

Disaster Risk Management from a Development Perspective

Swedish development cooperation

Swedish strategy for regional development co-operation with Asia focusing on Southeast Asia September 2010 - June 2015

Overall Objective:

Greater respect for human rights and a more sustainable use of natural resources and services for people living in poverty as well as a greater regional integration.

Cooperation Areas

1) Environment and climate

- a) Integration of environmental aspects into decision making
- b) Sustainable use of natural resources for improved livelihoods

2) Sustainable services - Energy and Urban planning

3) Democracy and Human Rights

- Research cooperation integrated in the above areas
- Trade related support within the scope of the cooperation areas
- CSR can be considered within each co-operation area
- Gender equality integrated as a thematic cross cutting issue

Facts on DRR and development

- No such thing as a 'natural' disaster, but hazards that can potentially harm people, economies and the environment if not adequately prepared
- Disaster risk reduction
 - a broad approach, which includes all action aiming to reduce disaster risks.
- 85% of people exposed to earthquakes, cyclones, floods and droughts live in developing countries
- Direct disaster damage costs alone have shot up from US\$ 75.5 billion in the 1960s to nearly a trillion dollars in the past ten years (Munich RE 2002, CRED 2009.)
- Disasters threaten the food security of the poorest people worldwide
 - Need to adapt to climate change, responsibly manage growth and stop environmental degradation

Facts on DRR and development (cont.)

- Disaster risk reduction protects development investments and helps societies to accumulate wealth in spite of hazards. Bangladesh, Cuba, Vietnam and Madagascar have been able to significantly reduce the impact of meteorological hazards, such as tropical storms and floods, through improved early warning systems, disaster preparedness and other risk reduction measures (UNISDR 2009.)
- Disaster risk reduction increases the resilience of community development and helps the world's most vulnerable people become richer, healthier and more food-secure by protecting and enhancing their livelihoods; it frees up development resources by reducing needs and dependence on relief and recovery.

Examples of Swedish support to DRR in the region

- Tsunami Trust Fund
- Climate Change Adaptation Knowledge Platform
- ADB GMS programme
 - “Core Environment Programme”
 - “Core Agriculture Support Programme”*.
- Mekong River Commission
 - Flood Management and Mitigation Programme*
- Asia Institute for Technology (AIT)
 - Research strategy*

Other programmes with strong DRR-components integrated in their work

- IUCN Mangroves for the Future
 - building resilient livelihoods for local coastline-living communities.
- Wetland Alliance
 - regional sharing of experiences and "best practices" on sustainable local coastal zone livelihoods.
- UNEP/COBSEA (Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia)
 - Coastal Spatial Planning
- SEAFDEC (Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center)
 - harmonizing regional management of marine resources incl. coastal Zone management for the Andaman Seas
- Environment and Economy Programme for Southeast Asia (EEPSEA)

The potential role of the private sector

- provide platforms that enable public-private sector dialogue on DRR backed by pilot projects with evidence of what works.
- provide market interventions to stimulate DRR innovation based on diversity of actors and sectors, promote mechanisms of more efficient DRR information and strategy sharing across borders.
- enforce current codes to create resilience and environmentally-friendly build back in disaster projects financed by them.
- create incentives for long-term investments in sustainability and finance pilot evidence of private sector intervention in a South-South cooperation framework.