activities that can be undertaken to raise awareness and train local/national government bodies and influence them through specific lobby and advocacy initiatives.

Furthermore, the activities proposed in the tables are categorised for three population groups (rows): general vulnerable group,

women and children, and very vulnerable groups. The 'general vulnerable population' refers to the poor and marginalised individuals and groups who constitute the focus of ActionAid's activities. 'Women and children' have been identified as a separate group as ActionAid programmes especially aim to improve the lives of poor women and children. 'Very vulnerable groups' include people living with disabilities, the elderly, ethnic and religious minorities, migrants and refugees. These groups tend to be overlooked quite frequently in programming which is the reason why a separate row has been included in the tables.

A separate section for safe schools follows the hazard programming framework. It has a more comprehensive description of the learning from ActionAid's work from its DRR in Schools project concluded in 2010.



Women collect water on a donkey at a water point in Kenya
PHOTO: KATE HOLT / ACTIONAID



6 Flood

Impacts 6.1

ActionAid's Approach 6.2

Case Studies 6.3

Programming Frameworks 6.4

Many parts of Myanmar are frequently affected by floods
PHOTO: ACTIONAID

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6. Flood

Flood is defined as a ‘relatively high stream flow that overtops the stream banks in any part of its course, covering land that is not normally under water.’¹ This could be in the form of river floods, coastal floods, flash floods, urban floods and sewer floods, and can be caused by intense and/or long-lasting precipitation, snowmelt, dam break, or reduced conveyance due to ice jams or landslides.

In recent years, floods have been occurring more often, affecting more people and damaging greater areas per event than they did earlier.² It has been widely studied and reported that climate change leads to an increasing frequency of extreme weather events around the globe. Unusually high and unpredictable rainfall, which many scientists agree is due to climate change, is a significant cause of floods. Major floods that used to happen only once in 100 years now take place every 10 or 20 years.³ The IPCC notes that precipitation intensity increases almost everywhere, directly affecting the risk of flash and urban flooding.⁴

6.1. Impacts

The short term and long term changes in weather affect people globally, especially those who are already vulnerable and food insecure. Agriculture-based livelihood systems face ‘risk of increased crop failure, new patterns of pests and diseases, lack of appropriate seeds and planting material, and loss of livestock’ as a result of flooding,⁵ as highlighted in the Pakistan case study below. People living in vulnerable areas like coastal belts, floodplains, mountains or drylands are especially exposed.

The most visible effect of flooding is damage to housing. Its

impact is severe in urban areas where a large number of people are often affected within a small geographic expanse. Flooding is a common event in informal, urban settlements in most development countries that are often located in low lying areas with poor drainage systems. These houses are built with less sturdy materials like mud, thatch or corrugated sheets, making them more vulnerable to floods.⁶

Flood resilience requires action and planning at all levels from the individual, to regional, both urban and rural. At the individual level, flood resilience is a combination of being prepared through the adoption of structural measures like raising plinth levels of houses, avoiding construction in flood plains and other such vulnerable locations, adopting climate resilient agriculture practices, and inculcating principles of being disaster-safe by being aware of individual vulnerabilities, for example. It’s also important to be aware of community facilities like safe shelters, needed in the event of floods. Most of these can be easily adopted by communities that are aware, enabled and empowered to undertake such actions.

Regional level flood resilience requires undertaking risk assessments to inform regional planning, planning critical infrastructure like drainage channels, investing in and maintaining natural water bodies, and protection of environmental buffers. It requires adoption and enforcement of realistic, risk-compliant building regulations and land use planning principles, identifying safe land for low income citizens and upgrading informal settlements wherever feasible.

Actions at all levels need a governance regimen which is able to identify effective actions and facilitate their implementation. However it is well known that poor and developing countries’ governance is often weak and the implementation of laws and standards are often lax; land use delineation is haphazard and there is tremendous pressure on available land.

6.2. ActionAid's approach and activities

ActionAid's approach towards flood resilience aims to address the root causes of vulnerability. These are identified in a participatory manner through extended interaction with vulnerable communities. The Reflection Action Approach helps communities to identify the hazards they face through seasonal mapping, understand the nature of their impact on the community and comprehend the community's different levels of vulnerabilities. In addition, PVA helps communities identify critical gaps in their local infrastructure. It empowers them to actively participate in the identification of solutions and mobilises them to demand their rights from authorities. ActionAid facilitates the empowerment of communities, especially women, to demand equitable rights.



Broken embankments in Bangladesh
PHOTO: MAHMUD / MAP / ACTIONAID

6.3. Case Studies

The following case study from Myanmar shows the significance of conducting participatory vulnerability assessments (PVA) to help a community identify its own needs in order to become more resilient to flooding

Community-led bridge repair in ThatYatWunPu village, Myanmar

ThatYatWunPu village is one of the villages in which ActionAid is implementing a resilience project in Myanmar. The village has over sixty households and is an important transit point for neighbouring villages. However ThatYatWunPu is vulnerable to disasters such as cyclones, floods, fires and wild elephant attacks.

In 2014, as a part of the project, a PVA was conducted in the village with the active participation of community members. They identified the need to plant wind breaker trees, renovate the village well and fence the primary school to reduce their disaster losses. However the need to repair the village bridge was identified as the key priority as it would help them sell their produce in the town market, get better rates and improve their economic conditions.

'We decided to rebuild the bridge on the main road leading to Pathein Township. It is old and damaged, and it is difficult for school children, the elderly and many people to use the bridge in the rainy season', said Nan HlaHtwe, aged 53. She was responsible for managing the community-contributed village development fund through which the bridge was constructed. Summing up the benefit of the bridge she said, 'The completion of the bridge has made access to Pathein town very easy. Children and the elderly have particularly benefited, and can go across the bridge even during the rains. It has also enabled people to sell their agricultural produce directly in the town and get better prices'.

Source: ActionAid (2015), Ready for Anything project. ActionAid: Myanmar.

Ensuring smallholder farmer resilience in Mbire, Zimbabwe

Mbire District lies in Mashonaland Central Province in the North of Zimbabwe. Prone to recurrent floods and perennial drought, it is isolated and underdeveloped compared to the rest of the country. In the 2014 and 2015 agricultural seasons, Mbire experienced severe floods which wiped away large areas of crop fields, leaving thousands of households affected, displaced and the majority lost their crops.

People depend on agriculture for their main livelihoods, with cotton cultivation as the popular crop grown by most farmers. However, cotton production in Mbire has drastically dropped as a result of recurrent floods and perennial droughts as well as the very meagre profits or even losses incurred by smallholder farmers from its production. Since 2000, there have been major changes in the agrarian economy in Zimbabwe. Extensive land redistribution and severe macro-economic instability have resulted in significant shifts in agricultural production and the functioning of markets, opening opportunities for some and closing options for others. One of the groups that face an opportunity, if given the right kind of support, are marginalised smallholder farmers who are exploring ways of diversifying their livelihoods through options like livestock rearing.

ActionAid, in partnership with Lower Guruve Development Association (LGDA), implemented a project on securing improved livelihoods and building resilience among smallholder farmers in Mbire rural district through support to commercially viable livestock production, marketing and value addition activities. Specific activities included strengthening the capacity of fifteen livestock commodity associations and training and capacity development of smallholder farmers in livestock production and management. Market linkages were strengthened by resuscitating five locally managed auction centres and making them accessible to smallholder farmers in Mbire rural district and helping reduce marketing and other transaction costs. The project linked the community with the Livestock Production Department and the Department of Veterinary Services under the Ministry of Agriculture. They provided trainings to farmers.

Colleen Chiunye, age 37, is one of the farmers in Mbire who adopted livestock farming as a livelihood option to sustain the lives of his family of five. Chiunye started off with four goats which he sold to buy one cow and today he is the proud owner of two cattle. Chiunye is determined to make it as a livestock farmer and is now preparing for his herd by storing supplement stock feeds and preparing hay bales in advance. “I am looking forward to owning five cows by the end of this year, I have prepared hay bales for my livestock feeds and after harvesting this season I would want to rear goats and sheep that I will sell as a way of sustaining my family. I can pay school fees for my children and buy food for my family from reselling goats.” said Chiunye.

Source: ActionAid (2015), Mbire Livestock Project. ActionAid: Zimbabwe.



Colleen Chiunye on his farm in Mbire, Zimbabwe
PHOTO: ACTIONAID

The Zimbabwe case study above demonstrates how strengthening market access linkages and livestock commodity associations or similar can help a vulnerable community become more resilient after being subjected to recurrent flood and drought. In Pakistan, the 2011 flood response was an opportunity to empower and unify women's demand for the right to equitable relief, as highlighted in the case study below.

Women unite for rights to relief after flooding, Pakistan

In Kot Adu South Punjab, Pakistan, women's groups were formed with the support of ActionAid as part of long-term development assistance. They were supported to launch an advocacy campaign to claim their right to equal relief compensation in the aftermath of the 2011 floods. Members of Tareemat Sanjh (community women's groups) organised rallies, press conferences and sit-ins with the support and participation of Haali Sanjh (community men's group), local civil society activists, and other flood-affected people. *"We were very active in Tareemat Sanjh groups even before the floods came. We used to meet regularly and discuss our problems. After the floods we saw an opportunity to reorganise and lobby the local government to ensure equal and timely compensation for flood affected women"* says 32 year old Naseem Bibi from Basti Langah village, an active member of Tareemat Sanjh.

With the legal support provided by ActionAid's local partner Hirrak Development Centre, women activists from Tareemat Sanjh were able to file a writ petition in the High Court, which was followed by a series of public demonstrations and press conferences. Because of social and legal action, the court ruled in favour of the community and hundreds of households, including women-headed families. *"This is a big achievement for us. How long can we depend on relief items being distributed by NGOs? We want to be included in the government's beneficiary list so that we are eligible for all future compensation schemes and benefits. We want a long-term solution to the problem. This is our right"* says Naseem.

Source: ActionAid Pakistan (2011), Rebuilding lives Post 2010 floods.



Floods in Pakistan
PHOTO: ACTIONAID

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6.4 Programming Frameworks: Flood & Cyclone

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS			
Goal	By designing and implementing emergency preparedness activities including disaster risk reduction that will help mitigate the impact of cyclones and floods, we will be able to strengthen the resilience of communities to cyclone.		
Context	Emergency Preparedness for floods/ cyclones will help to mitigate risks to lives and property of communities.		
	Household	Community	Government
General Vulnerable Population	Create awareness and facilitate HH level preparedness for flood/ cyclone in relation to stockpiling food, dry rations, seeds and other planting tools, medicines, safe keeping of important documents.	Facilitate the development of HH level preparedness plans	Advocate with government for emergency stock piling of food, fodder for livestock, medicines and dry rations.
	Provide first aid kits to flood/ cyclone vulnerable HHs and raise awareness on preparing a household grab-bag with essential items to survive for two weeks after a cyclone emergency including necessary medication and copies of important documents	Conduct mock drills prior to flood/ cyclone season	Advocate for promotion of flood/ cyclone contingency and emergency response plan at all level (including community, school and institutions) and regular updating of plan
	Provide training on flood/ cyclone risk assessment and preparation of participatory risk reduction plans		Conduct a review exercise of the government's flood/ cyclone management system including legislative framework, governance structures, coordination mechanisms, planning processes and financial instruments
	Facilitate mapping of information needs and communication preferences in regard to flood/ cyclone early warning and response.		Advocate for increase spending for assessment and rehabilitation of road communication, water and sanitation system wherever needed
	Develop and distribute information, education and communication (IEC) materials on preparedness and ensure their accessibility to women and marginalised groups		Conduct evidence based advocacy on alternatives around flood/ cyclone risk management. Advocate for taking the issues in parliamentarian and inter-ministerial committee for disaster risk reduction
		Provide skills training on advocacy and campaigning with local government for implementation of community preparedness plans, adequate funding and to institutionalise cyclone management action plan	Facilitate a dialogue on community based flood/cyclone risk management with relevant government departments and open up spaces for community networks to demand for budget allocation for community level disaster management committees and cyclone risk management

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS			
Goal	By designing and implementing emergency preparedness activities including disaster risk reduction that will help mitigate the impact of cyclones and floods, we will be able to strengthen the resilience of communities to cyclone.		
Context	Emergency Preparedness for floods/ cyclones will help to mitigate risks to lives and property of communities.		
	Household	Community	Government
General Vulnerable Population	Train on wind and water surge lifesaving skills during flood/ cyclone such as swimming, and equip women with cyclone/flood friendly dresses	Strengthen/ reconstitute emergency teams on search and rescue, health, water and sanitation, shelter management. Ensure adequate representation women, members of marginalised groups in the teams	Advocate for cyclone risk management policies and practices that are inclusive of women and the most vulnerable in society.
	Organise events to raise awareness on flood/ cyclone risk management through theatre, surveys, quizzes, competitions and debate in schools		Provide training of trainers on cyclone risk reduction to the relevant local government department staff
	Train HH members to understand and respond to early warning messages	Establish/ strengthen community level emergency communication mechanism (technology based and traditional)	Advocate with government to monitor disaster situations and issue early warning messages in relation to - agriculture, livestock, fisheries - evacuation of community
	Raise awareness on evacuation routes and locations	Establish and strengthen local flood/ cyclone monitoring systems and link them with each other and the national weather monitoring systems	Advocate with government to monitor public health situation, water supply and sanitation conditions jointly with community
	Enable vulnerable HHs to flood/ cyclone proof their shelters (raining plinths, tying down roofs, reinforcing walls, etc)	Raise awareness and promote coastal forestation, mangrove plantation to protect against high wind speeds. Promote the planting of deep rooted trees around homesteads and along community boundaries to act as wind breakers	Advocate for the investment in and testing of early warning systems, evacuation plans, routes and centres
	Make weather information, flood cyclone bulletin available to people through radio, mobile phone, TV and social media. Encourage HHs to keep informed about the local weather through one of these information channels	Establish and/or support community radio station to develop and broadcast news and discussions on risk, importance of flood/ cyclone preparedness and early warning. Ensure communication reaches marginalised households, HH with elderly and disabled members, pregnant and lactating women	Advocate for increased media coverage of flood/ cyclone risks that are accessible to the communities
	Raise awareness on unpaid care work (e.g. household water collection and food preparation) burden on women and girls exposing them to increased risks during floods/ cyclones		Advocate for protection policies and guidelines for women and marginalised groups in relation to cyclone

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS			
Goal	By designing and implementing emergency preparedness activities including disaster risk reduction that will help mitigate the impact of cyclones and floods, we will be able to strengthen the resilience of communities to cyclone.		
Context	Emergency Preparedness for floods/ cyclones will help to mitigate risks to lives and property of communities.		
	Household	Community	Government
Women & Children	Enable women to overcome socio- cultural barriers and respond to early warning messages	Initiate a dialogue on: Gender, cultural barriers and norms that increase the vulnerability of women to cyclone and discuss ways to overcome these barriers	
	Raise awareness on importance of women leadership and their capabilities in designing and implementing cyclone risk management activities		
	Promote gender equality by involving women and girls in all activities or arrange for parallel sessions if the local context requires. Take the domestic tasks of women/girls into account whilst planning	Strengthen existing women’s networks/associations to play an active role in flood/ cyclone preparedness and response, and to review flood/ cyclone risk reduction and response plans to ensure the plan is sensitive to the needs of women	Share with government stakeholders the knowledge and evidence of women’s capabilities and contributions to cyclone risk management, and advocate for inclusion of women leaders in disaster management committees
	Identify women leaders and train them on taking up a leadership role in flood/ cyclone risk reduction. Also mobilise them as role model	Build the capacity of women networks to demand for their rights, equal access to compensation after a flood/ cyclone disaster and access to justice	
	Capacitate women to address injustices at the household level that increase their vulnerability to flood/ cyclones, and also to have their cyclone risk reduction capacities recognised	Conduct flood/ cyclone awareness and preparedness sessions specifically for children, including mock drills in schools	
Very vulnerable groups	Identify the capabilities and contributions of marginalised groups in flood/ cyclone risk reduction and reinforce these through training of women	Establish or strengthen community support systems (buddy) to ensure the elderly and people living with disabilities will receive support in cyclone preparedness and evacuation	Advocate and support government authorities and staff in developing policies and practices, coordination mechanisms and financial instruments that ensure the inclusion and participation of the marginalised groups in cyclone risk management
	Improve the access of marginalised groups to information, especially on cyclone preparedness and early warning	Develop IEC materials that increase the understanding of the do’s and don’ts in supporting marginalised groups such as people living with disabilities in cyclone preparedness and response	
	Identify potential leaders among marginalised groups and train them to take up a leadership role in cyclone risk management		

FOOD SECURITY			
Goal	In disaster contexts, every individual should be food and nutrition secure.		
Context	A resilient community should be food and nutrition secure (sufficient, nutritious, safe food to lead healthy and active life) by undertaking emergency preparedness measures, adopting resilient livelihoods, having safety nets in place. People and governments need to take preparedness measures with immediate food relief provided during emergencies.		
	Household	Community	Government
General Vulnerable Population	Facilitate to develop HH level contingency plan particularly to preserve seed and food.	Work with government and other organisations to develop and monitor food security indicators.	
		Facilitate participatory review and analysis of policies, practices and budget related to community's food security in flood and cyclone prone areas.	Advocate with governments for emergency preparedness, pre-positioning supplies in line with globally followed and adopted guidelines and practices.
	Introduce food/cash/assets-for-work whereby flood/ cyclone risk mitigation infrastructure is constructed (e.g. embankment construction and reinforcement, drainage canals re-excavation, road repairing and reforestation)	Jointly with the community, identify gaps in food security for advocacy with government.	Organise for a national and/or sub-national level workshop to present identified gaps of government budget, policies and practices related to communities' food security in flood/ cyclone prone areas
	Instead of cash, distribute food items that are locally accepted in case of flood/cyclone emergencies as food can be scarce during those times	Support communities and government to prepare contingency plans that list response options for food security during cyclone emergencies and how the most vulnerable people are assisted	
		Provide support in the assessment and forecasting of the impact of climate change on food production, and forecasting and modelling of cyclones.	
		Advocate for improved collaboration between community and government and between different government levels and departments on this, and investments in modern equipment for weather condition monitoring	
			Advocate with government to put in place safety net programs
		Jointly with the government and community undertake nutrition monitoring of flood/ cyclone affected community	
	Raise awareness on the increased vulnerability of women and marginalised groups such as the elderly, people living with disabilities, ethnic and religious minorities during floods/ cyclones and strategies to safeguard their food security at all times		

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	Household	Community	Government
Women & Children	Ensure and advocate for food security programmes that are inclusive and accessible by marginalised populations, and take into account the different nutritional requirements of children, pregnant and lactating women, the elderly, and individuals with a medical condition.		
	In case of cash transfers or food handouts, make it a condition for women to receive this and have decision-making power as they normally are the care takers and can decide who in the HH requires most.	Strengthen community safety net systems to encourage support such as food handouts to the most vulnerable in times of cyclone emergencies	
	Build awareness of women to monitor HH level food security and enable to access food rations in disaster conditions	Include women in emergency food security planning, development of food security contingency plans. Empower and train women to exercise their rights and participate in food security mapping.	
Very vulnerable groups	Introduce unconditional cash transfers for labour constrained and vulnerable individuals i.e. people with disabilities, elderly and their dependents, or alternatively provide them with food handouts if the local context requires	Provide basic training for emergency responders on the health and nutritional needs of vulnerable groups like the elderly and children	Advocate for national social protection strategies that provide a secure income or handouts to the most vulnerable people

FARM BASED LIVELIHOODS			
Goal	Many people around the world and more so in rural areas, are dependent on farm based activities for their livelihoods. For people's resilience it is important that floods and cyclones have minimal impact on their produce.		
Context	Floods and cyclones can devastate standing crops, livestock, household property, production assets and physical infrastructure due to salinity water intrusion, damage agricultural equipment and sever market linkages. This can result in shortage of food and seeds supply at household and community level and in severe situations at national levels too. It often leads to livelihood loss and push poor to the brink of vulnerability		
	Household	Community	Government
General vulnerable population	Support communities to integrate risk assessment into their farm based activities (agricultural, livestock keeping, fisheries) and land use planning		Advocate for disaster and climate sensitive and sustainable agricultural and livestock policies and subsidies that support food production and promote flood/ cyclone and saline tolerant seeds and crops
	Identify local breeds that are tolerant and promote diversification of breeds/ introduce breeds tolerant to flood, cyclone and salinity		Advocate for improved market access for smallholder farmers, livestock keepers by investing in market infrastructure and access routes
	Identify local seed varieties that are able to withstand flood and cyclone and are saline tolerant. Provide training on seed multiplication, safe seed storage, community seed banks, and multi and mixed cropping		Advocate for improving farmers access to fair terms of credit and insurance, such as subsidized interest rate for investing in agriculture and water conservation, expanding access to affordable micro-insurance against hazards that may destroy crop and income source
	Set up a demonstration farm, and if applicable introduce flood, cyclone and saline tolerant seed varieties in case no suitable locally available seeds can be identified		Advocate with government to provide early warning on pests and diseases affecting agriculture and actions to be taken
	Support individual and cooperative producers to established effective market linkages with small and medium traders		Promote regional seminars and exchange of lessons learned on resilient agriculture, livestock, fisheries related policies, strategies and programmes
	Promote value addition of on farm produce by establishing/ strengthening Value Chains		Advocate for weather index based insurance/risk transfer schemes suitable for marginalised and landless farmers and livestock holders
	Promote collective management of public land		Advocate for democratic governance in embankment, sluice and wetland management and dam decision making and management

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	Household	Community	Government
	Promote and support the set-up of HH based agricultural activities such as kitchen gardening and livestock rearing	Promote networks of smallholder farmers and livestock keepers to advocate and share experiences and best practices, and influence policy and strategies on flood, cyclone and salinity tolerant agriculture and livestock rearing.	Advocate for speedy compensation for crop or livestock loss and waving off of loans in order to ensure speedy recovery of smallholders, allow new cultivation and avoid farmer's suicide in some country contexts. Ensure women and marginalised groups also receiving compensation
	Develop local training materials and provide training on Climate Resilient Sustainable Agriculture (CRSA) farming practices and tailor them to flood/ cyclone and salinity affected farmers		Advocate for sustainable water management, land use planning, bio-diversity conservation and environmental protection
	Promote and provide training on improved post-harvest handling practices including processing and storage in safe places	Empower and support smallholder farmer groups, livestock keepers, and networks to participate in government decision making processes around prioritisation, allocation and utilisation of resources and budgets. Develop a community friendly budget-tracking toolkit to support this.	Raise awareness and train local level government staff on soil and water conservation methods
	Promote the planting of multipurpose trees (trees that can be used to protect and recover the soil, and as a source of food for people and animals) on the crop fields, on fences, around houses, in sloppy areas, on weak and eroded areas, and in flood and cyclone prone areas. Some of these trees could also provide additional sources of income (e.g. betel nuts, coconuts, bamboo and other horticulture depending on the local environment)		Promote recording and recognition of tenure rights for all, especially those segments of community without legally recognized rights (communal tenure, women's rights to land, common tenure resource rights)
	Raise awareness and provide equipment for soil and water conservation and management for farming and livestock keeping such as rainwater harvesting, surface and underground water recharge and utilisation system, micro basin, terracing and trench bunds construction, planting selected grass species and leguminous plants, tree planting, permanent soil cover / mulching, use of compost and animal manure		Work with local government institutions to influence national spending, laws and policies
	Promote the allocation and construction of special places for the protection of livestock and fodder in cyclone shelters		

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	Household	Community	Government
Women & Children	Raise awareness on women's role among farmers and the importance of crops grown by women such as sorghum, rice, millet for HH food security	Establish and strengthen farmers/pastoralist field schools	Advocate for prioritisation of support to crops grown by women for extension services
	Organise targeted trainings for women on flood/ cyclone and salinity tolerant seeds and agricultural practices	Provide meteorological forecasts to smallholders and livestock keepers and corresponding advice on preparedness and mitigation action	Work with local government institutions to publicize local women's roles, responsibilities and potential for disaster resilient community development
	Work with women's groups to provide information on flood/ cyclone tolerant seeds, seed preservation, soil preservation and improvement, cropping techniques, secure and fair access to markets	In partnership with women networks, lobby governments to advance the rights of women to land, compensation where applicable and to sustainable housing	

OFF FARM LIVELIHOODS			
Goal	Sustainable livelihoods, and hence uninterrupted income, is core to people’s resilience to floods and cyclones. For people working off farm, their location needs to be safe from cyclones.		
Context	Sustaining rural livelihood includes non-farm and off farm sectors, both of which can be impacted due to floods and cyclones. The impact on off farm livelihood can be due to impact on common property resources, while the loss of agricultural produce, loss of markets can impact the economy that sustains the non-farm sector.		
	Household	Community	Government
General Vulnerable Population	Raise awareness on importance of a saving culture and asset creation to withstand shocks and stresses like cyclone		Advocate for microfinance facilities that would allow households and communities to invest in flood, cyclone and salinity resistant diversified livelihood activities
	Raise awareness on diversification of livelihood and alternative livelihood for households living in cyclone prone areas that are not harmful from a natural resource perspective and equip them with skills and means	Introduce/strengthen saving and loan system through people’s agency. Insist women and marginalised groups are eligible to participate in these schemes	Advocate for investments in the establishment of diversified livelihood programmes (i.e. fish processing)
	Provide technical and vocational training based on market needs and their capacity, and considering the impact of cyclones	Raise awareness on livelihood practices that are harmful from a natural resource perspective (i.e. cutting of trees) and promote networks of community members to influence the larger community and government’s natural resource management policies and strategies	Advocate for policies and strategies that prevent harmful livelihood practices from a natural resource perspective
	Develop information, education and communication materials on the importance of livelihood diversification in cyclone prone areas		
Women & Children	Provide diversified livelihoods training to women groups	Introduce/strengthen women led saving and loan system/self-help groups	Advocate for increasing number of vocational training opportunities for youth and women
	Raise awareness among women on their right to SME	Support women to design and test gender-responsive economic alternatives that balance their paid work with their unpaid care work	
Very vulnerable groups	Provide targeted diversified livelihoods training and input support to marginalised groups		Advocate for increasing number of vocational training opportunities for very vulnerable individuals
	Raise awareness among marginalised groups on their right to microfinance		

HEALTH, WATER AND SANITATION			
Goal	Uninterrupted access to health care and its facilities that are prepared for calamities is a key component of people’s resilience to disasters like cyclone. A few activities should be considered in a health programme in cyclone prone areas.		
Context	Floods and cyclones can contaminate water sources and sanitation facilities by water logging and damages to infrastructure. Health centres and hospitals may be damaged and remain cut off from essential supplies. In such situations, individual awareness and community preparedness is key to sustenance before external help is available.		
	Household	Community	Government
General vulnerable population	Raise awareness on the importance on safe water use, proper sanitation, environmental health and vector control	Identify and train community volunteers on WASH	Advocate for availability of safe drinking water for all through installation of community level resilient water supply system with saline filtering facility if required. Underline that the water supply system should reduce the burden of women and girls in collecting water.
	Promote and provide water surge resistant water source and storage (e.g. ponds), tube wells, PSF, and latrines	Raise awareness in the community on importance of government to construct flood and cyclone safe health centres. Promote networks of community members to influence government on these issues	Advocate for improved access to health care services for all after floods/ cyclone
	Provide water purification kits and if required saline filter for the most vulnerable HHs	Train water and sanitation workers on flood/ cyclone and salinity resistant sanitation and water source installation and maintenance	Advocate for contingency planning that will ensure the continuation of essential health care such as maternal and psychosocial health care after flood/cyclones. Advocate for adequate water and sanitation emergency kit stockpiling
	Promote and provide materials, training for construction of flood/cyclone resistant latrines	Provide first aid kits at community health centres and establish emergency evacuation plans that ensures support to physically impaired patients and guests at the health centre	Work with local government to influence national spending, laws and policies to make hospitals and health centres safe from disaster in line with the guidelines of WHO
			Promote flood/ cyclone resistant location and construction of health centres
		Advocate for regular flood/ cyclone mock drills in health centres in flood/ cyclone prone areas	
		Ensure with all parties that women are included in WASH planning in flood/ prone areas as women are often responsible for the water collection and hygiene practices in the household	
		Promote and provide training on flood/ cyclone contingency planning for health centre managers that includes the participation of both sexes, nurses and physically impaired persons	
		Promote and train on water harvesting methods for saline prone areas (i.e. pond sand filter, rain water harvesting). Advocate for re/ excavation of ponds.	
		Develop information, education and communication materials on the importance of safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, personal hygiene and vector control	

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	Household	Community	Government
Women & Children	Train women and girls about the importance of uninterrupted access to health care after a flood/ cyclone	Facilitate training on gender-sensitive education and community leadership	
	Consult with women for the design of sanitation kits and cater for women specific needs by providing them with women-friendly kits following cyclone	Raise awareness on increased hygiene requirement of women and in particular pregnant and lactating women	
	Ensure separate awareness raising sessions (i.e. through theatre) are organised for marginalised groups like children, the elderly, ethnic and religious minorities on the importance of hygiene and clean water		
Very vulnerable groups	Promote a support system whereby elderly and people with disabilities are assisted in obtaining clean water after flood/ cyclone	Raise awareness and promote that cyclone response health interventions should ensure that marginalised groups have access to these services and that they are adapted to their needs	
		Advocate for a contingency plan that ensures the uninterrupted provision of medicines for non-communicable diseases such as diabetes etc	
		Provide basic training for emergency responders on the health and nutritional needs of vulnerable groups like the elderly and children	Advocate for land ownership of women and marginalised groups minorities so that they can invest in the construction of flood/ cyclone safe latrines and water storage without the fear of being evicted

HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE			
Goal	Safe shelter and uninterrupted infrastructure is necessary for resilient communities. Housing and infrastructure should be able to withstand floods and cyclones by adopting appropriate construction techniques and site selection.		
Context	In floods and cyclones, shelter is often affected severely due to high winds, rains and water logging rendering them inhabitable. Infrastructures like roads and rail connections, electricity, communication lines, water and sanitation services are disrupted cutting off affected communities from livelihoods, market linkages, health and education facilities.		
	Household	Community	Government
General vulnerable population	Raise awareness of/ promote cyclone resistant houses and provide training on suitable construction methods and building materials following local or international guiding principles.	Advocate for zoning, land use planning, building codes, shelter and house design, drainage channels and water bodies, communication networks responsive to hazards like floods and cyclones.	
	Raise awareness and to identify vulnerable houses and facilitate their retrofitting	Advocate for adherence to land use guidelines and building codes for shelter and infrastructure construction. If required, advocate for the formulation of national guideline for climate resistant.	
	Raise awareness on the importance of varieties of local trees around house/shelters and support them to ensure plantation of local saplings which reduce wind speed and protect shelter/houses from damage by cyclone	Advocate for retrofitting of public buildings like shelters and infrastructure to make them flood and cyclone resistant.	
		Raise awareness on safe and accessible (incl. for people living with disabilities) site selection for flood/ cyclone shelter	Conduct a survey on available budget for flood/ cyclone resistant infrastructure and advocate for stepping up available budget if necessary
		Share technology and train local engineers on flood/cyclone resistant building methods and build capacity of local workers (i.e. carpenters, masons, plumbers) on flood/ cyclone resistant house design and construction	Advocate with Public Health and Engineering department, Local Government Engineering department, Education and Facilities department for adequate funds for design of flood/ cyclone shelter with separate, safe and hygienic sanitation facilities for men and women.
			Advocate for the participation of community members including the marginalised groups during site selection, designing and construction of flood/ cyclone shelter and its maintenance

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	Household	Community	Government
Women & Children	Raise awareness on increased vulnerability of children and women in flood/ cyclones	Advocate for the inclusion of flood/ cyclone preparedness and evacuation drills in school activity curriculum	
	Train women leaders to advocate for cyclone resistant house building codes	Advocate for the inclusion of women and girls in flood/ cyclone shelter committees	
Very vulnerable groups	Ensure people living with disabilities and the elderly are included in flood/ cyclone proofing their houses	Advocate for the inclusion of marginalised groups in flood/ cyclone shelter committees	Advocate for rehabilitation assistance for the most vulnerable families with flood/ cyclone resistant houses
	Include the houses of most vulnerable, minority and disabled person for retrofitting	Ensure public infrastructure are accessible and suitable for marginalized groups, especially elderly and disabled	

7 Cyclone

Impacts 7.1

ActionAid's Approach 7.2

Case Studies 7.3

Programming Frameworks 7.4

Parts of this village in Vanuatu were swept away when waves eight metres high hit during Cyclone Pam
PHOTO: ACTIONAID

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7. Cyclone

Cyclones bring with them high wind speeds, rainfall and bad weather. The onset of a cyclone is extensive and damage associated with a high intensity cyclone is usually severe, especially to fragile infrastructure and housing when high wind speeds hit. This is followed by heavy rains which can trigger floods spread over large areas due to tidal waves, particularly in the flat coastal plains. Cyclones are known as ‘hurricanes’ in the Western Atlantic and Eastern Pacific and “typhoons” in the Western Pacific.

Climate change has an effect on the frequency and intensity of cyclones. The UNISDR projects that tropical cyclones (typhoons and hurricanes) will become more intense, with larger peak wind speeds and heavier precipitation associated with ongoing increases of tropical sea surface temperatures.¹

7.1. Impact

Cyclone Nargis, which hit Myanmar in May 2008, affected approximately 2.4 million people. The devastation not only impacted about 16,200 hectares of standing crops of paddy, but also impacted the availability of food stock, seeds and tools for the planting season². Tropical Cyclone Pam, a category 5 cyclone, struck Vanuatu in March 2015. Pam damaged or destroyed 17,000 buildings including houses, schools, clinics, and other medical facilities. The tropical cyclone destroyed crops on a large scale and compromised the livelihoods of at least 80% of Vanuatu’s rural population³.

Cyclone Sidr, which hit Bangladesh on 15 November 2007, prompted the evacuation of 302 million people to safer places.

While the loss to life was largely reduced due to timely evacuation, almost 1.52 million houses were totally or partially destroyed, with roads, bridges, crops, livestock and fishery infrastructure severely affected. According to the Government of Bangladesh figures, rice loss was estimated at 1.23 million tonnes. Livestock losses were also reported to be severe with large numbers of cattle, buffalo, goats and poultry killed.

Not only were agriculture and fisheries affected, but other infrastructure supporting these facilities like fish processing units, marketing centres, agriculture store houses were also impacted. In addition, shelter, drinking water supply points, medical facilities, schools, community shelters, roads, dams, embankments, electricity supplies were affected too. The overall effect of these was a complete collapse of individual and community facilities.

In any post disaster scenario, restoration of livelihood and income generation opportunities is vital for affected communities. Immediate food security needs are often met through short-term assistance through cash-for-work or food-for-work, while in the longer duration attempts are made to restore or re-grow the local economy with an emphasis on establishing a sustainable resilient livelihood system.

Cyclones adversely impact the continuity of education by destroying school buildings and learning materials. For instance, UNICEF estimates that up to 50 per cent of Vanuatu’s schools suffered damage to infrastructure, facilities and resources during Cyclone Pam.

Cyclone Nargis in Myanmar damaged public infrastructure including roads, bridges, school buildings, health centres and hospitals. Main drinking water sources and rainwater harvesting systems were destroyed by tidal waves that salinated ponds and dug-wells.⁴

Coastal houses and buildings in low lying areas and in areas exposed to coastal winds are particularly vulnerable due to their lack of protection by natural windbreakers. It has been widely reported that the presence of mangrove forests could have reduced damage resulting from the waves caused by Cyclone Nargis in Myanmar.⁵

The following case study from Vanuatu shows how disasters like cyclones have a different impact on women, and therefore require a different perspective of resilience to be build, that tackles power inequalities within communities.

A cyclone resilient community is thus one that is aware of its vulnerabilities and is able to take timely action. These actions could be during an impending disaster through evacuation to safer areas and could be longer term mitigation and adaptive action. Mitigating actions include raising and securing embankments, constructing cyclone-proof houses, securing water points, planning and planting mangroves to act as wind barriers and the construction and maintenance of safe shelters. Longer term investments for livelihood resilience encompass growing saline tolerant crop varieties, strengthening market linkages and investing in infrastructure that is able to withstand the effect of cyclones.

7.2. ActionAid's approach and activities

ActionAid works with several communities that are vulnerable to cyclones. The experience and approach of its activities portray the diversity of methodologies used in responding to cyclones and working towards cyclone resilience. ActionAid's programming strength lies in its long term association with communities. In this way it is able to understand the vulnerabilities of different groups within a community and address their specific needs.

For instance, ActionAid works with women's groups in building their capacities to deal with cyclone disasters. In Bangladesh, women's training in emergency response proved to be crucial when Cyclone Mahasen struck in 2013. Twenty women from neighbouring villages acted as emergency response leaders and coordinated the evacuation. After the cyclone had passed, these women also led the damage assessment and early efforts in rebuilding their damaged homes.⁶

Typhoons are a regular occurrence in the Philippines. Typhoon Haiyan damaged 1.1 million houses of which almost half were totally destroyed. ActionAid worked towards building new climate resilient houses that were made of compressed bricks to resist high winds, solid concrete flooring and had reinforced iron sheets. The bricks used were heat resistant to keep the house cool in the hot weather and the house had a toilet and electricity.



Women in an evacuation centre after cyclone Pam in Vanuatu
PHOTO: ACTIONAID

ActionAid also enables communities to challenge the status quo, and the most powerful maintaining the status quo, and assists them in identifying alternative livelihoods which are resilient to climate adversities, as highlighted in the case studies below.

7.3. Case Studies

A gendered perspective of cyclone response, Vanuatu

Disasters have a disproportionate impact on women. Structural inequalities, existing gender discrimination and unequal power relations mean they are often hardest hit, take longer to recover, and may not recover as fully. Women, therefore, experience vulnerability differently to men. Lack of decision making capacity, lack of access to, and control over, resources, and exclusion from claiming basic entitlements increase women's vulnerability and undermine their ability to cope with the impacts of disasters.

While disaster response is about prioritising life-saving support such as food and water, it is important that women's protection issues are not de-prioritised. In Vanuatu, after Cyclone Pam, pregnant women were found sleeping on thin mats on the floor. Men and women were sharing sleeping spaces. The evacuation centres were barely lit at night, if at all. At night time, women had to find their way in the dark to the toilets that they shared with men. There was nowhere to wash, except in rivers. Adequate sanitary items were not distributed.

ActionAid believes that women have basic rights to health and to security; rights which are often compromised during crisis situations, and strongly advocates for post-disaster responses to provide safety for women, prioritising their different health needs.

Sources: ActionAid: Australia (2015), Our Sisters need Support. available at <http://www.actionaid.org/australia/our-sisters-need-support> and, ActionAid: Johannesburg (undated), Building comprehensive resilience and facilitating women's leadership: critical success factors for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation. available at: http://www.actionaid.org/sites/files/actionaid/actionaid_and_drr_-_building_comprehensive_resilience_and_facilitating_womens_leadership.pdf.

People's movement for securing an embankment, Bangladesh

Lalua union of Kalapara lies near the area of confluence of the Meghna River with the Bay of Bengal. The region is interspersed with several large and small tributaries and is severely prone to tidal surges. Salt water ingress, flooding, salinification of agricultural land and river erosion are problems that the community face on a daily basis. This part of the region is frequently battered by cyclones, the most recent ones being Cyclone Sidr in 2007 and Cyclone Aila in 2009. Both severely affected the region's economy.

Embankments and sluice gates built by the government prevent flooding into the neighbouring land while the sluice gates control saltwater flow into the river channels. This system was built over 40 years ago to control the influx and outflow of water in order to reduce saline water intrusion and to ensure the preservation of sweet water in canals for agricultural production during dry seasons.

While initially these sluice gates were operated by local farmers, over the last few decades their control has been taken over by a group of rich and powerful shrimp farmers who have leased water bodies for saline water shrimp cultivation. As a result the poor farmers, who need the water most to cultivate lands, lost their access to and control over those water bodies. This has directly led to changes in the livelihood and agricultural practices of farmers. Over a period of time, salinity ingress became so intense that cultivation both in summer as well as winter became difficult and farmers were forced to move away from their preferred livelihood.

In 2008, ActionAid Bangladesh selected Lalua union of Kalapara union under Patuakhali district to implement an action research project. The aim was to understand the local climate context, its impact on people's lives and livelihoods and how they cope with it. The project was initiated through the formation of community research groups called Gonogobeshona Dal (GGD). The process was participatory and engaged people in critically analysing

problems to come up with longer term, workable solutions to effectively address development challenges like climate change. Saline intrusion was identified as one of the core problems. The problem of sea level rise could be easily connected with this decades-old concern of saline intrusion, however, a detailed analysis of the situation revealed it as an issue of power inequalities and poor governance.

Instead of directly challenging the power dynamics, the project facilitated the community to unite into one voice. It helped farmers to grow saline tolerant varieties of crops by reserving fresh water in ponds. The action raised mass awareness among the farmers and community people and united them. Encouraged by their success, the farmers demanded control and management of sluice gates. The GGD-led campaign for equitable management of water resources lobbied their local administration for consultative planning and utilisation of funds for securing embankments. Finally after sustained efforts and massive support from the community, in 2011 the Union Parishad handed over the control and management of sluice gates to the smallholder farmers. Smallholder farmer groups and the GGD were subsequently included in consultative meetings.

Source: ActionAid: Bangladesh (2015), Case Study received by email from Mr. Abdul Alim, dated 20th September 2015.

7.4. Programming Frameworks

The cyclone programming frameworks have been merged with the flood programming frameworks due to the links between floods and cyclones and the required actions for resilience building. Please refer to pages 23 to 35 for the programming frameworks.



Woman cleaning up after cyclone Pam in Vanuatu
PHOTO: JEFF TAN / ACTIONAID

References

- 1 UNISDR (2008), Climate change and Disaster Risk Reduction. UNISDR: Geneva.
- 2 Government of Myanmar, UN in Myanmar, ASEAN (2008), Myanmar Post-Nargis Joint Assessment. GFDRR: UK. Assessment Cyclone Pam. GFDRR: UK
- 3 Government of Vanuatu (2015), Vanuatu Post-Disaster Needs
- 4 UNICEF (April 2009), Best Practices and Lessons learnt: UNICEF's Myanmar response. UNICEF: Myanmar.
- 5 Source: <http://www.fao.org/Newsroom/en/news/2008/1000839/index.html>
- 6 ActionAid: Bangladesh (2013), Another feat in battling climate change.

8 Earthquake

Impacts 8.1

ActionAid's Approach 8.2

Case Studies 8.3

Programming Frameworks 8.4

The destruction after the earthquake in Nepal
PHOTO: BRIAN SOKOL / ACTIONAID

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8. Earthquake

The outer shell of our earth is composed of plates, known as tectonic plates. These plates are always in a state of motion in relation to one another. The boundaries of two tectonic plates are marked by faults. During an earthquake the rock on one side of the fault slips in relation to the other. Earthquakes are generally caused by sudden and abrupt movement along a fault. Most earthquakes occur along fault lines, at the boundaries of tectonic plates.¹ Apart from the ground movement, there are other associated phenomena like landfall, rock fall, avalanche, tsunami which can cause loss of lives and severe damage to property and infrastructure.

Even though it is known to researchers that earthquakes will occur along faults, the prediction of the exact location, timing and the intensity of an earthquake is not reliably known. This makes earthquake possibly the most unpredictable natural disaster known to humans.

8.1. Impact

Earthquake damage is generally associated with urban areas on account of the severe damages to buildings and loss of lives. It is widely quoted that ‘earthquakes do not kill, weak buildings do’. This implies that a high intensity earthquake in an open, low density area would have much lesser impact than a similar earthquake in a high density urban area, especially with poor construction standards. In developing countries, population growth and rapid urbanisation has led to the proliferation of new buildings without adherence to building codes or standards. The poor are often housed in dangerous areas and unsafe buildings,

primarily because of their inability to afford safer housing. Earthquake-safe building practices are either non-existent or not enforced mainly due to ineffective land use systems; flaws in legislation, building codes and standards; and weak incentives, as well as weak institutional and implementation mechanisms.²

The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) notes that earthquake impacts food security and agriculture-based livelihoods through the loss and injury of family members and workforce; loss of crop yields and livestock; damage to irrigation systems and damage to people’s homes, animal shelters, stock areas and business premises.³ In 2015, an agricultural livelihood assessment in six severely earthquake-affected districts of Nepal found that half of all farming households lost nearly all of their stored crops of rice, maize, wheat and millet. In addition, the earthquakes destroyed farming tools, kitchen gardens and supplies of fertilizer and caused significant damage to small-scale irrigation.⁴

Earthquakes can also affect public infrastructure services like water supply and sewerage services, transportation networks including roads, bridges, airports and harbours, telecommunication networks, electricity supply, and public services like hospitals, police and fire stations.

Earthquakes in developing countries often stretch the already inadequate infrastructure available. For instance in Haiti, drinking water supply coverage was poor even before the earthquake and the damage in reservoirs and pipelines after the 2010 earthquake worsened the condition. The Water and Sanitation sector was already weakened by underlying vulnerabilities that existed in the country prior to the earthquake, inexistence of a proper sewage and solid waste treatment system, and weak water resources governance. As a result, the earthquake was followed by one of the most severe cholera outbreaks in modern history. The earthquake affected other important infrastructure like health care

facilities, destroying 30 of the 49 hospitals, schools and higher education buildings.

The uncertain and unpredictable nature of earthquake makes earthquake preparedness a difficult task. Preparedness measures range from individual and household level preparedness to community level preparedness, adopting and implementing safe building standards and appropriate land use planning. Earthquake resistance construction practices, both for engineered and non-engineered structures, slope stabilisation techniques and diversification of livelihoods are a few methods adopted by communities to earthquake-proof their lives and assets.

8.2. ActionAid's approach and activities

ActionAid has been working with communities in several countries affected by earthquakes in the recent past like Afghanistan, China, Pakistan, Haiti and others. In the aftermath of an earthquake, emergency response through supply of food and non-food items and cash-for-work programmes are initiated. Vulnerable groups are always at the centre of response measures. ActionAid works with partner organisations that have long standing relationships with the affected communities providing food packages, hygiene kits and kitchen sets, containing vital items to help people cook and keep clean in the camps. In Haiti, nearly 20,000 people were reached after the earthquake.

ActionAid firmly believes in respecting and harnessing the existing capacities of communities to cope with and recover from a disaster. Thus, an early transition from relief to recovery through livelihood support, provision of safe shelter and reconstruction, psychosocial support, restarting schools and education facilities is made. Involvement of locals through innovative cash-for-work programmes that reduce their long term risks have been

used in Haiti to provide employment. In urban areas people were engaged in clearing rubble in flood prone alleyways, thus reducing the community's risk to flooding at the same time as providing families with an income. Furthermore, in order to facilitate livelihood rehabilitation in urban areas, vocational training courses for electricians, masons, plumbers and chefs were also started in Haiti.

8.3. Case Studies

The following case studies unpack examples of ActionAid's resilience building work after the earthquakes in Haiti (2010) and Nepal (2015).



Man amidst the destruction after the earthquake in Nepal in 2015
PHOTO: ACTIONAID



Simulation of land preparation for planting in Haiti campaign
PHOTO: SYLVAIN CHERKAOUI / COSMOS / ACTIONAID

The Je nan Je campaign: 216 new landowners, Haiti

In 2011, ActionAid Haiti led a campaign called ‘Je nan Je’ (meaning “Eye to Eye”) to help guarantee Haitians’ rights to land and safe affordable housing in the context of the country’s reconstruction.

Je nan Je was a grassroots movement urging aid accountability and transparency to reform the national housing and agriculture plans and provide secure safe, affordable, long-term housing for the most vulnerable displaced Haitians. It was started out of deep concern about the lack of progress in the reconstruction process in Haiti. The Je nan Je coalition is made up of grassroots networks, social movements and women’s groups that represent over 800,000 Haitians. The campaign, through intensive research and analysis, capacity building for grassroots partners and awareness raising for national and international stakeholders, aimed to create an inclusive, participatory space for critical debate and dialogue between the different sectors so that participants can identify collective priorities and sustainable, alternative solutions to key land and housing challenges.

Despite several promises from the authorities, people continued to live in Mariani shelter (Carrefour, Port-au-Prince) even two years after the earthquake due to lack of land for building permanent shelter. The living condition in the camps steadily deteriorated. Throughout the Je nan Je campaign, people living in Mariani camps were sensitized and mobilized. They came together and demanded that the Haitian Government guarantees their rights to land and housing. “ActionAid-trained” and “women-led” inter-camp committees identified unused land nearby. They negotiated with the local authority and in December 2011, 15,382.55 square meters were given to COZPAM (ActionAid’s partner) for the shelters’ construction. 216 families were able to move into the secure land and legal ownership of the land was transferred to the collective.

Source: <http://www.actionaid.org/shared/216-new-landowners>

The collapse of markets and the effect on food security in rural areas due to an earthquake, Nepal

The Nepal earthquake in 2015 demonstrated that earthquake damage does not stay limited to urban areas alone. The rural areas were not only severely affected; they remained cut off from the relief efforts due to the scattered nature and inaccessibility of settlements. According to the Government of Nepal's Post-Disaster Needs Assessment, the earthquake affected one million already poor small farming households. The earthquakes damaged crop lands, physical infrastructure (mainly small irrigation systems, poly houses, livestock shelters, agricultural tools, equipment and machinery) and mills. The agricultural crop and livestock industry suffered enormous losses due to lost crops, increased production costs and estimated losses from subsequent growing and production seasons.

People located in the mountainous areas faced less severe damage in comparison to the lower lying areas, but the earthquake had a severe impact on their food security. The trails connecting these remote communities to the market and larger settlements were destroyed, isolating them. The loss in income meant a decrease in expenses, especially for poorer communities with families shifting spending towards reconstructing their houses and other assets. In the mountainous regions this reduction was even more severe due to limited access to functional markets. For households depending on daily labour over two thirds of people reported income losses over 30 percent, with one third reporting complete loss of income.²

Source: <http://un.org.np/sites/default/files/PDNA-volume-B.pdf>

² <http://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/ena/wfp275351.pdf>



Boy overlooking the destruction after the Nepal earthquake, 2015
PHOTO: VISHWANATHAN / ACTIONAID

References

- 1 Additional readings: <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/jetstream/tsunami/plates.htm>; <http://www.geo.mtu.edu/UPSeis/why.html>; http://www.earthquakes.bgs.ac.uk/education/faqs/faq_index.html; <http://www.livescience.com/37052-types-of-faults.html>
- 2 GFDRR (2015), Building & Land Use regulatory implementation and compliance at the local level. GFDRR: UK.
- 3 Source: <http://www.fao.org/emergencies/emergency-types/earthquakes/en/>
- 4 Source: <http://www.fao.org/emergencies/fao-in-action/stories/stories-detail/en/c/294676/>

8.4 Programming Frameworks: Earthquake

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS			
Goal	Communities are prepared for earthquakes and reduce the impact of such events by taking certain measures		
Context	By designing and implementing emergency preparedness activities including disaster risk reduction communities and governments can mitigate the impact of an earthquake.		
	Household	Community	Government
General vulnerable population	Train people on household earthquake risk reduction and preparedness measures, and support them in developing household preparedness plans	Provide training on disaster risk reduction, earthquake risk assessment, and preparation of participatory risk reduction plans	Conduct a review exercise of the government's earthquake management system including legislative framework, governance structures, coordination mechanisms, planning processes and financial instruments
	Raise awareness with people on preparing a household grab-bag with essential items to survive for two weeks after an earthquake emergency including necessary medication and copies of important documents	Establish new or strengthen existing disaster management committee at the community level, promote participation of women and very vulnerable groups in this and link them with local government system	Advocate for earthquake risk management policies and practices that are inclusive of women and the most vulnerable groups in society
	Enhance capacity and leadership skills to participate in community decision making processes	Support the disaster management committee to develop a community level earthquake preparedness and management plan	Advocate for the establishment/strengthening of national, provincial and local level authorities for disaster risk management, and promote a coordination structure between these levels including sharing of information regarding earthquake risks, preparedness and response
	Train people on life saving skills during an earthquake such as finding the safest location in open air and in houses or buildings. Ensure participation of women and very vulnerable groups	Provide skills training to disaster management committee on advocacy and campaigning with local government for implementation of community preparedness plans, adequate funding and to institutionalise earthquake management action plan	Facilitate a dialogue on community based earthquake risk management with relevant government departments and try to create space for community networks to demand for budget allocation for community level disaster management committees and earthquake risk management
		Identify and train community volunteers, including women and youth, on evacuation, search and rescue, first aid and shelter management	Advocate for a regularly updated earthquake contingency and emergency response plan
		Establish community level emergency communication mechanism (technology based and traditional) and ensure reliable energy supply if that is required	Advocate for the investment in and testing of evacuation plans, routes and centres

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS			
Goal	Communities are prepared for earthquakes and reduce the impact of such events by taking certain measures		
Context	By designing and implementing emergency preparedness activities including disaster risk reduction communities and governments can mitigate the impact of an earthquake.		
	Household	Community	Government
	Facilitate mapping of information needs and communication preferences in regard to earthquake preparedness and response. Develop and distribute IEC materials and ensure their accessibility to women and vulnerable groups		Advocate to ensure adequate funds for the implementation of earthquake preparedness plans
	Organise community events to raise awareness on earthquake evacuation routes and safe places through theatre, surveys, quizzes, competitions		Provide training of trainers on earthquake risk reduction to the relevant local government department staff
	Make information on earthquakes, their frequency and occurrence available to people through radio, mobile phone, tv and social media. Encourage HHs to keep informed about this, as well as about the local weather, though one of these information channels	Establish and/or support community radio station to develop and broadcast news and discussions on earthquake preparedness and life saving measures	Advocate for increased media coverage of earthquake risks and potential impact that are accessible to the communities
	Conduct community mock drill involving community members, disaster management committee and relevant government stakeholders		
		Identify and promote earthquake risk management solutions available at the community level in terms of capacities, local and traditional knowledge, and combine with scientific knowledge if appropriate. Promote sharing of these solutions between communities	
Women & children	Raise awareness on increased vulnerability of women and girls during earthquakes because they spend more time in the house as a result of their domestic responsibilities or cultural/religious reasons		
		Initiate a dialogue on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gender, cultural barriers and norms that increase the vulnerability of women to earthquakes - Different capacities of men and women and how women can make positive and valuable contributions to earthquake preparedness and response 	Advocate for protection policies and guidelines for women and very vulnerable groups in relation to earthquakes
	Raise awareness on importance of women leadership and their capabilities in designing and implementing earthquake risk management activities		

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS			
Goal	Communities are prepared for earthquakes and reduce the impact of such events by taking certain measures		
Context	By designing and implementing emergency preparedness activities including disaster risk reduction communities and governments can mitigate the impact of an earthquake.		
	Household	Community	Government
	Promote gender equality by involving women and girls in all activities or arrange for parallel sessions if the local context requires. Take the domestic tasks of women/girls into account whilst planning	Strengthen existing women's networks/ associations to play an active role in earthquake preparedness and response, and to review earthquake risk reduction and response plans to ensure the plan is sensitive to the needs of women	Share with government stakeholders the knowledge and evidence of women's capabilities and contributions to earthquake risk management, and advocate for inclusion of women leaders in disaster management committees and earthquake management planning
	Identify women leaders and train them on taking up a leadership role in earthquake risk reduction. Also mobilise them as role model	Build the capacity of women networks to demand for their rights, equal access to compensation after an earthquake disaster and access to justice	
	Capacitate women to address injustices at the household level that increase their vulnerability to earthquakes, and also to have their earthquake risk reduction capacities recognised	Refer to the 'education' table for activities to support children in preparing and responding to earthquakes	
Very vulnerable groups	Identify the capabilities and contributions of very vulnerable groups in earthquake risk reduction and reinforce these through trainings	Establish or strengthen community support systems (buddy) to ensure the elderly and people living with disabilities will receive support in earthquake evacuation	Advocate and support government authorities and staff in developing policies and practices, coordination mechanisms and financial instruments that ensure the inclusion and participation of very vulnerable groups in earthquake risk management
	Improve the access of very vulnerable groups to information, especially on earthquake preparedness	Develop IEC materials that increase the understanding of the do's and don'ts in supporting very vulnerable groups such as people living with disabilities in earthquake preparedness and response	
	Identify potential leaders among very vulnerable groups and train them to take up a leadership role in earthquake risk management		

FOOD SECURITY			
Goal	All members in a communities have secured access to food before, during and after an earthquake		
Context	Food security is an important condition for people’s resilience to hazards like earthquakes. To ensure the food security of people at all times, safety nets needs to be in place, people and governments need to take preparedness measures and food relief should be provided during earthquake emergencies.		
	Household	Community	Government
Very vulnerable population	Introduce food/cash/assets-for-work whereby earthquake risk mitigation infrastructure is constructed (e.g. retrofitting of public building, road repairing)	Facilitate participatory review and analysis of policies, practices and budget related to community’s food security in earthquake prone areas, and identify gaps for advocacy	Organise for a national and/or sub-national level workshop to present identified gaps of government budget, policies and practices related to communities’ food security in earthquake prone areas
	Introduce unconditional cash transfers for labour constrained and very vulnerable individuals and their dependents	Support communities and government to prepare contingency plans that list response options for ensuring food security and nutrition during earthquake emergencies and how the most vulnerable people are assisted	
	Raise awareness on importance of (dry) food preservation for household stockpiling in combination with water harvesting in preparation for emergencies like earthquake. Provide necessary training and equipment, and make use of traditional/indigenous practices	Facilitate community food stockpiling and cereal banks through skills training and providing equipment. Ensure that women are participating in this and also take a leading role	Advocate for food storage systems to be in place and maintained to be easily activated after an earthquake event
	Raise awareness on food entitlements during disaster situations		
	Raise awareness on the increased vulnerability of women, children and very vulnerable groups (i.e. elderly, people living with disabilities, ethnic and religious minorities) during earthquakes and the strategies that it requires to safeguard their food security and nutrition status at all times		
Women & children	In targeted activities, train women in food preservation techniques and stockpiling	Ensure and advocate for food security programmes that are inclusive and accessible by women and children, and take into account the different nutritional requirements of children, pregnant and lactating women.	
		Promote the inclusion of food preservation in school curriculum in areas that are frequently affected by earthquakes and other disasters	
		Provide basic training for emergency responders on the health and nutritional needs of pregnant and lactating women and children	

FOOD SECURITY			
Goal	All members in a communities have secured access to food before, during and after an earthquake		
Context	Food security is an important condition for people’s resilience to hazards like earthquakes. To ensure the food security of people at all times, safety nets needs to be in place, people and governments need to take preparedness measures and food relief should be provided during earthquake emergencies.		
	Household	Community	Government
Very vulnerable groups	In targeted activities, train very vulnerable groups like i.e. ethnic and religious minorities in food preservation techniques and stockpiling	Ensure and advocate for food security programmes that are inclusive and accessible by women and children, and take into account the different nutritional requirements of very vulnerable groups like the elderly and people with a medical condition	
		Provide basic training for emergency responders on the health and nutritional needs of very vulnerable groups like the elderly and people with a medical condition	Advocate for national social protection strategies that provide a secure income or handouts to the most vulnerable people

FARM BASED LIVELIHOODS			
Goal	Farmers, fishermen and livestock keepers will experience minimum impact on their livelihoods activities and income as a result of an earthquake		
Context	Many people around the world and more so in rural areas, are dependent on agriculture as their livelihoods. For people's resilience it is important that disasters have minimal impact on their agricultural produce. Earthquakes tend to cause much less destruction in rural areas and impacts on agricultural produce are often minimal. Challenges often arise because of destroyed road and rail infrastructure that hampers the delivery of agricultural inputs or outputs		
	Household	Community	Government
General vulnerable population	Promote diversification of crops and livestock breeds to be better prepared for shocks and stresses		Advocate for micro insurance schemes suitable for marginalised and landless farmers, fishermen and livestock keepers, and build capacity of relevant institutions
	Promote the planting of multipurpose trees (trees that can be used to help fix land and reduce the risks of landslides, and as a source of food for people and animals) on the crop fields, on fences, around houses, in sloppy areas, on weak and eroded areas, and in earthquake prone areas. Some of these trees could also provide additional sources of income (e.g. betel nuts, coconuts, bamboo and other horticulture depending on the local environment)		
	Promote and support the set-up of HH based agricultural activities such as kitchen gardening and livestock rearing	Facilitate the development of community seed banks in safe and protected areas and provide training to maintain them	
	Raise awareness and promote the establishment of rain water catchment systems and storage of water to ensure access to water for consumption, cooking and produce		

OFF FARM LIVELIHOODS			
Goal	People's livelihoods are resilient and experience minimum impact on their livelihood activities and income as a result of an earthquake		
Context	Sustainable livelihoods, and hence uninterrupted income, is core to people's resilience to hazards like earthquakes. For people working off farm, their location needs to be earthquake resistant.		
	Household	Community	Government
General vulnerable population	Raise awareness on importance of a saving culture and asset creation to withstand shocks and stresses like earthquakes	Advocate for microfinance facilities that would allow households and communities to invest in diversified livelihood activities, and emphasise that they need to be accessible to women and very vulnerable groups	
	Raise awareness on diversification of livelihood for households living in disaster prone areas and equip them with skills and start-up materials	Introduce/strengthen a community saving and loan system. Insist women and very vulnerable groups are eligible to participate in these schemes	Advocate for investments in programmes to support communities and households to diversify their livelihoods
	Provide technical and vocational training based on market needs and their capacity, and considering the occurrence and impact of earthquakes		
	Develop information, education and communication materials on the importance of livelihood diversification in disaster prone areas		
Women & children	Provide diversified livelihoods training to women groups	Introduce/strengthen women led saving and loan system/self-help groups	
	Raise awareness among women on their right to microfinance	Support women to design and test gender-responsive economic alternatives that balance their paid work with their unpaid care work	
Very vulnerable groups	Provide targeted diversified livelihoods training to very vulnerable groups		
	Raise awareness among very vulnerable groups on their right to microfinance		

HEALTH, WATER AND SANITATION			
Goal	Water and sanitation facilities, health centre and hospitals are earthquake safe as a result of measures that have been taken to minimise the impact of an earthquake on the structure and operation of these facilities and services		
Context	Uninterrupted access to clean and adequate water and sanitation facilities and health care facilities that are prepared for calamities is a key component of people’s resilience to disasters like earthquake. ActionAid is not often working directly in the health care sector but the following activities below could be considered in very earthquake prone areas		
	Household	Community	Government
General vulnerable population	Raise awareness on the importance of proper sanitation and hygiene, including after earthquake and in community shelters	Identify and train community volunteers on WASH	Advocate for adequate water storage and sanitation emergency kit stockpiling
		Raise awareness on and support in the construction of earthquake resistant water supply systems	
	Provide water purification kits and if required saline filter for the most vulnerable HHS	Train water and sanitation workers on earthquake and salinity resistant sanitation and water source installation and maintenance	Advocate for earthquake resistant sewage and drainage systems
	Promote and provide materials for earthquake resistant latrines	Raise awareness and advocate for women participation in WASH planning to ensure their specific issues are included	
	Ensure with all parties that women are included in WASH planning in earthquake prone areas as women are often responsible for the water collection and hygiene practices in the household		
		Raise awareness in the community on importance of government to construct earthquake resistant health centres, earthquake preparedness and response planning by health centre management, and promote networks of community members to influence government on these issues	Advocate for improved access to health care services for all during and after earthquakes and provide support in earthquake preparedness and response planning that will ensure the continuation of essential health care such as injury, trauma, maternal and psychosocial health care after an earthquake
			Conduct a survey on available budget for construction and retrofitting of earthquake resistant hospitals and health centres, and advocate for stepping up available budget if necessary
			Advocate for strict adherence to earthquake resistant building codes for health centres and hospitals and other public building, and advocate for prioritisation of retrofitting of those that are not meeting the minimum standards

HEALTH, WATER AND SANITATION			
Goal	Water and sanitation facilities, health centre and hospitals are earthquake safe as a result of measures that have been taken to minimise the impact of an earthquake on the structure and operation of these facilities and services		
Context	Uninterrupted access to clean and adequate water and sanitation facilities and health care facilities that are prepared for calamities is a key component of people's resilience to disasters like earthquake. ActionAid is not often working directly in the health care sector but the following activities below could be considered in very earthquake prone areas		
	Household	Community	Government
			Raise awareness on the importance to ensure the earthquake resistance of non-structural parts of buildings such as ceilings, windows, water tanks, electrical equipment, water tanks etc. Advocate for sufficient investments in these aspects in all health centres and hospitals
		Promote and provide training on earthquake preparedness and response planning for health centre managers that includes the participation of both sexes, nurses and physically impaired persons to ensure their perspectives are taken into consideration, especially in terms of evacuation planning	
		Advocate for regular mock drills in health centres and hospitals in earthquake prone areas	
		Promote and provide training to emergency responders and health care workers on health conditions of people caused by lack of food and clean water, and most effective responses	
Women & children	Consult with women and girls for the design of sanitation kits and cater for women specific needs by providing them with women-friendly kits following an earthquake	Raise awareness on increased hygiene requirements of women and girls, and in particular pregnant and lactating women	Advocate for land ownership of women and very vulnerable groups like ethnic and religious minorities so that they can invest in the construction of earthquake resistant latrines and water storage without the fear of being evicted
	Raise awareness among women, girls and boys about the importance of uninterrupted access to health care during and after earthquakes, and the responsibilities of the government in this matter	Provide basic training for emergency responders on the health and nutritional needs of pregnant and lactating women and children	
Very vulnerable groups	Organise awareness raising sessions (i.e. through theatre) for children and very vulnerable groups such as ethnic and religious minorities on the importance of hygiene and clean water		
	Promote a support system whereby elderly and people with disabilities are assisted in obtaining clean water after an earthquake		

HEALTH, WATER AND SANITATION		
Goal	Water and sanitation facilities, health centre and hospitals are earthquake safe as a result of measures that have been taken to minimise the impact of an earthquake on the structure and operation of these facilities and services	
Context	Uninterrupted access to clean and adequate water and sanitation facilities and health care facilities that are prepared for calamities is a key component of people’s resilience to disasters like earthquake. ActionAid is not often working directly in the health care sector but the following activities below could be considered in very earthquake prone areas	
	Household	Community
		Raise awareness and promote that earthquake response health interventions should ensure that very vulnerable groups like the elderly and people living with disabilities have access to these services and that they are adapted to their needs
		Advocate for a contingency plan that includes stockpiling of medicines and other health care equipment in order to ensure the uninterrupted provision of medicines, including for non-communicable diseases such as diabetes etc
		Provide basic training for emergency responders on the health and nutritional needs of vulnerable groups like the elderly and people with a medical condition

HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE			
Goal	Individual houses and community shelter are earthquake resistant. Governments ensure that critical infrastructures are earthquake safe as a result of measures that have been taken to minimise the impact of an earthquake on these structures		
Context	People’s houses need to be able to withstand hazards like earthquakes. Without giving proper consideration to the hazards a house can be exposed to and taking the right disaster resistant measures, these infrastructures can be extremely vulnerable. Therefore, activities need to focus on raising people’s awareness, knowledge and skills on earthquake resistant housing and shelter. Roads, rail connections, waterways, sewage and drainage systems, communication systems and public buildings are vital for people’s resilience to hazards. At the same time, these infrastructures can be extremely vulnerable to hazards like earthquakes if not the right disaster resistant measures are taken. In most cases this is the responsibility of governments and out of the (financial) scope of communities. The communities’ role is to hold the government accountable.		
	Household	Community	Government
General vulnerable populations	Raise awareness on earthquake resistant houses, existing building codes, and provide training on suitable construction methods and materials for structural and non-structural aspects of houses. Build a demonstration house to show the feasibility and cost effectiveness. Ensure consideration of traditional/indigenous knowledge on earthquake resistant building methods and locally available materials. Ensure women and very vulnerable groups are participating in the training.		Advocate for earthquake resistant building codes, shelter and house design, and enforcement of these regulations
		Train local engineers on earthquake resistant building methods and build capacity of local workers (i.e. carpenters, masons, plumbers) on earthquake resistant house design, construction and retrofitting	Advocate for land rights and ownership in order to encourage people to invest in the structures and non-structural aspects of their houses. Emphasise that women also should have equal right to own land
		Mobilise a community network to monitor earthquake unsafe and/or affected houses, conduct earthquake risk mapping of all houses, and support households in retrofitting of unsafe houses	Advocate for allocation of adequate funds for the construction or retrofitting of earthquake shelters in communities
		Raise awareness on safe and accessible (incl. for physical impaired people) site selection for earthquake shelter and ensure an easy accessible route	Advocate for the participation of community members including women and very vulnerable groups during site selection, designing and construction of earthquake shelter and its maintenance
	Develop information, education and communication materials on earthquake resistant housing and shelter. Ensure accessibility to women and very vulnerable groups		Advocate for rehabilitation assistance for the most vulnerable families with earthquake resistant houses
		Advocate for earthquake shelter design that ensures safe places for women and girls	

HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE		
Goal	Individual houses and community shelter are earthquake resistant. Governments ensure that critical infrastructures are earthquake safe as a result of measures that have been taken to minimise the impact of an earthquake on these structures	
Context	People’s houses need to be able to withstand hazards like earthquakes. Without giving proper consideration to the hazards a house can be exposed to and taking the right disaster resistant measures, these infrastructures can be extremely vulnerable. Therefore, activities need to focus on raising people’s awareness, knowledge and skills on earthquake resistant housing and shelter. Roads, rail connections, waterways, sewage and drainage systems, communication systems and public buildings are vital for people’s resilience to hazards. At the same time, these infrastructures can be extremely vulnerable to hazards like earthquakes if not the right disaster resistant measures are taken. In most cases this is the responsibility of governments and out of the (financial) scope of communities. The communities’ role is to hold the government accountable.	
	Household	Community
	Raise awareness on importance of earthquake resistant infrastructure, and that government has a responsibility to ensure earthquake resistant infrastructure such as roads, rail connections, waterways, sewage and drainage systems, communication systems and public buildings.	Advocate for building codes and bylaws, and adherence to ensure earthquake resistant road, rail, waterways, communication systems and public buildings
		Mobilise a community network to monitor earthquake unsafe and/or affected infrastructure, conduct earthquake risk mapping of all infrastructure, and advocate for budget and efforts to ensure earthquake resistance of identified infrastructure.
		Introduce or emphasise the importance of seismic microzonation in urban planning (a process of subdividing a potential earthquake prone area into zones with respect to some geological and geophysical characteristics) in order to mitigate earthquake damage
		Advocate with the government to ensure all masons, carpenters and plumbers are trained in earthquake building codes and practices
		Encourage community network to establish a committee to oversee construction or retrofitting of public infrastructure
		Conduct a survey on available budget for construction and retrofitting of earthquake resistant infrastructure and advocate for stepping up available budget if necessary
		Advocate for immediate rehabilitation of infrastructure damaged during earthquakes, starting with the most essential infrastructures such as connecting roads and hospitals
Women & children	Train women leaders to lead in earthquake safe housing in the community	Ensure the inclusion of women in the community network groups to monitor the earthquake safety of houses in the community

HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE			
Goal	Individual houses and community shelter are earthquake resistant. Governments ensure that critical infrastructures are earthquake safe as a result of measures that have been taken to minimise the impact of an earthquake on these structures		
Context	People’s houses need to be able to withstand hazards like earthquakes. Without giving proper consideration to the hazards a house can be exposed to and taking the right disaster resistant measures, these infrastructures can be extremely vulnerable. Therefore, activities need to focus on raising people’s awareness, knowledge and skills on earthquake resistant housing and shelter. Roads, rail connections, waterways, sewage and drainage systems, communication systems and public buildings are vital for people’s resilience to hazards. At the same time, these infrastructures can be extremely vulnerable to hazards like earthquakes if not the right disaster resistant measures are taken. In most cases this is the responsibility of governments and out of the (financial) scope of communities. The communities’ role is to hold the government accountable.		
	Household	Community	Government
Very vulnerable groups	Ensure people living with disabilities and the elderly are receiving support to retrofit their houses to withstand earthquakes	Ensure the inclusion of very vulnerable groups like ethnic and religious minorities and the elderly in the community network groups to monitor the earthquake safety of houses in the community	

9 Drought

Impacts 9.1

ActionAid's Approach 9.2

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A girl collects wood in Kenya
PHOTO: ACTIONAID

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9. Drought

The UNISDR defines drought as a deficiency of precipitation over an extended period of time, usually a season or more, which results in a water shortage for some activity, group, or environmental sectors. It is a slow onset, hydro-meteorological hazard and is classified into meteorological, agricultural, hydrological, and socio-economic typologies. The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) defines drought as the ‘naturally occurring phenomenon that exists when precipitation has been significantly below normal recorded levels, causing serious hydrological imbalances that adversely affect land resource production systems’.

Drought is a naturally occurring event which does not immediately lead to a disaster. It becomes a disaster only when it causes a serious disruption in the functioning of a community or society due to human, material, economic or environmental losses which go beyond the coping capacity of the affected community.

The fourth assessment report of the IPCC, released in 2007, confirmed that the atmosphere is warming and that this would have an impact on extreme weather events like floods and drought. Tropical and sub-tropical regions will have less precipitation, dry spells will be longer and more intense and new areas will suffer from drought. Communities living in drylands affected by desertification are generally vulnerable and have developed coping mechanisms to drought. However the unpredictable and intensifying nature of drought requires rapid response and newer adaptation mechanisms.

Environmental degradation is a significant contributor to drought. Increasing land degradation, deforestation, desertification and

loss of biodiversity has detrimental effects on the coping capacities of vulnerable communities. The poor and vulnerable communities often living in environmentally fragile locations are both victims as well as perpetrators of environmental degradation. For instance, nomadic herders in the Sahel region, increasingly impoverished as a result of drought and the expansion of arable agriculture, have been forced to graze their herds on fragile grasslands.¹ Farmers, on the other hand working in marginal treelands and unable to invest in soil and water conservation methods, perpetrate further degradation of land.

Practices such as sustainable land management, soil protection, preservation of soil moisture, sustainable land use planning, natural resources management and appropriate drought resilient farming methods help reduce vulnerability. Watershed planning, management of scarce water resources and diversification of livelihoods are some means by which the vulnerability of dryland communities can be reduced. However communities at the margins of poverty with little or no alternative available are forced to exploit whatever little resources available to them for survival and thereby are seldom able to invest in sustainable practices. They are less likely to invest in natural resource management which only yields results after a number of years.

9.1. Impact

Drought affects men, women, girls and boys in a different manner because of their different societal roles. While both women and men are dependent on local natural resources for their livelihoods, it is the responsibility of the woman to secure water, food and fuel for cooking. The scarce availability of water resources for individuals and households directly results in an increase in women’s workload in fetching water. Furthermore, they have unequal access to resources, are kept out of decision making

and have restricted mobility. For instance, dryland communities mostly engage in agriculture and pastoral activities. There is however a marked difference in ownership of assets. While land ownership is with men who produce cash crops and can access credit facilities, women rarely own any land and are engaged in subsistence agriculture. Without ownership of land women cannot access credit, they are excluded from participation from development projects, decision making and policy making processes.²

Droughts impact heavily on the farming sector as a result of destroyed harvests due to inadequate rainfall. Protracted periods of drought impact pasture production and livestock rearing. Household members often migrate elsewhere to earn income. However it is often the men who migrate from rural to urban areas with women taking on the additional responsibility of agriculture production and livestock rearing along with their tradition roles of caregivers (ibid).

9.2. ActionAid's approach and activities

ActionAid does not look at drought as a lone event. ActionAid usually engages with communities over a long period of time since empowerment and rights awareness involve protracted and continued association with them. In the process, it helps communities to identify the underlying causes of drought, unavailability of food and basic needs and loss of livelihoods. This long term engagement with drought affected communities aims to help in enabling access to basic needs, promoting income generating opportunities, livelihood diversification, promoting women's leadership in natural resource management, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and in promoting

women and girls' protection.

ActionAid supports poor and excluded people and their institutions to address and secure their basic needs by supporting communities to claim the rights they are entitled to. Drought does not naturally cause famine. Famine is caused only when people lack the power to access food or due to failure of the state to provide food to all or because markets fail. It is often the poor and the marginalised who feel powerless and unable to meet their basic needs.

A resilient community should be aware of its risks and vulnerabilities. It should be able to make informed decisions to reduce their vulnerabilities and adopt practices that can lessen their risk to disasters. For this reason ActionAid's projects emphasize generating awareness of their vulnerabilities within communities, understanding the root causes of their vulnerability and empowering them to undertake measures for safer and more resilient lives and livelihoods.

ActionAid actively engages with women smallholder farmers with targeted capacity building activities, making them aware of their rights. Women's empowerment, in taking control over production, is closely linked with their rights and control over productive assets, primarily of land and livestock.

Land rights expert groups are created with women in communities, and these groups are empowered to participate in national consultations and legislative processes. Women's cooperatives are organised for advocacy and lobbying, and demand land as collectives. In the case study below, read how community-based water and agricultural projects are making a difference in the resilience of women and their families to drought.

9.3. Case Studies

The following case study from Kenya illustrates how water scarcity compromises the health and safety of women and girls, and what can be done to improve their resilience during times of drought.

How drought affects women, Kenya

Water scarcity compromises hygiene especially for girls and women as the little water available is prioritised for drinking and cooking. Women and girls have to walk longer distances to fetch water in many rural parts of Kenya – sometimes for eight to ten hours to the closest water source. As women and girls walk in the bushes in search of water, they become exposed to the possibility of rape. Drought and water scarcity also can result in girls being withdrawn from school to support their mothers in taking care of young siblings or fetching water, or they are married off from as early as the age of 13 in order for their families to obtain livestock in return as dowry.

Droughts force men to migrate with livestock in search of pasture and water or to the cities in search for work. Women are left behind with family responsibilities and often very little in terms of resources. They are therefore forced to engage in petty trade to put food on the table. For those who live close to towns, prostitution can be a last resort option for women and girls, exposing them to the risk of contracting i.e. HIV/AIDS. Culturally women cannot make any decision to sell or even slaughter small livestock for food. They will have to wait for the men to return which can prove having devastating consequences in times of drought.

ActionAid provides relief and cash-for-work to communities affected by drought and facing extreme shortages of food and water. To build the drought resilience of communities, women are supported in diversifying their livelihoods, they receive training in drought-tolerant seeds and farming practices, and water points are rehabilitated or constructed.

Sources: ActionAid (2011), How Drought Affects Women. ActionAid: Johannesburg, available at: <http://www.actionaid.org/2011/07/how-drought-affects-women>
And, ActionAid: Australia (2011), Why Drought is about power not rain, available at: <http://www.actionaid.org/2011/08/why-drought-about-power-not-rain>

In Bangladesh, ActionAid works with vulnerable communities and helps them to identify the risks they face, their vulnerabilities to drought, and understand their capacities to cope better.³ Using participatory processes to engage the communities, ActionAid also helps them understand their human rights to basic services and identify solutions to the challenges they face, as highlighted in the case study below.

Getting local government support in drought-prone areas, Bangladesh

Two thirds of the people living in the drought-prone Naogaon area of Bangladesh are dependent on agriculture for their earning and employment. During the lean period when there is a significant decrease in income due to lack of sufficient crops being grown, farmers struggle to have enough food and meet the basic needs of their families. The poorest spiral into debt, sell their livestock very cheaply, accept wages at much lower rates and migrate to other areas in search of work.

As a result of ActionAid's support to the community, farmers understand that seasonal weather is changing and they have to diversify their livelihoods in order to adapt. They have learned how to rear sheep and develop household vegetable gardening, enabling them to feed their families and reduce their dependence on expensive chemical fertilisers. Communities are also connecting with their local governments to get livestock rearing support, which gives them help and advice on how to tend their animals.

Source: <http://www.actionaid.org/2013/04/making-communities-more-resilient-disasters>

Another case study from Kenya below, outlines how community-based water and agricultural projects are making a difference in the resilience of women and their families to drought.



A woman collects wild seeds for food as a last resort following a drought in Kenya
PHOTO: SIEGFRIED MODOLA / SHOOT THE EARTH / ACTIONAID

From Land of Problems to Island of Hope, Kenya

Cyclical drought is a common phenomenon in several parts of Northern Kenya. With rains becoming more and more erratic, farmers who have previously made their living and sustained their families on rain-fed agriculture have struggled to adapt. ActionAid has been working with farmers in this area for over five years, supporting them with community-based water and agricultural projects that aim to provide long-lasting solutions to the challenges posed by climate variation. Local farmers have dug water pipes to bring water from nearby rivers to individual plots of farmland. Households have benefitted from the irrigated land, where they grow their own food and provide pasture for their livestock.

Rose and her husband Jackson live nearby. With ActionAid's support they have dug a small dam which allows them to collect and harvest precious rainfall when it does come. This pond feeds a drip irrigation system which waters plants at the root, thereby keeping water wastage to a minimum. Rose and Jackson now have a large plot of productive land to support themselves. Jackson is also a proud member of the local water management committee, which sets irrigation priorities and coordinates community involvement and labour.

Source: <http://www.actionaid.org/2011/07/we-once-called-our-land-mathina-%E2%80%93-land-problems>

References

- 1 Source: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/x5318e/x5318e01.htm>
- 2 UNCCD (undated), Thematic Fact Series 4: Gender and Desertification. UNCCD: Bonn.
- 3 Source: <http://www.actionaid.org/2013/04/making-communities-more-resilient-disasters>

9.4 Programming Frameworks: Drought

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS			
Goal	By designing and implementing emergency preparedness activities including disaster risk reduction that will help mitigate the impact of drought, we will be able to strengthen the resilience of communities to drought.		
Context	Preparedness is a very basic and key part of any disaster risk management. Preparedness is essential to in drought contexts in order to make all systems well prepared.		
	Household	Community	Government
General vulnerable population	Provide training on HH drought risk analysis, drought risk reduction and preparedness measures	Provide training on disaster risk reduction, drought risk assessment, and preparation of participatory risk reduction plans	Conduct a review exercise of the government's drought management system including legislative framework, governance structures, coordination mechanisms, planning processes and financial instruments
	Enhance capacity and leadership skills to participate in community decision making processes, and emphasise the importance of women's leadership role	Establish new or strengthen existing disaster management committee at the community level, promote participation of women and marginalised groups in this (or establish women-led disaster management committees) and link them with local government system	Advocate for drought risk management policies and practices that are inclusive of women and the most vulnerable in society, including regularly updated drought contingency and emergency response plans
	Facilitate to develop HH level drought preparedness plan and provide support in the implementation of them	Facilitate the development of a community level drought preparedness and management plan. Ensure women are part of this process to ensure women inclusive and responsive plans	Advocate with the government for a community based drought risk management process and underline the importance of including women and marginalised groups in this process
		Provideskills training on advocacy and campaigning with local government for implementation of community preparedness plans, adequate funding and to institutionalise drought management action plan	Facilitate a dialogue on community based drought risk management with relevant government departments and try to create space for community networks to demand for budget allocation for community level disaster management committees and drought risk management
		Support communities in participating in decision-making processes around allocation, prioritisation and utilisation of resources and budgets for drought risk management. Launch campaign if required to highlight gaps in resource allocation and utilisation of drought risk management budget	Advocate for an information and public hearing meeting of drought management authorities and communities to discuss existing strategies, coordination of interventions and available budget
		Identify and train community volunteers/early warning task force on early warning dissemination and providing advice on preparedness and mitigation measures	Train staff of relevant government departments at national and local level on drought risk reduction strategies and measures

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS			
Goal	By designing and implementing emergency preparedness activities including disaster risk reduction that will help mitigate the impact of drought, we will be able to strengthen the resilience of communities to drought.		
Context	Preparedness is a very basic and key part of any disaster risk management. Preparedness is essential to in drought contexts in order to make all systems well prepared.		
	Household	Community	Government
	Raise awareness on importance of (dry) food preservation for household stockpiling in preparation for dry season. Provide necessary training and equipment	Establish community level emergency communication mechanism (technology based and traditional)	Advocate for the investment in and testing of early warning systems
	Raise awareness on importance of water preservation and storing. Provide necessary training and materials for rainwater harvesting, construction of dams/cisterns		Advocate for policies and strategies that promote and facilitate fair access and distribution of water
	Train on early warning signals and ensure access to early warning to all individuals in a community(give emphasis to indigenous early warning systems)		
	Make weather information available to people through radio, mobile phone, tv and social media. Encourage HHs to keep informed about the local weather through one of these information channels	Establish and/or support community radio station to develop and broadcast news and discussions on drought preparedness and early warning	Advocate for increased media coverage of drought risks that are accessible to the communities
	Organise community events to raise awareness on drought risk management through theatre, surveys, quizzes, competitions		
	Facilitate mapping of information needs and communication preferences in regard to drought early warning and response. Develop and distribute IEC materials on drought preparedness and ensure their accessibility to women and marginalised groups		Advocate to ensure adequate funds for the implementation of drought preparedness plans
		Provide training on water management and natural resource management, and provide community with skills to engage in government decision making in these matters such as by running a campaign or requesting for meetings	Advocate for democratic governance in water management and natural resource management Design strategies to manage resource based conflicts among communities
		Identify and promote drought risk management solutions available at the community level in terms of capacities, local and indigenous knowledge (i.e. early warning signals) and drought preparedness and mitigation measures. Promote sharing of these solutions between communities	
		Develop and promote alternatives around drought risk management using a combination of science and traditional/local/indigenous knowledge	Conduct evidence based advocacy on alternatives around drought risk management
		Facilitate community food stockpiling through skills training and providing equipment	

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS			
Goal	By designing and implementing emergency preparedness activities including disaster risk reduction that will help mitigate the impact of drought, we will be able to strengthen the resilience of communities to drought.		
Context	Preparedness is a very basic and key part of any disaster risk management. Preparedness is essential to in drought contexts in order to make all systems well prepared.		
	Household	Community	Government
		Establish and strengthen local drought monitoring systems and link them with each other and the national drought monitoring agency	Link hydro-meteorological climate data and predictions with the community based early warning system
	Raise awareness on the increased burden on women and girls during droughts as they are generally responsible for the household's water provision		
		Stakeholders' consultations on response & coordination mechanisms at county and national level	
		Initiate a dialogue on different capacities of men and women and how women can make positive and valuable contributions to disaster preparedness and response	
	Raise awareness on importance of women leadership and their capabilities in designing and implementing drought risk management activities		
	Raise awareness on rights of women and girls to be free from all forms of violence, particularly under shocks and stresses like drought that make them vulnerable Provide training to duty bearers on women's vulnerability in drought emergencies and the role of the state in protecting the rights of women and girls including sexual and reproductive health and rights		
Women and children	Promote gender equality by involving women and girls in all activities or arrange for parallel sessions if the local context requires. Take the domestic tasks of women/girls into account whilst planning	Strengthen existing women's networks/ associations to play an active role in drought preparedness and response, and to review drought risk reduction and response plans to ensure the plan is sensitive to the needs of women	Share with government stakeholders the knowledge and evidence of women's capabilities and contributions to drought risk management, and advocate for gender responsive DRR interventions through e.g. the inclusion of women leaders in disaster management committees and drought management planning
	Identify women leaders and train them on taking up a leadership role in drought risk reduction. Also mobilise them as role model	Build the capacity of women networks to demand for their rights, equal access to compensation after a drought disaster and access to justice	

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS			
Goal	By designing and implementing emergency preparedness activities including disaster risk reduction that will help mitigate the impact of drought, we will be able to strengthen the resilience of communities to drought.		
Context	Preparedness is a very basic and key part of any disaster risk management. Preparedness is essential to in drought contexts in order to make all systems well prepared.		
	Household	Community	Government
	Capacitate women to address injustices at the household level that increase their vulnerability to droughts (e.g. providing HH water, sacrificing meals for more vulnerable family members and men), and also to have their drought risk reduction capacities recognised	Advocate for the inclusion and participation of women in drought management budget planning and monitoring	
Very vulnerable groups	Identify the capabilities and contributions of women and marginalised groups in drought risk reduction and reinforce these through training of women	Establish or strengthen community support systems (buddy) to ensure the elderly and people living with disabilities will receive support in drought preparedness	Advocate and support government authorities and staff in developing policies and practices, coordination mechanisms and financial instruments that ensure the inclusion and participation of the marginalised groups in drought risk management
	Improve the access of women and marginalised groups to information, especially on drought preparedness and early warning		
	Identify potential leaders among marginalised groups and train them to take up a leadership role in drought risk management		

FOOD SECURITY			
Goal	Food security is an important condition for people’s resilience to hazards like drought. To ensure the food security of people at all times, safety nets needs to be in place and food relief provided during drought emergencies. This framework focuses on the transitory type of food insecurity which is caused by drought shock.		
Context	Drought is one of the most important factors affecting food security. Drought affects food availability through affecting performance of crops and livestock. It puts people in a temporary challenge to access food. Thus, while attempting to put a framework to deal with drought hazard, it is very crucial to consider all aspects of food security and the strategies to make the food security system resilient.		
	Household	Community	Government
General vulnerable population	Introduce food/cash/assets-for-work whereby drought risk mitigation activities are undertaken (e.g. rangeland reclamation, rainwater-fed irrigation systems, reforestation). The case of women should receive due attention to balance their work time with the UCW load.	Facilitate participatory review and analysis of policies, practices and budget related to community’s food security in drought prone areas, and identify gaps for advocacy and a possible campaign Enhance indigenous mutual community support mechanisms to resist drought (local coping mechanism to resist or overcome)	Organise for a national and/or sub-national level workshop to present identified gaps of government budget, policies and practices related to communities’ food security in drought prone areas
	Introduce unconditional cash transfers for labour constrained and vulnerable individuals and their dependents. Pregnant and lactating women also should be considered in this regard.	Establish and support communities and government to improve early warning systems that embrace women’s participation and leadership; and power shift based on food security indicators.	
	Instead of cash, distribute food items that are locally accepted in case of drought emergencies as food can be scarce during those times	Provide support in the assessment and forecasting of the impact of climate change on food production, and forecasting and modelling of droughts. Advocate for improved collaboration between community and government and between different government levels and departments on this, and investments in modern equipment for weather condition monitoring	
	Promote variety of nutritional locally available food items e.g. different plants and livestock (cognizant of adaptability etc)		
	Target women as household distribution list	In case of cash transfers or food handouts, make it a condition for women to receive this and have decision-making power over as their role in the household is very significant in deciding who requires most.	Empower women and promote their role
	Raise awareness on saving and other coping mechanisms at household level to reduce the risk of drought hazards at any time. (Prepare contingency plan at household level).	Support communities and government to prepare contingency plans that list response options for food security during drought emergencies and how the most vulnerable people are assisted. Advocate for national and local level food reserves during the dry season	

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Context	Drought is one of the most important factors affecting food security. Drought affects food availability through affecting performance of crops and livestock. It puts people in a temporary challenge to access food. Thus, while attempting to put a framework to deal with drought hazard, it is very crucial to consider all aspects of food security and the strategies to make the food security system resilient.		
	Household	Community	Government
		Strengthen community safety net systems which promote women’s participation and leadership and building their capacity to encourage support such as food handouts to the most vulnerable in times of drought emergencies	Advocate for effective safety net programs to be in place
	Raise awareness on the increased vulnerability of women and marginalised groups such as the elderly, people living with disabilities, ethnic and religious minorities during droughts and the strategies that it requires to protect them from exploitations and safeguard their food security at all times		
Women & children	Awareness raising on household nutrition	Ensure and advocate for food security programmes that are inclusive and accessible by marginalised populations, and take into account the different nutritional requirements of children, pregnant and lactating women, the elderly, and individuals with a medical condition.	
Very vulnerable groups		Provide basic training for emergency responders on the health and nutritional needs of vulnerable groups like the elderly, children, PLHIV, PWD and minorities	Advocate for national social protection strategies that provide a secure income or handouts to the most vulnerable people

FARM BASED LIVELIHOODS			
Goal	Many people around the world and more so in rural areas, are dependent on agriculture as their livelihoods. For people's resilience it is important that disasters like droughts have minimal impact on their agricultural produce.		
Context	Agriculture in most of the developing countries is highly dependent on rainfall. Thus, drought or abnormal rainfall seriously affects the performance of agriculture. Therefore, it is important to look for effective strategies that will make the agriculture system resilient to drought and associated disasters.		
	Household	Community	Government
General vulnerable population	Provide training on seed multiplication methods, safe seed storage methods, seed banks and mixed cropping. Set up a demonstration farm if applicable (introduce new drought tolerant seed varieties in case no suitable locally available seeds can be identified)		Advocate for disaster and climate sensitive and sustainable agricultural policies and subsidies that support food production and promote drought tolerant seeds and crops including appropriate irrigation systems
			Promote regional seminars and exchange of lessons learned on drought resilience agriculture and livestock policies, strategies and programmes
	Develop local training materials and provide training of CRSA farming practices and conservation agriculture including indigenous practices and knowledge, and tailor to drought affected areas (i.e. to counter pests in drought prone agricultural areas)		Advocate for weather index based insurance/ risk transfer schemes suitable for marginalised and landless farmers, fishermen and livestock keepers, and build capacity of relevant institutions
	Promote diversification of crops and livestock breeds to be better prepared for droughts	Support smallholder groups and networks in government decision making processes around prioritisation, allocation and utilisation of resources and budgets for agricultural and livestock keeping programmes in drought prone areas. Support community to articulate needs. Develop a community friendly budget-tracking toolkit	Advocate for speedy compensation for crop or livestock loss and waving off of loans in order to ensure speedy recovery of smallholders, allow new cultivation and avoid farmer's suicide in some country contexts. Ensure women and marginalised groups are also receiving compensation
	Promote and train on small scale irrigation systems and water storage and management	Promote and train on small scale, community-led irrigation systems and fair water management that promote women's membership and leadership	Advocate and support the government to promote fair access to small scale irrigation by drought prone area farmers
		Promote fodder/forage and water development for livestock including women's participation and leadership in this.	Advocate for the inclusion of disaster/drought resistant agriculture and livestock keeping in school curriculum

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Context	Agriculture in most of the developing countries is highly dependent on rainfall. Thus, drought or abnormal rainfall seriously affects the performance of agriculture. Therefore, it is important to look for effective strategies that will make the agriculture system resilient to drought and associated disasters.		
	Household	Community	Government
	Raise awareness on women's role as farmers and the importance of crops grown by women such as sorghum, rice, millet for HH food security and the need to ensure drought tolerant seeds are available		Advocate for prioritisation of crops grown by female farmers for extension services
	Develop information, education and communication materials on drought impacts on agriculture and the possible prevention, preparedness and mitigation measures		Advocate for improved market information and access for smallholder farmers and livestock keepers by investing in market infrastructure and access routes particularly for women and marginalized groups
	Promote and support the set-up of HH based agricultural activities such as kitchen gardening and livestock rearing	Develop (train and equip) community experts on resilient agriculture and livestock keeping including basic animal health care	Advocate for research and (improved) extension and veterinary services in drought prone areas, and underline that they need to meet the needs of women as well
	Promote the planting of multipurpose trees (trees that can be used to protect and recover the soil, and as a source of food for people and animals) on the crop fields, on fences, around houses, in sloppy areas, on weak and eroded areas, and in drought prone areas. Some of these trees could also provide additional sources of income (e.g. betel nuts, coconuts, bamboo and other horticulture depending on the local environment)		Advocate for sustainable water management, land use planning, bio-diversity conservation and environmental and rangeland protection
	Promote and provide training on improved post-harvest handling practices including processing and storage in safe places	Promote community managed seed and grain banks, credit, input supply and marketing that includes drought tolerant crop varieties and animal breeds. Provide training on the management of the banks	Promote recording and recognition of tenure rights for all, especially those segments of community without legally recognized rights (communal tenure, women's rights to land, common tenure resource rights)
	Raise awareness and provide equipment for soil and water conservation and management for farming and livestock keeping such as rainwater harvesting, surface and underground water recharge and utilisation system, micro basin, terracing and trench bunds construction, planting selected grass species and leguminous plants, tree planting, permanent soil cover / mulching, use of compost and animal manure		Raise awareness and train local level government staff on soil and water conservation methods and feasible water harvesting technologies, and provide seeds and planting materials
	Raise awareness on economical and sustainable use of water in drought affected areas	Establish and strengthen farmers/pastoralist field schools	Advocate and support for strengthened farmers/pastoralist field schools. Provide legal entity to these farmers/pastoralist field schools

FARM BASED LIVELIHOODS			
Goal	Many people around the world and more so in rural areas, are dependent on agriculture as their livelihoods. For people's resilience it is important that disasters like droughts have minimal impact on their agricultural produce.		
Context	Agriculture in most of the developing countries is highly dependent on rainfall. Thus, drought or abnormal rainfall seriously affects the performance of agriculture. Therefore, it is important to look for effective strategies that will make the agriculture system resilient to drought and associated disasters.		
	Household	Community	Government
		Establish and strengthen natural resource management committees that advises on the use of community land for grazing such as calling for rehabilitation of degraded land through temporary closure of pasture land. Ensure women's participation and encourage women leadership in these committees	Advocate and support the government to provide training and farming tools and other materials
		Provide meteorological forecasts to female and male smallholders and livestock keepers through appropriate communication means to both sexes and corresponding advice on preparedness and mitigation action. Simultaneously acknowledge and integrate local indigenous knowledge on early warning system and forecast	Provide meteorological forecasts to smallholders and livestock keepers and corresponding advice on preparedness and mitigation action (equipping and sustaining will be government's role)
	Raise awareness on drought tolerant livestock breeds (e.g. goats, camels, chicken).Underline the importance of sourcing these animals locally as they are expected to easily adapt to the local conditions. Provide some of these animals to the most vulnerable households including women headed households and from marginalised groups	Train and provide insemination facilities to improve the quality and productivity of drought tolerant livestock breeds	Advocate for policies and strategies including subsidies(supply)for drought tolerant livestock breeds
		Establish revolving funds for livestock drugs and health care and provide training to members on managing the fund and use of drugs	Advocate for timely destocking (commercial/ slaughter) interventions according to the alert levels1
	Provide training on drought tolerant animal fodder species (grasses, bushes and trees), improved production and fodder preservation and storage techniques. Promote use of community forests and farrow land to grow seasonal fodder. Provide fodder seeds if required and establish fodder banks at household and community level		Advocate for timely support and extension services (material, technical and financial) including making it part of school curriculum and research

FARM BASED LIVELIHOODS			
Goal	Many people around the world and more so in rural areas, are dependent on agriculture as their livelihoods. For people's resilience it is important that disasters like droughts have minimal impact on their agricultural produce.		
Context	Agriculture in most of the developing countries is highly dependent on rainfall. Thus, drought or abnormal rainfall seriously affects the performance of agriculture. Therefore, it is important to look for effective strategies that will make the agriculture system resilient to drought and associated disasters.		
	Household	Community	Government
	Raise awareness on use of crop residues for animal feeding instead of burning the land with residues	Raise awareness and provide training on community based rangeland management	Advocate for land-use planning suitable for drought prone areas
Women and children	Organise targeted trainings for women on drought tolerant seeds, animal breeds and agricultural practices including increasing their negotiating capacities to maintain ownership of their lands	In partnership with women networks, build capacity of women to negotiate for access to land, compensation where applicable and to sustainable housing	Ensure a mechanism and its application to ensure women's access to land including their negotiating power at all levels
	Increase women's negotiating capacities to maintain ownership of their lands and control of agricultural inputs		

NON FARM LIVELIHOODS			
GOAL	Sustainable livelihoods, and hence uninterrupted income, is core to people’s resilience to hazards like droughts. For people working off farm, their activities need to be able to mitigate the impact of droughts.		
Context	Off farm activities are important sources of livelihood. They play significant role in supporting the people living in poverty to be more resilient by diversifying the livelihood sources. Thus, incorporating off farm activities diversifying livelihood opportunities for people is very important to improve resilience to drought hazards.		
	Household	Community	Government
General vulnerable population	Raise awareness on importance of a saving culture and asset creation on the basis of local potential to withstand stresses like drought		Advocate for microfinance facilities that would allow households and communities to invest in drought resilient and diversified livelihood activities. Underline the importance that these facilities are accessible to women and marginalised group
	Raise awareness on diversification of livelihood for households living in drought prone areas that are not harmful from a natural resource perspective and equip them with skills and means (e.g. bee keeping)	Introduce/strengthen a community saving and loan system. Insist women and marginalised groups are eligible to participate and lead in these schemes	Advocate for investments in the establishment of diversified livelihood programmes with budget allocation for targeted programmes for women and youth
	Provide technical and vocational training including business and entrepreneurship training and product value addition based on market needs and their capacity, and considering the impact of droughts. Ensure to ensure youth in these trainings (especially landless youth)	Raise awareness on livelihood practices that are harmful from a natural resource perspective (i.e. charcoal production) and promote networks of community members to influence the larger community and government’s natural resource management policies and strategies	Advocate for policies and strategies that prevent harmful livelihood practices from a natural resource perspective, including subsidized environment friendly material
	Develop information, education and communication materials on the importance of livelihood diversification in drought prone areas, and women’s rights to ownership , control and decision making and negotiation at household level		
Women & children	Build capacity of women through training to manage and engage in diversified livelihoods	Introduce/strengthen women led saving and loan system/ self-help groups, cooperatives and unions	Advocate for polices, strategies and institutions that support women’s livelihoods
	Raise awareness among women on their right to microfinance and access to financial resources and ensure women’s access to credit/loan services	Support women to design and test gender-responsive economic alternatives that balance their paid work with their unpaid care work	Advocate for gender responsive publics services that reduced UCW from women and girls, and promote financial services and enabling environment (market place and market linkage)

NON FARM LIVELIHOODS			
GOAL	Sustainable livelihoods, and hence uninterrupted income, is core to people's resilience to hazards like droughts. For people working off farm, their activities need to be able to mitigate the impact of droughts.		
Context	Off farm activities are important sources of livelihood. They play significant role in supporting the people living in poverty to be more resilient by diversifying the livelihood sources. Thus, incorporating off farm activities diversifying livelihood opportunities for people is very important to improve resilience to drought hazards.		
	Household	Community	Government
Very vulnerable groups	Provide targeted diversified livelihoods training to marginalised groups	Introduce/strengthen saving and loan systems accessible to marginalised groups	Advocate for direct social security scheme/support from government to very vulnerable groups
	Raise awareness among marginalised groups on their right to microfinance and access to financial resources and ensure their access to credit		

HEALTH, WATER AND SANITATION			
GOAL	Access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene and health services even during calamities is crucial for a resilient community.		
Context	The health situation of people is affected by drought. People and livestock face critical shortage of water. Access to water and health services is affected during drought disaster and disease epidemics mostly become prevalent. Due to shortage of food and other stresses, people's immune system is compromised and leads to health related problems.		
	Household	Community	Government
General vulnerable population	Raise awareness on the importance of proper sanitation and hygiene, including during droughts	Identify and train community volunteers on water, sanitation, hygiene, vector control.	Advocate for contingency planning that will ensure the continuation of essential health care such as maternal and psychosocial health care during calamities
	Promote and provide training on health conditions of people caused by lack of food and clean water		Advocate for adequate water, sanitation, hygiene kits, medicines for emergency kit stockpiling
		Raise awareness that government has responsibility to ensure sustainable use of water sources and mobilise a community network to monitor government decision making on e.g. construction of dams and advocate for a voice in this decision-making and available budgets for rehabilitation of e.g. boreholes, wells, ponds	Advocate for availability of safe drinking water for all such the installation of community level resilient water supply system with saline filtering facility if required. Underline that the water supply system should reduce the burden of women and girls in collecting water
		Raise awareness in the community on importance of government to prepare health centres for calamities such as droughts and the resulting deteriorating health condition of communities and promote networks of community members to influence government on these issues	Advocate for mobile health clinics in pastoral areas where entire families are expected to move around in search for pasture.
	Promote and train on water harvesting methods (i.e. pond sand filter, rain water harvesting)		Advocate for the installation of water harvesting structures, soil water conservation
	Provide water purification kits and if required saline filter for the most vulnerable HHs	Train water and sanitation workers on water source installation and maintenance	Advocate for sustainable use of groundwater and community participation in decision making around the construction of dams. Advocate for re/excavation of ponds
	Ensure with all parties that women are included in WASH planning in drought prone areas as women and girls have specific needs to be considered and they have the right to participate		

HEALTH, WATER AND SANITATION			
GOAL	Access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene and health services even during calamities is crucial for a resilient community.		
Context	The health situation of people is affected by drought. People and livestock face critical shortage of water. Access to water and health services is affected during drought disaster and disease epidemics mostly become prevalent. Due to shortage of food and other stresses, people's immune system is compromised and leads to health related problems.		
	Household	Community	Government
	Provide safe water during drought calamity		
Women and children	Train women and girls about the importance of uninterrupted access to health care during droughts	Provide basic training for emergency responders on the health and nutritional needs of vulnerable groups like the elderly and children	Advocate for women friendly health services and facilities
	Raise awareness and promote that drought response health interventions should ensure that women have access to these services and that they are adapted to their needs		
	Provide targeted supply of water for pregnant and lactating women	Raise awareness on increased hygiene requirement of women and in particular pregnant and lactating women	Advocate for land ownership of women and marginalised groups like ethnic and religious minorities so that they can invest in latrines and water storage without the fear of being evicted
Very vulnerable groups		Involve children in water and sanitation behaviour change strategies, and in monitoring of Watsan installations	Advocate to include lessons on safe water use, sanitation, hygiene, water conservation, water harvesting in school curriculum
	Ensure separate awareness raising sessions (i.e. through theatre) are organised for marginalised groups like children, the elderly, ethnic and religious minorities on the importance of hygiene and clean water		
	Promote a support system whereby elderly and people with disabilities are assisted in obtaining clean water during drought		

10 School Safety

ActionAid's Promoting Rights in School Initiative 10.1

ActionAid's work on School Safety 10.2

Programming Frameworks 10.3



Boy who participated in disaster risk reduction in school training funded by ECHO in Cambodia
PHOTO: ACTIONAID

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10. School Safety

Each year disasters have a devastating impact on education. In the 2015 Nepal earthquake, more than 8000 public community schools were damaged. More than two million children and youth were forced to stay out of education institutions for a significant amount of time as the earthquake and its aftershocks led to the complete closure of schools and colleges in severely affected districts.¹ Besides the measurable infrastructure losses, the earthquake is expected to impact continuity of education, enrolment, attendance and efficiency of teaching personnel and infrastructure.

School facilities are often used as shelter for extended periods of time which contributes to discontinuity of education. Disasters act as a disincentive to send children to school as disaster affected communities with tighter budgets tend to have higher dropout rates while children get involved in rebuilding shelters and earning livelihoods to make up for losses. Discontinuity of education can lead to psychosocial impact on children and even on their nutrition status as schools in several poor and developing countries are used by governments to supplement nutrition through government aided meal schemes, for instance mid-day meal schemes in India and Nepal.

Acknowledging the crucial role schools play in a community's social fabric, school safety was given a major focus through the 2006-07 UNISDR campaign 'Disaster Reduction begins in School'. In 2010, UNISDR launched the 'one million safe schools and hospitals campaign'- a global initiative to make schools and hospitals safer from disasters. The Sendai declaration of 2015 recognised the importance of such global and regional campaigns as instruments for public awareness and education in order to

promote a culture of disaster prevention and resilience.

In 2013, a group of like-minded organisations engaged in education and school safety came together to form the Global Alliance for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience in the Education Sector (GADRRRES).² The main purpose of the alliance was to strengthen global coordination, share information and knowledge, and to advocate for safer education facilities. The GADRRRES defines a 'safe school'³ as a combination of:

1. Safe Learning Facilities (disaster resilient infrastructure)
2. School Disaster Management
3. Risk Reduction and Resilience Education

Using the above definition of safe schools, the UNISDR has launched a Worldwide Initiative for Safe Schools focusing on high risk, low capacity countries.¹ This initiative aims to integrate structural safety in the construction of new schools and retrofit existing vulnerable ones; support National Disaster Management Organizations and Ministries of Education to engage actively in school preparedness activities, including in the conduct of evacuation drills; to mobilise Ministries of Education to include DRR as part of school curricula; and to support governments to become school safety leaders and assist in monitoring school safety actions globally.

10.1. ActionAid's Promoting Rights in School Initiative

ActionAid works towards Promoting Rights in School (PRS initiative) with a focus on strengthening public education. Our approach is to support schools coupled with advocacy and policy efforts at the national and international level. ActionAid

aims to build the capacity of students, children, communities and local civil society organisations to lead on advocate for quality education. As part of this initiative ‘10 rights in school’ have been formulated which are based on international human rights treaties and conventions. The full lists of rights can be reviewed in the PRS document itself but it worth mentioning that at least three rights highlight the importance of disaster risk reduction:²

- **Right 3:** Right to adequate infrastructure which emphasises the need to ensure school’s infrastructure is resilient to natural disasters.
- **Right 4:** Right to quality trained teachers refers to teachers that have gone through appropriate pre-service and in-service training. In hazard prone areas that implies that teachers receive training in disaster risk reduction as well in order to pass the knowledge and skills to pupils whilst at the same time be able to respond quickly and adequately to any hazard event occurring.
- **Right 6:** Right to relevant education implies that the school curriculum is relevant to the local context. In hazard prone contexts it is essential that the curriculum includes lessons on disaster risk reduction, environmental protection and climate change.

10.2. ActionAid’s work on School Safety⁴

Between 2006 and 2011, ActionAid pioneered a Disaster Risk Reduction through School (DRRS) project in nine countries namely Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Ghana, Malawi, Kenya, Haiti, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Zambia. The three overarching aims of the project were to:

- Support the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action⁵ through innovative, grassroots DRR programmes
- Build local communities’ capacity to act on their own behalf and secure their basic rights, using Participatory Vulnerability Analysis (PVA)
- Advocate for governments to uphold their responsibilities to protect their populations

The basic premise of the DRRS project was that it considered the school as an important element in the communities’ social fabric and acknowledged its linkages with other social structures and institutions. It did not treat school as a separate unit, but considered it as an integral part of the community which could contribute to community resilience. The DRRS project emphasised that for school safety the hard elements need to link with the soft elements i.e., adapting, strengthening, reinforcing physical infrastructure of existing and new facilities. Additionally, eliminating hazards has to dove-tail with ongoing risk and vulnerability assessments, maintenance of physical disaster risk reduction infrastructure, early warning systems and mechanisms for adaptation, recovery and response.

In the course of implementing the project in the eight countries across Asia and Africa, ActionAid identified certain features of a ‘safe school’ namely, a safe school:

- Is structurally safe
- Is in a safe compound and location
- Is in a safe environment and community
- Has the capacity to respond to and recover from disaster
- Promotes a culture of safety and has the capacity to mobilize action against disaster

For ActionAid, schools were an entry point in understanding and working with communities and building a safe school was not the end of the project. The importance of schools in bringing together children from diverse backgrounds and consequently their families, irrespective of their background and social status, was leveraged to link with the different sections of community. Focussing on children created a sense of urgency around hazards and risks, and encouraged communities to tackle their vulnerabilities.

The DRRS project addressed school safety through a multi-pronged approach which included:

- DRR in schools: Schools are safe for children and promote a culture and practice of safety through their curricula.

DRR in schools consist of making the existing structure safe (through repairs and retrofitting), including safety features in new structures, making the school compound safer and creating safe spaces in the schools catchment area; raising awareness of disaster and creating capacity to mobilize and respond amongst students, their families and school personnel; and advocacy work to include DRR in the school curriculum.

- DRR through schools: building and location of safe schools in more resilient communities

This action looks at locating schools in communities which are safer and not just making a school building safe. For instance in a flood prone area, a safe school would need more than just a raised plinth and bunds around it when the rest of the village is prone to submergence. Addressing the root causes beyond the vulnerability of a school structure requires deeper analysis with the community. To encourage participation of communities, vulnerability assessments were not limited to schools but focused on the whole community. The project was able to link to other

community initiatives, work with other organisations and local government during the process of addressing school safety, working closely with communities.

- Beyond disasters: Awareness of disaster, capacity to analyse vulnerabilities, power to act and to demand action which ultimately creates more resilient communities.

The project enabled the community to identify vulnerabilities and seek solutions. In this process certain tangible benefits were seen for the community through income generation of labourers involved in risk reduction work, skills improvement and reclaiming/reviving livelihoods lost to hazards. Apart from these, the project helped the communities with new ways to analyse their vulnerabilities, created a more cohesive community, and importantly gave them a collective voice to express and lobby for their rights. It was also an avenue to generate discussion on the rights of the disabled towards equal education opportunity and of women.

References

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5. ActionAid (2011), Promoting Rights in Schools: Providing quality public education. ActionAid: Johannesburg.
6. This section draws from: S. Ferretti (2010), Disaster Risk Reduction through Schools, Five Years On: Learning from our experience ActionAid (unpublished).
7. The Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 – 2015 is the first international plan with the goal of substantially reducing disaster losses within a ten year timeframe, by building the resilience of national and communities to disasters.

10.3 Programming Frameworks: Safe Schools

RIGHTS AWARENESS			
Goal	Schools as centres for free, compulsory and non-discriminatory education, with appropriate infrastructure in a safe and non-violent environment.		
Context	Schools play an important role in communities by linking children, teachers, parents, school management and local government authorities. They can be an effective means to spread awareness of disasters, climate change and resilience.		
	Household	Community	Government
General vulnerable population	Develop partnerships with child centred organisations to help develop a programme that addresses the needs of school children in disasters and identifies child sensitive responses to disasters		
	Raise awareness towards importance of safety, safe school and ensure everyone involved understands the importance of uninterrupted education during and after disasters	Raise awareness, mobilise and organise parents and caregivers (all relevant persons, who help children grow up safely) towards the rights of children to safe and un-interrupted education, the role of the community in child protection	Facilitate a dialogue on the rights and entitlements of children to safe and uninterrupted education with duty bearers, and conduct a review of policies that address the basic rights of the child to education
	Raise people's awareness on the existing laws, policies, schemes and budget in place for safe schools and existing gaps. Ensure all segments of society are included (children, elderly etc).	Facilitate community-led analysis of legal and institutional frameworks in place to regulate school safety, and its use to identify opportunities and gaps. Support community to articulate needs for modification and/or formulation of new policy and practice	Facilitate a dialogue on the legal and institutional frameworks in place to regulate school safety processes, measures and required investments, and articulate required modifications
	Raise awareness on (organise for separate sessions for school children and students): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Natural disasters, causes and its impact on school infrastructure and operations - The links of disasters with climate change and natural resource management - Structural and non-structural disaster safety and mitigation measures (i.e. early warning, flood shelter, retrofitting, river embankments, demarcating exit routes, etc.) - Importance of early warnings and action accordingly - Benefits of low carbon technologies considering climate change and disaster 		Facilitate a dialogue on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participatory planning for school safety Necessity for investment and resource allocation for disaster impact prevention and mitigation
		Develop toolkit and facilitate community budget tracking on government investment for safe schools	Train duty bearers within relevant government authorities on the provision of child-sensitive and gender responsive public services and participatory budgeting
	Develop child-friendly information, education and communication materials on different risks and school safety measures		Advocate for the development of appropriate information, education and communication materials on different disaster risks and school safety and to incorporate DRR in basic education curriculum

RIGHTS AWARENESS		
Goal	Schools as centres for free, compulsory and non-discriminatory education, with appropriate infrastructure in a safe and non-violent environment.	
Context	Schools play an important role in communities by linking children, teachers, parents, school management and local government authorities. They can be an effective means to spread awareness of disasters, climate change and resilience.	
	Household	Community
	Raise awareness on children as agents of change in making schools and communities safer in times of disasters	
	Empower school children to recognise and champion their role as ambassador for safe schools and disaster risk reduction at the family level	Raise awareness on the importance of inclusion and meaningful participation of school children, students and caregivers in school safety assessment and programming
	Raise awareness on the high importance of uninterrupted education for girls as this can prevent drop out, early and unsafe pregnancy, early marriage, sexual abuse, child trafficking and girls' increased responsibilities in unpaid care work	
Girls, boys and very vulnerable children	Empower school girls to recognise and champion their role as ambassador for safe schools and disaster risk reduction at the family level	Raise awareness for targeted approaches to ensure safe schooling for girls
	Support girls and empower them with life skills	
	Children have limited access to information, resources and support, and therefore, in a targeted activity, enhance understanding of children from marginalised groups on school safety and disaster impacts and risk reduction	Raise awareness that school safety measures school not compromise on the accessibility of the school infrastructure for children with disabilities
	Empower children from marginalised groups to recognise and champion their role as ambassador for safe schools and disaster risk reduction at the family level	

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS				
Goal	Activities designed and implemented towards disaster risk reduction will help minimise disaster impacts at the education services, and enable children, teachers, parents, communities and governments for a resilient education system.			
Context	Disaster preparedness activities in schools involving children, teachers, school management, parents and government officials raises awareness of disasters and prepares them for any disaster event.			
	Household	Community	Government	
General/vulnerable population	Enhance capacities of children, parents and teachers to participate in community decision making processes	Design an appropriate school preparedness capacity building plan to impart safe school training to community disaster management committee	Facilitate a dialogue on safe school measures with relevant government authorities at national and local level, in order to ensure best practice can be identified to demonstrate ways to ensure safe school	
	Promote understanding on disaster risk, climate change and necessary behavioural changes in order to have school safety as part of culture with children, parents and caregivers	Establish sub-committee on disaster management with the school management committee or student council with specific role to ensure safe school and organise for activities to raise awareness among children and students. Ensure a member of the community disaster committee participates in their meetings	Identify and advocate for necessary legislative changes for strengthening resilience within education system	
	Provide training to students and teachers on essential disaster preparedness and survival skills in case of different hazards such as first aid, search and rescue, early warning signals, evacuation routes and locations. Encourage students to share this information at household level	Provide training to school management committees, sub-committee on disaster management, student task forces, council and club on participatory risk assessments and action planning. Select two or three teachers as emergency focal person in the school and train them on incident management	Facilitate periodic updating of school contingency plans and support for disaster contingency planning for education services, underlining the importance of risk/hardship allowance for teachers to continue their work during and after emergencies	
		Advocate for adequate investment in setting up early warning systems, evacuation plans, routes and centres for school children (e.g. fitting of fire management equipment in schools etc)		
	Conduct mock drill on regular basis involving students, teachers and community members for simulation exercises during school hours			
		Organise for exchange visits of education authorities and school management to learn about good and bad examples of safe schools	Advocate for the establishment of a national coordination structure for safe schooling which includes experts from across government, academia and civil society	

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS			
Goal	Activities designed and implemented towards disaster risk reduction will help minimise disaster impacts at the education services, and enable children, teachers, parents, communities and governments for a resilient education system.		
Context	Disaster preparedness activities in schools involving children, teachers, school management, parents and government officials raises awareness of disasters and prepares them for any disaster event.		
	Household	Community	Government
		Create a network amongst schools in a small geographical area to strengthen coordination in response to disasters	Apply evidence based research to advocate for targeted child protection policies and strategies during disasters
		Encourage schools to make weather information available on wall boards to help children stay informed about weather forecasts. Also ensure children are encouraged to listen to radio/tv on a daily basis to be informed about the local weather	Advocate for flexible school calendar in event of disaster that allows for rescheduling of examinations, waiving examination fees (or deduction of examination fees) ³
		Advocate for increased coverage on safe schooling and disaster risk reduction on school media channels	Promote and facilitate mobile school systems during and in the immediate aftermath of a disaster to ensure continuity of education services and for psychosocial care
	Promote gender equality by involving girls in all activities or arrange for parallel sessions if the local context requires	Initiate a discussion with children, parents, caregivers and teachers on gender, cultural barriers and norms that increase the vulnerability of girls and women to disasters and discuss ways to overcome these barriers	Advocate for protection policies and guidelines for girls and other vulnerable groups in and around schools
Girls, boys and very vulnerable children	Support school girls to establish a network or girls club and provide them with material to discuss safe schooling and disaster risk reduction	Promote girls' participation and leadership in school management committee/parents-teacher association and students' council	
	Promote the participation of children from marginalised groups in all safe school activities like the capacity building programmes, task forces etc	Establish a peer support system within schools to ensure that children with disabilities will receive assistance in case of a looming disaster	
	Support children from marginalised groups to establish a network, and provide them with material to discuss safe schooling and disaster risk reduction, and empower them to take part in discussions about these issues		

EDUCATION			
Goal	Uninterrupted access to education of sufficient quality is a key component of people’s resilience to disasters like flood. A few activities should be considered in an education programme in flood prone areas.		
Context	Education plays an important role in psychosocial well-being, all round development of a child and is a crucial part of a child’s upbringing. Discontinuity of education due to disasters destabilises their development.		
	Household	Community	Government
General vulnerable population		Advocate for school curriculum that includes teaching on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Weather forecast and disaster risk reduction - Disaster patterns and effect of climate change. - Support county engagement forums for mainstreaming climate change in schools. Basic disaster resilient agricultural practices such as crop and livestock diversification and water management - Junior farmer schools Underline that teachers need to be trained accordingly	
		Raise awareness among school children and students on earthquake safety and mitigation through campaigns, theatre or a documentary	Advocate for improved access to educational services for all during and after disasters, and support in identification of alternative education solutions following a disaster
		Advocate for the inclusion of compulsory swimming classes in school curriculum, as well as regular mock drills for locally common disasters	
		Develop IEC materials and organise orientation sessions for teachers and school children to increase their understanding of structural and non-structural measures required at school in different disasters like earthquake, fire etc.	Advocate for national social protection policies that provide a secure income to the most vulnerable HHs to ensure uninterrupted access to schooling for their children
			Promote the broadcasting of adult education programmes on television and radio that explains disaster safety
Girls, boys and very vulnerable children	Raise awareness among women, girls and boys about the importance of uninterrupted access to education during and after emergencies	Mobilise women and girls around education in emergencies and encourage them to actively participate in disaster preparedness and planning	
	Empower children and youth to act as ‘ambassadors’ for earthquake risk reduction at the family level		
		Provide training to students and school management on supporting children living with disabilities or with language barriers in earthquake safety. Consider setting up a buddy system to ensure one-to-one support to these children	

INFRASTRUCTURE			
Goal	School can be extremely vulnerable to hazards if not the right disaster proofing measures are taken.		
Context	Disasters like flood, cyclone, and earthquake can lead to loss of life and discontinuity of education if they are not structurally safe. Measures must be taken to structurally strengthen existing buildings and build new ones as per structural safety norms.		
	Household	Community	Government
General vulnerable population	Teach children and students on the possible dangers of their school infrastructure in times of hazards through games/activities like 'Hazard Hunting' to identify hazard risks, 'How Safe is my School'.	Raise awareness that government has responsibility to ensure safe school infrastructure and mobilise a parents and caregivers network to monitor the school infrastructure and advocate for budget for retrofitting	Advocate for disaster resistant building codes for schools and other public building, and adherence to these. Advocate for retrofitting of schools that are not meeting the minimum standards
		In earthquake prone areas, raise awareness in the community on importance of government to construct earthquake resistant schools, earthquake preparedness and response planning by school management, and include earthquake risk reduction in school curriculum, and promote networks of community members to influence government on these issues	In earthquake prone areas, raise awareness on the importance to ensure the earthquake resistance of non-structural parts of buildings such as ceilings, windows, water tanks, electrical equipment, water tanks etc. Advocate for sufficient investments in these aspects in all schools
		In earthquake prone areas, establish community level vigilant committees that are tasked with monitoring the construction and retrofitting of schools	Conduct a survey on available budget for retrofitting of schools and advocate for stepping up available budget if necessary
		Train local engineers, masons and semi-skilled workers (such as carpenters, plumbers etc) on Rapid Risk Assessment of school building, disaster resistant building construction methods and materials	Conduct a survey on available budget for the provision of necessary materials and equipment to face emergency situation and advocate for stepping up available budget if necessary
		Raise awareness on the importance of safe site selection for schools	
		Develop easily understandable Structural & Non-Structural Risk Assessment Tools (checklist/ formats/ guidelines) to assess the risk of school building infrastructures.	Advocate for developing a standardised model design for safe school considering the disasters like Earthquake/Flood/ Fire and their wide circulation to all schools and respective authorities
		Advocate for and support in the retrofitting of schools to improve physical durability of existing school buildings, including repairing roofs, reinforcing the joints and load bearing structures, constructing rain harvesting structures including guttering or water tanks, digging drainage ditches around school buildings, putting in solid shutters on windows. Help build a school that can act as a role model	

INFRASTRUCTURE			
Goal	School can be extremely vulnerable to hazards if not the right disaster proofing measures are taken.		
Context	Disasters like flood, cyclone, and earthquake can lead to loss of life and discontinuity of education if they are not structurally safe. Measures must be taken to structurally strengthen existing buildings and build new ones as per structural safety norms.		
	Household	Community	
		Government	
		Advocate for and support in building a safe external environment to the school including e.g. tree planting in surrounding areas to mitigate effects of soil erosion, dredging of rivers and reinforcing river banks to prevent and mitigate flood's impact	Advocate for regular safety assessments of all schools in regard to all possible hazards in the location
		Promote and support in the construction of temporary classrooms in the aftermath of a disaster and advocate for quick rehabilitation of the permanent school structure	
		Raise awareness and advocate for avoiding to use school building as flood/cyclone shelter which is a barrier for continue education during and aftermath of disaster (except when the school is the only available structure for evacuation)	
		Raise awareness and support in the realisation of safe school infrastructure, especially in regards to separate and adequate provisions of toilets/ urinals, hostel facilities, security etc that take the safety of girls into consideration	
		Support in the identification of evacuation routes and locations. Ensure that these are accessible to children and teachers with disabilities. Conduct mock drills on the use of evacuation routes and locations	
Girls, boys and very vulnerable children	Ensure that teaching and games on finding safe locations during and after a disaster are also understandable to children with language challenges or learning difficulties		
	Engage children living with disabilities in disaster proof school building methods to ensure their concerns and suggestions (i.e. accessibility) are taken into account		

HEALTH, WATER AND SANITATION			
Goal	Access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene is another core element to people’s resilience. These need to be guaranteed during all times, also at schools.		
Context	Schools are a good medium to impart messages on water, sanitation and hygiene and bring about behaviour change. By supporting schools in with proper WASH infrastructure and awareness sessions behaviour change can be brought about in children and through them to the community		
	Household	Community	Government
General vulnerable population	Raise awareness among children, students and caregivers on the importance on proper sanitation and hygiene. Organise for separate sessions for girls and women if the local cultural or religious context requires. Train teachers on health and hygiene so they can support children		Advocate for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - adequate water and sanitation emergency kit stockpiling at schools providing total hygiene and sanitation training as part of basic education curriculum - providing dignity kits/ sanitary pads for girls - supporting/ establishing environmental clubs
		Establish and train village and school based water committees in management and maintenance of water and sanitation facilities at schools. Involve children in this and give them responsibilities within reason to maintain the school water and sanitation facilities.	Advocate for accessible sanitation facilities at all times (including for children with disabilities) that are segregated for teachers, boys and girls with provision for continuous water supply
		Promote and provide materials for disaster safe water facilities and storage, water harvesting methods and disaster proof latrines to school management	
		Underline the importance of proper drainage and sewage systems in and around schools, and allocation of budget for this work	
		Provide water purification kits and if required saline filter for schools	
Girls, boys and very vulnerable children	Provide teenage girls with women-friendly sanitations kits following a disaster which includes sanitary towels		
	Ensure separate awareness raising sessions (i.e. through theatre) are organised for children from marginalised groups on the importance of health, hygiene and clean water		

ANNEX: CONTRIBUTING STAFF AND PARTNERS

This guidance document has been developed with the support of different ActionAid country offices, ActionAid staff, partner organisations, community members, and government stakeholders. Their insights and recommendations have enriched the document and endorsed its applicability to different country contexts.

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- Biara ghat, Paikpara, Balutia Village of Sadar upazila of Sirajganj District (for Safe School Framework)

Partner organisations: Bangladesh Association for Community Education (BACE), Shushilan, South Asian Partnership- Bangladesh (SAP-BD), Socio Health and Rehabilitation Programme (SHRP).

Government stakeholders: District Relief & Rehabilitation Officer in Jamalpur, District Relief & Rehabilitation Officer in Barguna, District Relief & Rehabilitation Officer in Sirajganj, District Primary Education Officer in Jamalpur, District Primary Education Officer in Sirajganj, District Primary Education Officer in Barguna, District Civil Surgeon in Jamalpur, Deputy Director – Agricultural in Jamalpur District, Deputy Director – Agricultural in Barguna District, District Public Health Officer in Jamalpur, District Public Health Officer in Barguna, Assistant Director of the national Department of Disaster Management, M&E Specialist of the national Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme.

NGO and national expert stakeholders: Dr. V. Hari Prashad from Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC), Gauher Nayeem Wahra from University of Dhaka, Khodadad Hossain Sarker as Practitioner and Freelancer, K M Enamul Haque from Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE), Md. Mostafa Kamal from CARE, Moloy Chaki as Practitioner and Freelancer.

ActionAid Ethiopia

Project leads: Ayele Sebaro and Tinebeb Berhane

Contributing ActionAid Ethiopia departments: Program Designing and Quality Assurance department, Field Operations department.

Communities:

- Janamora, North Gondor zone of Amhara region (for Drought Framework)
- Ofla, Southern zone of Tigray region (for Drought Framework)

Partner organisations: Professional Alliance for Development (PADet), Association for Nationwide Action for Prevention and Protection against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN), Refit Valley Children and Women Development Organization (RCWDO).

Government stakeholders: District Agriculture office, District Education Officer, District Health office, District Food Security core process, District Water office, District Women and Children Affairs office.

ActionAid Kenya

Project lead: Clement Chesire

Contributing ActionAid Kenya staff: Dinah Nyorsok, Makena Mwobobia, Philip Kilonzo, Yusuf Abdi.

Communities:

- Kamuthe, Garissa County (for Drought and Safe School Frameworks)
- Kongelai, West Pokot County (for Drought Framework)

Partner organisations: Alale Women Group, Christian United Pastoralist Group, Kamuthe Community Elders and Cultural leaders, Kamuthe Women Network, Kongelai Disaster Management Committees, Kongelai Women's Network, Nadir Farmers Group, Pokot Accountability Network, SIKOM Peace Net, Warsan Farmers Group, West Pokot Youth Bunge, Womankind Kenya, School Management Committees from Nanighi, Kamuthe and Warable schools.

Government stakeholders: Abdi Noor from Garissa country National Drought Management Authority, Abdikadir Duba from Ministry of Agriculture, Jimmy Wafula as Sub-County Administrator, Mohamed Abdullahi as Education Officer, District Livestock Production Officer, Sarah Chelimo from West Pokot county National Drought Management Authority.

ActionAid Malawi

Contributing ActionAid Malawi staff: Andrew Chapusa, Chimpeni Mclean, Julie Juma.

District:

- Nsanje (for Flood Framework)

Government stakeholders: District Civil Protection Committee, Village Civil Protection Committees

ActionAid Myanmar

Contributing staff from ActionAid Myanmar: Airlie Taylor

ActionAid Pakistan

Project lead: Jalil ur Rehman

Contributing ActionAid Pakistan staff: Abdul Khaliq, Daud Saqlain, Iftikhar A Nizami, Liaqat Ali Khan and Nazima Shaheen.

Communities for Earthquake Framework:

- Village Langerpura union council Langerpura (Earthquake)
- Village Malsi union council Langerpura (Earthquake)
- Village Shalabagh union council Langerpura (Earthquake)
- Village Charakpura union council Charakpura (Earthquake)
- Village Kapabutt union council Charakpura (Earthquake)
- Village Mahlam union council Charakpura (Earthquake)
- Village Makri union council Muzaffarabad (Earthquake)
- Village Rampura union council Muzaffarabad (Earthquake)
- Town areas of Muzaffarbad AJK (Earthquake)
- Village Baziabad union council Hisara Yaseenzai (Flood)
- Village Ababkari union council Hisara Yaseenzai (Flood)
- Parent Teacher Council members and women and men activists of village Shahi Kulali union council Taarnab (Flood)
- Farmers group at Khazana Dheri Tarnab (Flood)

Partner organisations: Global Prosperity Network (GPN) Muzaffarabad Azad Jammu and Kashmir, United Youth Welfare Organization management and team

Government stakeholders: Civil Defense in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), Department of Health in AJK, Department of Social Welfare in AJK, Department of Sociology & Rural Development of University of AJK, Department of Women Development in AJK, District Disaster Management Unit (DDMU), District Reconstruction Unit Muzaffarabad in AJK, Local Government & Rural Development in AJK, National Program for Family Planning & Primary Health Care in AJK, Planning & Development Department in AJK, Physical Planning & Housing Department in AJK, Sericulture Department in AJK, State Disaster Management Authority in AJK.

NGO and national expert stakeholders: Action for Need Muzaffarabad AJK, ACT International Muzaffarabad AJK, Anjaman E Falah Bahbood Muzaffarabad AJK, Basic Development Needs (BDN) Program Muzaffarabad AJK, Drawa Development Organization (DDO), Jammu & Kashmir Welfare Association Muzaffarabad AJK, Life Welfare Muzaffarabad AJK, Muzaffarabad Poverty Alleviation Program (MPAP), Muzaffarabad Youth Council, Neelum Valley Community Cluster Development Forum (NVCCDF), Pakistan Red Crescent Society AJK Branch, Saiban Development Organization Muzaffarabad AJK, Sanitary workers Federation Muzaffarabad AJK, Sustainable Development Organization (SDO), University students of AJK University Muzaffarabad, Women Welfare Organization Poonch (WWOP).

ActionAid Vietnam

Project leads: Bui Ngoc Lien, Duong Van Khai, Vu Minh Duc

Contributing ActionAid Vietnam departments: Programme department

Communities for Drought and Flood Frameworks:

- Cao Mat village, Krông Bông district, Đắk Lắk Province
- Cu Hue commune, Krông Bông district, Đắk Lắk Province
- Hoa Phong commune, Krông Bông district, Đắk Lắk Province
- Quyet Chien village, Krông Bông district, Đắk Lắk Province
- Partner organisations: Da Bac, Eakar, Hai Phong, Krong Bong

NGO and national expert stakeholders: Church World Service Vietnam, German Red Cross.

ActionAid Zimbabwe

Project leads: Selina Pasirayi and Simanchal Pattnaik

Contributing ActionAid Zimbabwe departments: Disaster Risk Reduction Department, Climate Resilient Sustainable Agriculture Department.

Communities for Drought and Flood Frameworks:

- Kanyamo ward 4, Nyanga, Manicaland Province (Drought)
- Ward 12, Mbire, Mashonaland Central Province (Flood)

Partner organisations: Basilizwi, Diocese of Manicaland Community Care Programme (DOMCCP), Family Aids Caring Trust (FACT) Nyanga, Farm Community Trust of Zimbabwe (FCTZ), Health and Food Organisation (HEFO), Simukai Child Protection Programme.

Government stakeholders: Agritex, District Administrators in Nyanga and Makoni, District Civil Protection Unit in Nyanga, Environmental Health Technicians, Meteorological Services Department of Zimbabwe, Ministry of Environment, Water and Climate, Ministry of Health and Child Welfare, Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development.

NGO and national expert stakeholders: UNICEF, Christian Aid, Environment Africa, Fambidzanai Permaculture Centre, University of Zimbabwe, National University of Science & Technology, Lower Guruve Development Association (LGDA), Oxfam, Plan International, Practical Action, UNDP, Zimbabwe Farmers Union (ZFU), Zimbabwe Smallholder Organic Farmers Forum (ZIMSOFF).

External support

Consultants: Chandrima Biswas, Jessica Faleiro, Nazia Parvez

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