



A flashcard from a game about disaster risk management, given to schoolchildren as part of the initiative. ©Live and Learn



Community-based Disaster Risk Reduction in Vietnam

COMMUNITY-BASED DISASTER RISK-REDUCTION (DRR) IN VIETNAM Natural hazards such as storms, cyclones and flooding continue to threaten the security of communities in Vietnam, especially those with less access to information and resources to protect themselves and mitigate disaster impacts. CARE in Vietnam has been supported by the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO) to improve community preparedness for natural disasters since 2004. CARE is now supporting the effective roll-out of government-led initiatives to reduce disaster risk.

CARE is working with partners to support national and local authorities to enable communities and schools in vulnerable areas to better prepare for, and respond to, natural disasters.

KEY OUTCOMES



The efforts of the **Joint Advocacy Network Initiative**, a consortium of 18 international and local NGOs led by CARE since 2006, resulted in the **adoption and national roll-out of the Community-based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) model by the government.**



Lessons learned and best practices from the National CBDRM program and Ministry of Education and Training disaster risk reduction action plan are documented. This learning then **informs government DRR planning.**



National and local actors have **improved capacity to implement disaster risk reduction programs at community level and in schools.** Partners and communities develop communication skills and resources, training-of-trainer skills, and the ability to implement gender-sensitive initiatives.

Timeframe and Budget

2004 - 2015
Approx. US\$3.5 million
(across all partners)

Donor

The European Commission
Humanitarian Aid and Civil
Protection Department (ECHO)

2014-2015 Phase

Participants

Millions of women, men and children who live in areas vulnerable to natural hazards, and thousands of organisations, authorities and officers involved in disaster risk reduction.

Locations

Vietnam:
Dien Bien, Phu Tho, Ha Giang, and Soc Trang provinces, and national-level dialogue in Hanoi.



Local Partner
Live and Learn

Consortium Partners
Plan International
Save the Children

DEVELOPING DISASTER PREPAREDNESS



PILOTING DISASTER MITIGATION MEASURES, E.G. DYKES, EVACUATION ROADS, AND COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS)



PILOTING LOCAL LEVEL CAPACITY BUILDING AND THE CBDRM MODEL



JOINT ADVOCACY NETWORK INITIATIVE: POLICY DIALOGUE ON NATIONAL PROGRAMS



GOVERNMENT ROLL-OUT OF CBDRM AND DRR EDUCATION ACTION PLAN

2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015





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WHAT IS CARE'S DRR INITIATIVE DOING NOW?

After 11 years of implementation at local and national levels, CARE is now working in close cooperation with national and sub-national government stakeholders to support the effective and sustainable roll-out of disaster risk reduction (DRR) planning.

EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CBDRM MODEL AND DRR ACTION PLANS

National and sub-national local actors have the capacity to roll-out, monitor and sustain the National Community-based Disaster Risk Management Program and the Ministry of Education and Training's disaster risk reduction action plan.

DOCUMENTATION

Consolidating frameworks for National Community-based Disaster Risk Management and Ministry of Education and Training DRR plan. Documenting and disseminating best practices and tools at national and sub-national levels.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Training and developing resources to ensure provincial and district authorities have effective systems and structures in place, and staff have sufficient knowledge and skills to implement the initiatives.

BEST PRACTICES

Supporting local authorities to develop and implement participatory monitoring and evaluation to ensure best practice. Promoting cross-learning and the sharing of lessons learned within and across provinces, and at the national level.

COOPERATION

Establishing partnerships with national and local stakeholders, including the Disaster Management Centre at the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Education and Training, Vietnam Women's Union, Youth Union, Provincial, District and Commune People's Committees, Farmer's Union and local civil society organisations.



How does community-based disaster risk management enable people living with a disability to cope with natural disasters?

Ms. Du lives with her husband and elder sister in a coastal commune which is heavily affected by floods, storms and droughts. Both Du and her sister are visually impaired, and so found it difficult to deal with the impacts of natural hazards.

"When a storm hit in 2007, my sister and I did not know what to do, we just stayed in bed and waited for people to come and help us. My elder sister and I were totally wet, with no food to eat and exhausted with the storm and flood. We could only cry."

In 2009, CARE worked with the local Flood and Storm Control Committee to assess the vulnerabilities and needs of Du's community. Then, CARE supported the local authorities to provide training for local leaders and rescue teams, and to raise awareness for people and children in the community on what to do before, during and after a weather emergency. Physical measures were also taken, such as upgrading irrigation networks, upgrading warning systems, and building evacuation roads and centers. The village leader, Mr. TR., speaks proudly about his community: "Now, people in the village are better informed about the arrival of storms and know what to do...during the disaster season, there is no loss of life and people evacuate safely."

Du now feels much more confident in the face of adverse weather, and also feels happier in her community. Her confidence has grown and she is able to take care of her elder sister, as well as herself.

"When another storm hit our commune in 2012, I followed the guidance and support of the village leader and rescue team members. I knew that I had to evacuate with my sister before the storm and flood came. I supported my sister to stay in the newly set-up evacuation centre. My fear of flood and storm disappeared and I do not feel lonely anymore."

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