

Post Event Report

District Disaster Risk Reduction Forum

December 31, 2015



Rural Support Programmes Network (RSPN)

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Abbreviation

ADC	Additional Deputy Commissioner
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
CWS	Church World Service
CBDRM	Community Based Disaster Risk Management
DD	Deputy Director
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DDRRF	District Disaster Risk Reduction Forum
DDMA	District Disaster Management Authority
DPO	District Project Officer
LSO	Local Support Organization
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NRSP	National Rural Support Programme
PVDP	Participatory Village Development Programme
RSPN	Rural Support Programmes Network
TRDP	Thardeep Rural Development Programme
UDMC	Union Disaster Management Committee
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VDMC	Village Disaster Management Committee

1) Background

Pakistan has been one of the most severely affected countries from the impacts of natural disasters. In past few decades, Pakistan has witnessed severe earthquakes, torrential rains, flash floods, droughts and cyclones. These disasters not only damaged infrastructure, but also enormously affected the socio-economic fiber of the society. Unprecedented torrential rains and floods of 2010 and 2011 badly hit entire region culminating into mass destruction and material losses of millions of people.

RSPN in partnership with National Rural Support Programme and Thardeep Rural Development Programme has initiated USAID/OFDA funded Project titled: “Building Resilience through Community Based Disaster Risk Management in Sindh Province of Pakistan”. This project aims to enable resource deficient rural communities to withstand disasters as well as to create a timely response towards hydro meteorological hazards involving floods, cyclones and droughts.

2) Formation/Strengthening and Objectives of District Disaster Risk Reduction Forum-DDRRF

RSPN under USAID CBDRM Tahafuz organized introductory meetings for formation/strengthening of DDRRF in target districts of Sindh Province. The focus was to constitute new or further strengthen the existing District Disaster Risk Reduction forums-DDRRF. The forums will be helpful in coordination among government departments (DDMA, District Administrations, and PDMA), NGOs/INGOs and different community institutions I.e. UDMCs & LSOs. Similarly these forums will also be used in DRR advocacy at district level and knowledge sharing among concern stakeholders.

3) Proceedings of Introductory Meetings

RSPN reactivated the existing DDRRF structures at two districts I.e. Thatta/Sujawal and Badin. Similarly new set ups were formed at district Tharparker and Umerkot in order to achieve the required objectives. Representatives from concern stakeholders actively participated and shared their practical experiences, knowledge and views for involving these forums towards enhancing the community’s resiliency. Proceedings of meeting are as:

3.1) District Badin

At District Badin, the forum was previously constituted by Save the Children in 2013. Since then, it required sincere efforts from member bodies to properly functionalize the forum. In this regards, RSPN hosted a meeting in which representatives from District Government, ACTED, HANDS, LHDP, MDF and members from Union Disaster Management Committees formed under CBDRM Tahafuz participated.

The members agreed:

- To conduct monthly meeting for progress review and future planning of DDRRF activities.
- The minutes of each meeting will be shared with district government especially ADC-I for his effective interests and actions.
- It was discussed that district government should nominate Deputy Director Social Welfare Department as focal person of the DDRRF.

- To ensure sustainability, the committee members for the forum should comprise of key personnel from various member organizations and UDMCs/LSOs.
- The members also nominated personnel for temporary committee to fix date, select venue and coordinate with members for the next decided meeting. Mr. Abdul Qadir Chandio from Social Welfare Department, Mr. Fida Hussain Soomro from (LHDP), MR. Haider Ali from (HANDS) and Mr.Naeem Junejo from NRSP were nominated as members to look after for the mentioned activities.

3.2) District Thatta

Like in Badin, RSPN took initiatives to reactivate the existing DRRF at District Thatta. Hosting the 7th DRR forum meeting, RSPN emphasized on importance of further strengthening the forum. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Sajjad (Area Program Manager Islamic Relief), Co-chaired by Muhammad Baloch (Regional General Manager Fisher folk) and Mr.Ayaz Ali Kaka Project Coordinator CBDRM Tahafuz). The District Project Officer Noreen Hassan Memon briefly highlighted various aspects and achievements of CBDRM Tahafuz. Similarly representatives from UDMCs/LSOs shared their learning and knowledge facilitated by project. The key points, discussed during meeting were:

- In order to avoid duplication, new joining member organizations were asked to share 4 Ws Matrix. This can also be useful for adopting effective and result oriented activities of member's organization at some other most vulnerable areas of district.
- RSPN highlighted the inclusion of UDMCs-LSOs members into District Disaster Risk Reduction Forum (DDRRF). It was mutually agreed that a provision must be provided in the existing guidelines of forum for inclusion of UDMC/LSOs

3.3) District Tharparker and Umerkot

RSPN and partner TRDP laid foundation for new Disaster Risk Reduction Forum at both the districts. During meeting various concern stakeholders involving government officials (ADCs and DD Social Welfare) NGO/INGOs (Sukaar Foundation, CRS, PVDP, Sami Foundation, and PDI, Right to Play, NDS, and CWS-Asia) and members from UDMCs/LSOs participated. Additional Deputy Commissioner, Project Coordinator and District Project Officer CBDRM Tahafuz co- chaired the meeting. The agenda of meeting was to formally formulate the DRRF and come up with ideas/ suggestions, which may help in effectiveness of the forum in future. Some insights of the meeting are as under:

- Dr.Noor ul Amin from SIF focused on the sustainability of community institutions. As these institutions are project based, we need to mainstream them into permanent structures like Local Support Organizations-LSOs. Ali Kallar responded," In case of CBDRM Tahafuz, 18 UDMCs out of 30 have been merged with LSOs where these are acting as subcommittee".
- Sabir Kiyani- CRS told that "for an activity we need to strengthen the existing committee institutions, rather than developing new one". In this regards the members should share 4 Ws matrix among members to avoid duplication of efforts.
- Mr.Arjum Patel from PVDP stated, "At first the Thardeep Rural Development Programme-TRDP should host and continue the forum unless it is formally endorsed by government. Similarly

other points including Media Campaign, Charter of Demand and selection of focal person for forum were also discussed.”

Mr. Subhash Chander Focal Person DDMA appreciated formation of DRRF and ensured full cooperation from his department. He stated,” this forum will be helpful to overcome gaps among organizations working in field of disasters, communities and government departments. The timely sharing of information will facilitate government agencies in developing effective and result oriented policies to cope with any sorts of disasters.

Annexure-I

List of Member Organizations

S.No	Name of Member Organization/Government Department	District
i.	Social Welfare Department	Badin
ii.	Additional Deputy Commissioner	
iii.	ACTED	
iv.	HANDS	
v.	Laar Humanitarian Development Programme-LHDP	
vi.	UDMC Seerani	
vii.	UDMC Kandhri	
viii.	UDMC Dai Jarkas	
ix.	UDMC Peero Lashari	
x.	UDMC Khorwah	
xi.	Islamic Relief	Thatta/Sujawal
xii.	Fisher folk	
xiii.	Sukaar Foundation	Tharparker
xiv.	Catholic Relief Services	
xv.	Sami Foundation	
xvi.	Participatory Village Development Programme	
xvii.	Secours Islamique France	
xviii.	Sami Foundation	
xix.	UDMC Kehri	
xx.	Assistant District Commissioner	
xxi.	Participatory Development Initiatives	Umerkot
xxii.	Church World Service	
xxiii.	AWARE	
xxiv.	Sami Foundation	

xxv.	Right to Play	
xxvi.	HANDS	
xxvii.	UDMC Chor	
xxviii.	UDMC Memon Kunri	
xxix.	UDMC Kharoro Sayed	
xxx.	UDMC Bustaan	
xxxi.	UDMC Faqeer Abdullah	

Annexure-II

Picture Gallery



Representatives from different organizations working in field of disaster participating in initial dialogue meeting for constituting Disaster Risk Reduction Forum at District Umerkot and Tharparkar.



RSPN hosted meeting for further strengthening the existing District Disaster Risk Reduction Forum-DDRRF at District Thatta.