Making Displacement Safer **Cookbook**

Addressing the disaster risk reduction challenges faced by displaced communities in urban areas

Acronyms

CASM
Comisión de Acción Social Menonita, Honduras

CDHD
Circle of Human Rights and Development, Republic of Congo

CSO
Civil society organisation

DEMI-E
Développement pour un Mieux Être, Niger

DJPD
Dynamique Des Jeunes Pour La Paix Et Le Développement Intégral, Democratic Republic of Congo

DRR
Disaster risk reduction

FUNSALPRODESE
Fundación Salvadoreña para la Promoción Social y el Desarrollo Económico

GNDR
Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction

IDMC
Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre

IDP
Internally displaced person

IID
Iraqi Institution for Development

LGBTQI people
Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex

MDS
Making Displacement Safer (GNDR project)

NSET
National Society for Earthquake Technology, Nepal

RDI
Resilience Development Initiative, Indonesia

RoG
Root of Generations, South Sudan

SDGs
Sustainable Development Goals

VFL
Views from the Frontline (a methodology pioneered by GNDR)

ULL
Urban living laboratories (methodology)

USAID-BHA
United States Agency for International Development's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance

UNHCR
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

VoSB
Voice of South Bangladesh

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Introduction

Globally in 2022, over 70 million people were living in internal displacement, having been forced by disasters or conflicts to leave their homes[1].

While some people are able to return home a few days after an evacuation, others may not be able to return for months, years or ever, as their homes have been destroyed or remain unsafe.

Many displaced people end up in informal settlements in urban areas. This exposes them to other risks, particularly if they settle in hazard-prone, deprived areas of the cities and their peripheries. Displaced people can face many challenges. They may be unaware of risks in their new location; unable to access basic services if they are not formally recognised; lack strong social networks; be excluded from decision making; confronted with discrimination; face language and cultural barriers; and may be unable to access economic opportunities in their new locale. These displacement-related challenges increase their risk of becoming displaced a second or multiple times.

As disaster risk continues to increase, displacement is also expected to increase, primarily in urban areas. This cookbook identifies 'ingredients' and 'recipes' that have been successful in promoting safer displacement in urban settings, building resilience and avoiding displacement.

How we made this cookbook

The Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR) is the largest network of civil society organisations working together to strengthen the resilience of communities most at risk of disasters. GNDR comprises over 1,700 members in 130 countries, many of which have shared their knowledge and good practice in the 'cookbook' guide series[2]. The series contains success factors – set out as 'ingredients' and case studies – set out as 'recipes' on effective disaster risk reduction (DRR).

This cookbook shares good practices and lessons learned by GNDR members throughout the three-year Making Displacement Safer (MDS) project funded by the United States Agency for International Development's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID-BHA). The cookbook references the work of 11 members who implemented activities within the project[3].

MDS built on locally led DRR solutions for displaced populations in urban areas. The aim of MDS is to contribute to the substantial reduction of disaster risk losses in lives, livelihoods and assets for displaced populations in urban areas, thus contributing to Sendai Framework targets. MDS aimed to achieve three main outcomes:

- An increased understanding of the unique disaster risk challenges for displaced populations in urban areas
- An increased number of innovative approaches for reducing the vulnerability of displaced populations in urban areas
- The approaches and stakeholder roles for reducing vulnerabilities of displaced populations in urban areas are institutionalised in national and international systems

Shared learning within the network

In addition to the 11 organisations that worked to implement MDS, GNDR surveyed its members about their initiatives to reduce disaster risk for displaced populations in urban areas. Drawing from these experiences, a number of key ingredients were identified and discussed at regional workshops in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean, in July and August 2023, in which a total of 28 members participated[4]. GNDR members were then invited to reflect further on factors that contribute to risk reduction among displaced populations. Members recommended specific ingredients and approaches to be added to the draft. They also contributed their knowledge and experience of supporting displaced people, which has been integrated into the approaches, ingredients, terminology and case studies of this cookbook.

Through the survey and during the workshops, GNDR members highlighted challenges faced by displaced populations and their civil society organisations' work to address these challenges and enhance community resilience. Specific challenges include access to housing and basic provisions and services (e.g. food, water, healthcare, education), lack of infrastructure, exposure to natural hazards and poverty.

The eight recipes in this cookbook provide examples of how GNDR members are addressing displacement risk in urban areas and highlight the important role of CSOs in working with displaced communities to develop and implement interventions, as well as to advocate to local and national governments.

Aims and scope of the cookbook

The purpose of the cookbook is to strengthen the capacities of civil society organisations to address the challenges of disaster risk in urban displacement contexts.

Most of the recipes in this cookbook are examples of displacement triggered by disaster, mostly weather and climate related disasters. The cookbook also includes experiences of communities displaced by conflict and by socioeconomic need, alongside the threat of disaster risk. Whilst other resources highlight different causes and terminology for different types of human mobility, in this cookbook, based on their specific context, they are considered displaced.

Most of the communities described in the recipes settled in urban areas, such as cities or in city peripheries. The cookbook includes stories of displaced communities in more rural environments when the approaches used by GNDR members to address their needs were applicable in multiple contexts.

Making displacement safer in urban areas requires many skills and capacities that community-based organisations already have in building resilience and in advocating for communities facing disaster risks. This cookbook aims to encourage GNDR members and other actors working with displaced populations to use their capacities to help their communities avoid displacement, and effectively support those already displaced. To do this, the cookbook promotes a localised and risk-informed approach, and encourages community participation to understand displaced people's concerns and work with other stakeholders to respond accordingly. It is hoped that the cookbook can also be a tool for members to influence national policies and practice on displacement by advocating for the replication of the ingredients presented.

Overview of
disaster displacement
in urban settings

When people are displaced from their homes, they may settle in official camps but most stay with host families, in rented accommodation or settle informally on available land.

Although the percentage of displaced people who settle in urban areas is unknown, consensus holds that in an increasingly urbanised world, most displaced people settle in urban centres.[5]

When there is limited access to relocation sites or other formal services, displaced people may be compelled to seek refuge in underserved, marginal or informal settlements in highrisk areas, such as hillsides and watersheds, where ecosystems may have been degraded, or will be degraded, by the settlement, reducing the ecosystems' capacity to act as a natural buffer.[6] As informal settlements often do not benefit from the urban authorities' water and sanitation services, waterways may become polluted, increasing health risks.

As newcomers, displaced people are likely to be unaware of the hazards to which they are exposed in their new environment and may be excluded from DRR and other information sharing processes, which increases their disaster risk and the likelihood of being displaced again.

A displaced individual or family may face a range of challenges when settling in an urban area, including isolation, exclusion, discrimination or violence as a result of cultural differences and clashes with the host community, particularly in fragile states. Additionally, displaced populations may not have the documentation required to access land, services such as education, healthcare, and financial provisions such as welfare support. They may also face mental health challenges, gender-based violence, forced marriage and intercommunity conflict, among other challenges.

These challenges often remain unresolved for several years as disaster-response mandates frequently end when the emergency phase is declared over, humanitarian assistance is discontinued and before displaced people have found a durable solution to their displacement.

Survey results and the outcomes of the MDS project corroborated these findings, and were captured in the GNDR Forced Displacement Global Paper[7] as follows:

- The majority of those displaced and living in urban areas continue to be affected by multiple disasters

- Displaced persons are rarely consulted to design policies, plans and activities to reduce disaster risk

- Displaced persons are not given access to financial resources to reduce disaster risk

- Displaced persons rarely have access to timely information to help reduce risks

- Displaced people are often excluded from decision making
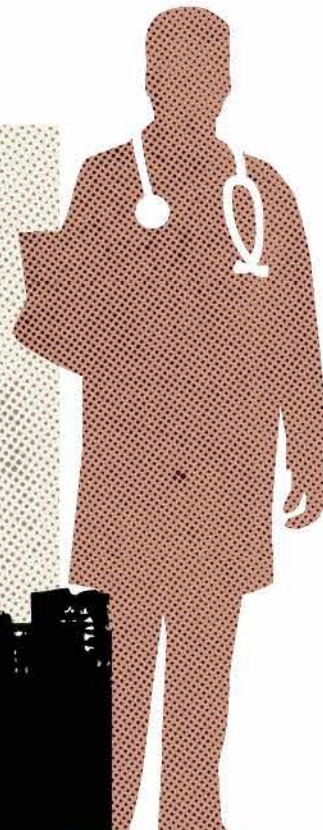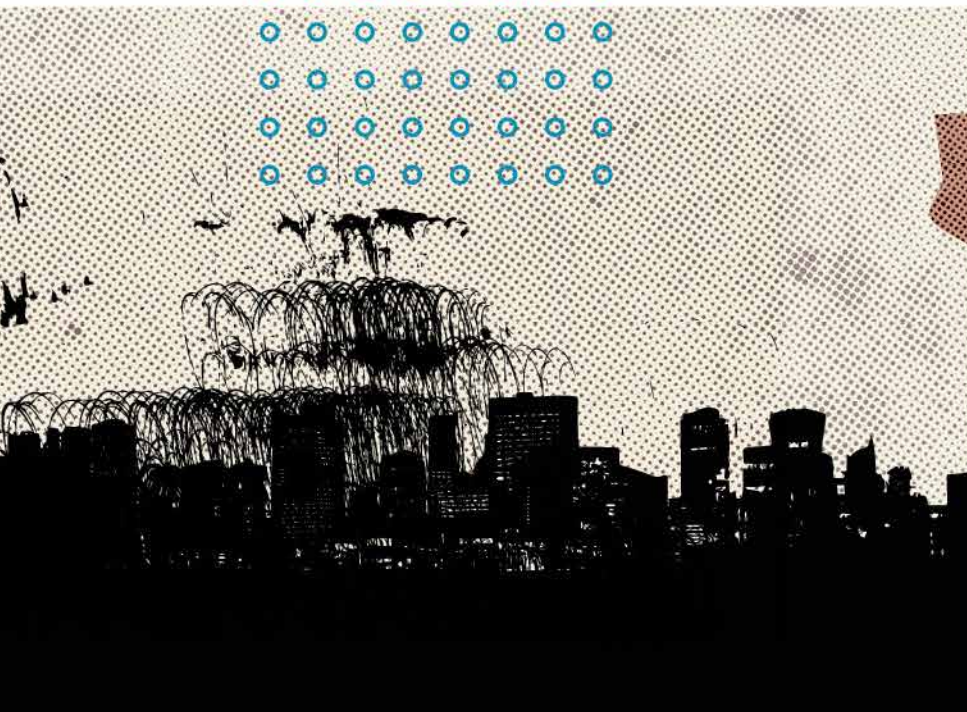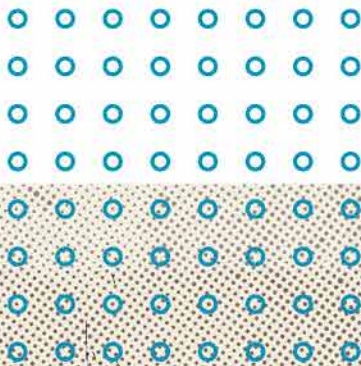
Findings and recommendations
from the MDS participatory processes

MDS had a community focus and aimed to bring the needs of displaced populations to the forefront.

Local interventions were implemented in 11 countries, with each one led by a GNDR member organisation already active in that urban context. In order to ensure that local implementation addressed the communities' most pressing needs, each implementing organisation undertook a

survey to understand the threats, consequences, actions and barriers of displaced populations in urban areas. To do this, they utilised the GNDR Views From the Frontline (VFL) methodology to carry out interviews with displaced populations, government representatives and other influential civil society stakeholders.

4900
Interviews with displaced people

150
Interviews with governments & CSOs

150
Case studies collected

Once the most pressing challenges were identified, project implementers conducted stakeholder mapping and invited relevant actors to take part in their utilisation of the urban living lab (ULL) approach to consider innovative solutions. This approach brought together displaced populations, the communities that host them, as well as private, civil society and government stakeholders to co-create and co-plan sustainable initiatives. The success of the ULL approach was based on displaced persons participating in decision making on the development, implementation and budgeting of the initiatives. This means that rather than speaking in place of the community and on their behalf, ULL promotes active collaboration and decision making with communities. The approach builds trust, sustainability and social capital through this co-design.

The VFL methodology and ULL approach were complemented with stakeholder mapping, hazard mapping, policy analysis, individual interviews, and focus group discussions with displaced people.

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From the stakeholder map we produced, we can see the government employees and officials responsible for IDPs. They are our allies, and they can contribute in many ways in reducing problems… but they don't know all of the barriers on the ground and how much suffering could be alleviated with a decision. We need better planning and communication mechanisms between different stakeholders.

Ayad Salih, Executive Director, Iraqi Institution for Development (IID), Iraq

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The ability of the ULL to involve displaced community members in decision making was frequently mentioned as the biggest factor of success, with many community members feeling empowered to speak directly to government decision makers about their concerns, planning activities that met their needs, and in some cases inspiring individuals to pursue more advocacy work in the future. It was also an important element of building trust with communities that have long felt exploited or forgotten by typical approaches to assistance.

Mani Tahirou, Développement pour un Mieux Être (DEMI-E), Niger

Findings and recommendations from the MDS participatory processes

Findings and recommendations

The results of the MDS participatory processes revealed that the overwhelming majority of displaced people continue to be vulnerable to disasters and conflict years after initial displacement. Furthermore, they are at high risk of entering, or staying in, economic insecurity once they have been forced to leave their homes. Typically, the response of humanitarian actors and local governments to displacement is short term and focused on single hazards and may not specifically recognise the needs of the displaced population.

> It was the ULL approach that helped get the communities together. This participatory approach is good in that it entails getting the views of the community and has helped CDHD gain experiences in addressing the issues affecting the communities. Past approaches have been to speak in their place and on their behalf, but this is not suitable. ULL supports being with communities and listening to them.

Alvin Koumbhat, Circle of Human Rights and Development (CDHD), Republic of Congo

The recommendations of the participatory approaches are included in the GNDR *Forced Displacement Global Paper*. The following key recommendations seek to inform governments, CSOs and other stakeholders working with and advocating for displaced populations:

1. Seek coherent approaches

Work to integrate processes and actions to address climate change, sustainable development and displacement risk to increase efficiency and effectiveness while achieving common goals.

2. Strengthen collaboration

CSOs have an important role in strengthening collaboration among stakeholders. Inclusion is a key aspect of an enabling policy environment.

3. Seek durable solutions

Prioritise addressing economic risks and hazard mitigation - accounting for future displacement - to reduce the number of people in protracted displacement situations.

4. Support effective governance

Utilise an all-of-society and data-driven approach to reduce displacement risk and minimise vulnerability. When possible, civil society should monitor displacement risk data to stop future displacement and involve displaced people, while also supporting effective funding for preparedness, mitigation, response, and adaptation.

5. Ensure inclusion in decision making

It is necessary to understand the perspective of different populations and to strengthen their agency in contributing to decision making.

Terminology

The terms defined below are the most relevant to understand this cookbook. Unless otherwise referenced, the terms below are defined informally.[8]

Displacement

Displacement refers to the situation in which people "have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of, or in order to avoid, the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalised violence, violations of human rights or disasters."[9]

Displaced persons

Displaced persons refer to those who are forced to leave their home due to displacement.

People who flee within their country are called **internally displaced people**. **Crossborder** displacement refers to forced movement between countries. People fleeing persecution across borders and fulfilling a legal definition[10] are often called **refugees** if their status has been legally recognised, and if it has not yet been recognised but they have requested the government of the country for this legal status, they can be referred to as **asylum seekers**.

Human mobility

In this cookbook we use human mobility to refer to a whole spectrum of human choice about movement in the face of risk. This includes displacement as well as:

- Immobility: the inability to flee, which results in 'trapped populations'

- Migration: is predominantly a voluntary form of movement, insofar as people, while not necessarily having the ability to decide in complete freedom, still possess the ability to choose between different realistic options; people may migrate within the country or by crossing a border[11]

- Planned relocation: forced or voluntary movement organised by the government

The distinction between forced and voluntary movement is often faint. Individuals may move for a range of reasons across the spectrum. For example, a drought may have reduced a family to poverty. Violent crime in the area makes individuals fear for their safety, so they feel they have no other choice but to leave. In this cookbook, they are considered displaced people. Most of the recipes shared in the cookbook refer to internally displaced people.

Terminology

Disaster displacement risk

"As with disaster risk, the risk of [disaster] displacement can be expressed in relation to hazards, exposure and vulnerability:

- The likelihood, severity and nature of a hazard or combination of hazards occurring over time;according to the best scientific evidence, climate change is expected to alter normal variability in the weather and make some hazards more severe and frequent

- The exposure of people and their homes, property and livelihoods to hazards before a disaster, and both during and after their displacement as they move from one location to another

- People's pre-existing and evolving vulnerability to the impact of hazards before, during and after their displacement"[12]

Host community

A community that hosts displaced persons, typically in planned settlements or directly integrated into households.[13] In a refugee context, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) defines a host community as "local, regional and national governmental, social and economic structures within which refugees live."[14]

Hosting arrangements refer to how displaced populations are sheltered within host communities.[15] Hosts may be the friends or family members of the displaced people, or people within the community willing to, often voluntarily, provide shelter.

Displacement-affected community

Those living with the consequences of displacement, including displaced people, host communities, communities in return areas and those in which former displaced people integrate.[16]

Stakeholders in forced displacement include displaced persons, host communities, civil society groups, local and national governments (in different departments/ ministries), civil society organisations, UN, INGOs and private sector and other interested parties.[17]

Inclusion

People and groups within society are often affected in different ways by the impacts of hazards and threats. Different levels and types of vulnerability are often a consequence of disparities and inequalities within countries. Inclusion recognises the intersectionality of discrimination that leads to vulnerability, including gender, ethnicity, disability, gender identity and sexual orientation, religious minorities, elderly, youth and children. In particular, displaced populations may have limited access to government planning and decision making processes.[18]

Resilience

In the context of displacement, resilience relates to how displaced people or communities are able to absorb, accommodate, adapt to, transform and recover from their displacement. Such efforts aim to avoid displacement (including secondary) and to minimise related impacts.[19]

Risk-informed development

Development that "prioritises the risks faced by communities living in the most vulnerable situations. It works through the perspective of people most at risk themselves. Communities come up with development solutions that mitigate their risks and build resilience."[20]. In the context of displacement, risk-informed development requires the consideration of the living conditions of displaced communities, access to livelihoods and services, and participation in decisions that impact them.

Localisation

Addressing displacement risk requires understanding local needs and providing support to local governments and CSOs with their work. This requires the transfer and sharing of resources by not only directing international funding to local actors, but also gathering community resources for collective action. Policies and practices must be risk-informed, prioritising the most vulnerable and reflecting the realities on the ground and requires upholding the human rights of people most at risk. It also recognises that communities most at risk, and frontline organisations, must have space to influence, access to resources and the power to make decisions.[21]

Durable solutions

"A durable solution is achieved when internally displaced persons no longer have any specific assistance and protection needs that are linked to their displacement and can enjoy their human rights without discrimination on account of their displacement. It can be achieved through: sustainable reintegration at the place of origin (return); sustainable local integration in areas where internally displaced persons take refuge (local integration); sustainable integration in another part of the country (settlement elsewhere in the country)."[22]

Urban area

An urban area refers to the geographic/spatial region included within a city or town and its sub-urban/peri urban area. For the purpose of the MDS project, GNDR defined urban areas as those listed below. Characteristics such as population density, built environment, administration boundaries and economic function should also be considered:

- Town: a settlement which is bigger than a village but smaller than a city

- City: a large settlement (larger than a village or town) with a relatively permanent and organised business centre where people with varied skills reside, a high population concentration and dependency on manufacturing and commerce for livelihoods

- Conurbation: a large area of urban development that has resulted from the merging of formerly separate towns or cities

- Million city: a city with a million or more inhabitants

- Megalopolis or megacity: an extensive urban area that has resulted from the merging of two or more conurbations

- Urban sprawl: the disproportionate and uncontrolled expansion of urban settlements into the surrounding countryside, forming relatively lower density, poorly planned extensions of the urban settlement

- Peri-urban: the area between defined urban and rural administrative boundaries, with closer ties to the urban settlement than the rural

Key approaches and ingredients

The approaches and ingredients identified in this cookbook have, as their starting point, the respect, adherence and promotion of displaced people's internationally recognised rights.

The approaches and ingredients showcased here reflect the importance of providing opportunities for displaced people to fully engage in actions that meet their needs and to take part in decisions that affect them.

Key approaches

The approaches described below – participation, inclusion, whole of society and human rights – serve as the basis for each of the recipes in this cookbook as they are needed to support displaced communities living in urban contexts. The approaches are demonstrated in each of the MDS-supported interventions, particularly in their use of the VFL methodology, ULL approach and, ultimately, in overall implementation.

Participatory approach and community ownership

The community of displaced people and hosts should be continuously and meaningfully engaged in learning, design and decision-making processes. Meaningful participation means the community leads, service providers facilitate, and local stakeholders and authorities listen to the community to ensure that activities are responding to community needs. Developing any action with displaced people from the start makes it possible to address their most pressing needs and to promote their ongoing engagement.

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This project, with the inclusive approach that we used, is focused on the people in order to demonstrate to all the stakeholders that it is important to create an inclusive and participatory approach, so that all the stakeholders, be it the displaced or the policymakers, should sit around the table to discuss solutions.

Alvin Koumbhat, CDHD, Republic of Congo

Participation and community ownership can be promoted by conducting a survey, or participatory mapping, of resources, capacities, vulnerabilities and risks. This helps to identify the characteristics of the locality and ensure that planning and actions are appropriate to the local context and priorities. Giving an opportunity to the host community to identify its challenges and needs, as well as to benefit from support, can help foster integration of displaced people in the host community. Key success elements leading to community ownership are promoting community engagement and building the community's capacity.

Inclusive approach

Ensuring that all members of a community have the opportunity to participate and contribute to joint efforts is crucial, and sometimes requires extra effort to facilitate, for example by altering meeting times or locations. Not only should gender equality be ensured, but also the participation of underrepresented and marginalised groups should be prioritised, including people living with disabilities, younger people, older people, those in the LGBTQI community and others. Displaced persons from all social, ethnic, class, gender, age and background should have equal opportunity to participate at every stage.

Marginalised groups should be identified and included at the start of any initiative, with appropriate social protection or inclusion mechanisms in place to promote their active participation.

> Trusting the ULL process has helped the project to be carried out in a way that the community has their own voices. Stakeholder engagement was key. Views were heard and people were part of the process.

Jean de dieu Musengamana,
Manadisaster, Rwanda

Whole of society approach

There should be meaningful involvement of all relevant stakeholders in all stages of managing displacement risks. These stakeholders include displaced persons, community members, relevant tiers of government, civil society groups and organisations and the private sector, among others. Such engagement should include continuous dialogue between the displaced community, host community and other stakeholders.

> We need coordination with the government and different stakeholders to tackle every source of forced displacement and also disaster education across the country.

Judith Mbarushimana,
Manadisaster, Rwanda

Rights-based approach

Rights-based solutions include four main principles: meaningful and inclusive participation and access to decision making; non-discrimination and equality; accountability; and transparency and access to information supported by disaggregated data.[23] The *Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* define the scope of displaced people's rights as, "rights and guarantees relevant to the protection of persons from forced displacement and to their protection and assistance during displacement as well as during return or resettlement and reintegration."[24]

Key approaches and ingredients

Key ingredients

A great recipe starts with good ingredients. Each of the following ingredients is an important building block for working with displaced communities to enhance their resilience and advocate for their needs, especially when considered within the local context and paired with the four approaches listed above.

> "
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> **At the beginning of the [MDS] project, we really didn't have a sense of community and none of us even considered trying to influence public policies that affect our lives. I think it was because we didn't realise the risks we face and that they could and should be managed. Through the project we organised ourselves and we women formed a committee to make decisions to improve our quality of life and to take responsibility for the environment in which we live. Some of the leaders emerged naturally, others were influential people in the community that we approached. We asked them to bring others to the meetings so we could agree on our priorities. It worked. We got organised and it caught the attention of the media. That helped to convince the local government and others to combine efforts to reduce landfill waste. I'm proud of the logo we designed for the community committee; it symbolises our unity within the community.**
>
> **Elena Alvaro,** community member and president of the Circular Economy Committee, Masca, Honduras

It is recommended that recipes to address displacement include the following ingredients:

1. Strengthen community
2. Be a catalyst for displaced people to access their rights
3. Commit government authorities and leaders to action
4. Rebuild livelihoods and resilience

1. Strengthen community

Displaced people may have lost their community and social network. They may be settled with displaced people from other communities with whom they may not identify or with whom they are in conflict. It may be necessary to first build a sense of community by promoting dialogue among all displaced people, ensuring the most marginalised are included.

Displaced people may have settled within a host community or may be newcomers to an informal settlement in an urban area. Tension may arise between displaced people as new arrivals with whom resources should be shared and the people already living in the area (who may or may not consider themselves a host community).

CSOs can strengthen community by:

a. Foster community cohesion among displaced people

Displaced people require opportunities to discuss their needs, capacities and interests with other displaced people. It is critical to ensure the participation of women, youth, older adults, people living with disabilities, and marginalised individuals, as displacement affects people differently and exacerbates vulnerabilities. The identification of leaders in the displaced community, as spokespersons of the community's needs, promotes ownership for decisions and community support.

b. Promote integration within host community or in new settlement

To promote integration, displaced people and the host community and/or those who settled earlier need spaces to engage in dialogue. Examples of facilitating integration include providing host communities an opportunity to express concerns and identify their needs, ensuring that host communities also benefit from services to support displaced people, and facilitating a peace building and reconciliation initiative, if required, where populations in conflict live in the same area.

2. Be a catalyst for displaced people to access their rights

The needs of displaced people are often not recognised by the host community, the local authorities or the legal system. Even when the government relocates people, they may not receive titles over the land or have access to services. Displaced people may need support to access the right to housing (in particular, women may need support to claim housing land and property rights), civil documentation, decent work/livelihoods, and access to basic goods and services such as healthcare, food, and education.

a. Tailor support to access services

The needs of men, women, youth, older people, people living with disabilities, and marginalised individuals differ, therefore they may require tailored support to access information, resources, and decision making mechanisms. For example, this may include providing assistance to parents to obtain replacement school documentation or diplomas for their children to rejoin the school system.

b. Support advocacy to access rights

Displaced people may need support to organise as a community to collectively advocate for their rights. Effective support can include media campaigns to help displaced people's voices be heard.

3. Commit government authorities and leaders to action

Government authorities have the responsibility to prevent displacement and to take action to ensure displaced people find durable solutions. However, capacity and resources to meet their responsibilities are often insufficient at the local level. To promote commitment, pool resources and encourage authorities to prioritise displaced people's needs, they should be engaged as early as possible in dialogue. Community leaders and locally active CSOs can be helpful in convening the displaced community, building trust and promoting community advocacy with government authorities.

Relevant actions include:

a. Partner on service and programme delivery

For greater effectiveness in addressing the needs of displaced people, it is useful to coordinate services and programming with the relevant government authorities, CSOs and others. A coordinated approach can help make the most of limited funding. A first step may be to map stakeholders, then facilitate discussion with them to understand mandates and to agree on areas for collaboration to harness synergies and avoid gaps in service provision.

b. Co-develop a civic engagement platform with government authorities and displaced people

It is important for displaced people and government authorities to jointly develop processes to discuss immediate and long-term needs and constraints, as well as to address displacement risk drivers. CSOs can support the development of a platform to promote displaced people's role in decision making.

Key approaches and ingredients

Government involvement is key to ensure that objectives can be achieved or sustained beyond a project's implementation period through continued funding and institutionalisation. A mechanism needs to be in place to ensure policies are transferred/translated into actions and to then sustain those actions.

c. Promote data collection and monitor advocacy, accountability and evidence-based programming

Data on displaced people's needs, challenges and wellbeing over time is required for advocacy and to evaluate interventions by external actors. Government authorities and other actors should be transparent in their activity implementation and budget allocation within the community. As displaced populations may be suspicious of government data collection, government actors should work with the community to provide assurance that the information collected aims to benefit the community and respond to their needs.

Participatory monitoring will allow the community to provide input into the process and ensure that the stated outcomes are experienced within the community. Lived experience and data captured in displacement contexts should also inform decision making, policy and programming.

4. Rebuild livelihoods and resilience

Ingredients to support displaced people to rebuild their livelihoods during displacement and to avoid being displaced again include:

a. Strengthen skills for employment and entrepreneurship
This can be accomplished through capacity strengthening workshops based on the needs and wishes of the community. Building skills can contribute to long-term, sustainable livelihood opportunities.

b. Co-develop locally relevant income-generating activities
This will not only ensure ownership among community members and enhance viability and sustainability of prioritised activities, but will also provide an opportunity for the community to identify its strengths and areas of interest.

c. Promote access to displacement risk reduction information and tools
This includes, for example: enabling early warning system access to displaced people in informal settlements; raising awareness of local risks; and engaging displaced people in preparedness to avoid a secondary displacement.

"

Before starting anti-erosion activities by terracing the hillsides of the Gisasa community, the erosion caused catastrophes such as house destruction and land wipeouts. My crops were washed down to the river by runoff from the hills. The same runoff used to come with high velocity destroying everything including my house too and roads; all these problems caused hunger, displacement of people and basic services issues. Nowadays, that issue is addressed - digging trenches has helped to intercept all the runoff from the hill.

**Frank Rusine,** living in Kigali, Rwanda

Recipes for making displacement safer

The following recipes combine the ingredients presented in this cookbook to make displaced communities safer, aiming to enhance their resilience, find durable solutions and reduce the likelihood of secondary displacement. While some of the stories may utilise the same ingredients, local contexts respond to the varied needs of local communities.
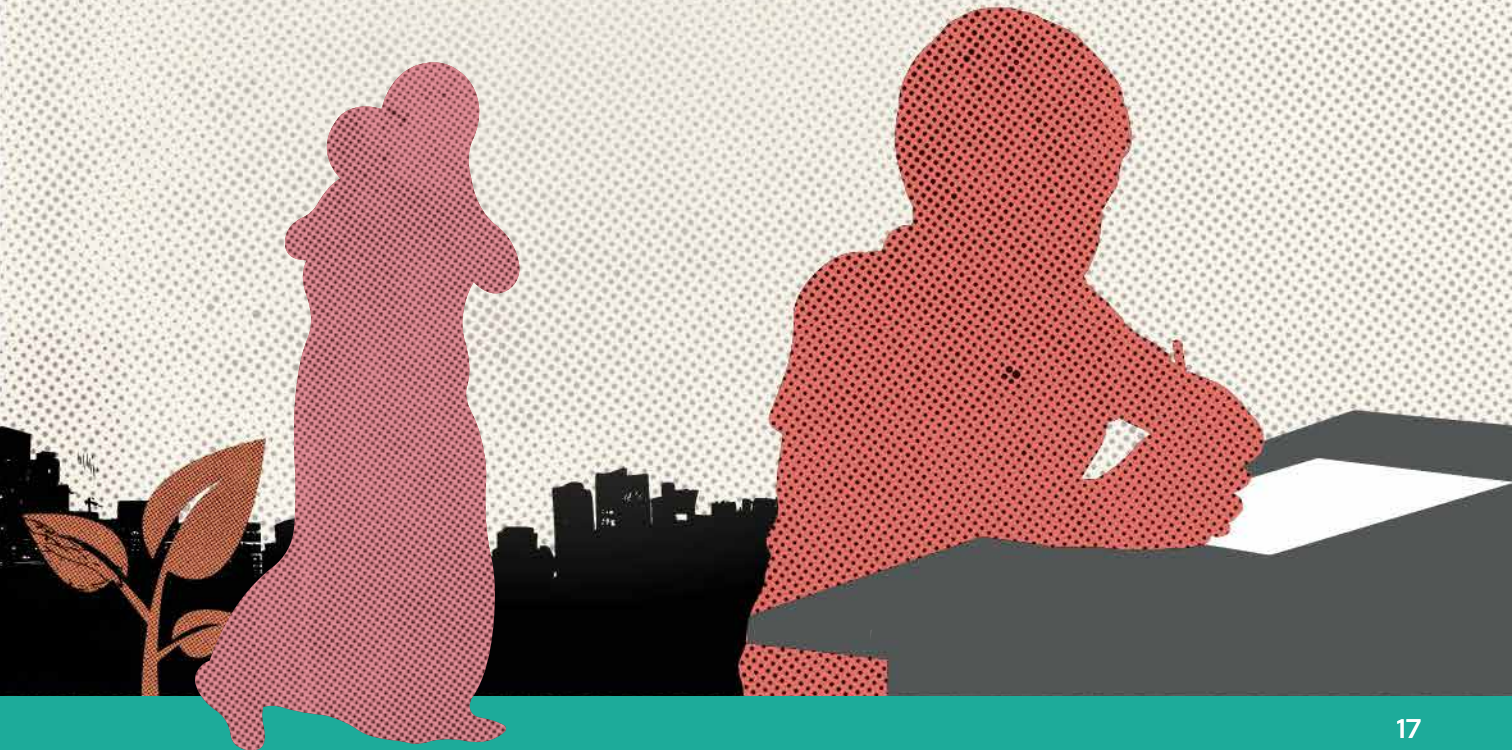
Indonesia
Cooperative enterprises build community livelihoods

Introduction

Garut City, Indonesia, is particularly vulnerable to disasters because of its high-density informal settlements in the river valley. In this recipe, the Resilience Development Initiative (RDI), an Indonesian think-tank, fostered community cohesion and enabled the community to work together to strengthen employment and entrepreneurship skills, create new livelihood opportunities, and undertake advocacy initiatives.

Key ingredients

- Foster community cohesion among displaced people
- Co-develop locally relevant income-generating activities
- Strengthen skills for employment and entrepreneurship
- Support advocacy to access rights

Background to displacement

In 2016, flash flooding in Garut destroyed over 2,500 houses in six sub-districts and caused significant economic loss. Community members described it as "the most massive and devastating flood".[25] The flooding was most damaging to communities living close to the riverbanks, particularly informal settlements. 787 families were forced to leave their homes. The local government relocated the affected persons to 10 locations in the periphery of Garut Kota sub-district.

The new locations were far from the city centre and those displaced did not have access to basic services, livelihood opportunities, financial resources, and information to help them reduce their disaster risk. Although they required assistance, there was not a clear authority or institution responsible for the relocated communities. Those living in the Huntap Babakan Carik community, for example, found it difficult to access the centre of the city and had limited support to start a small business.
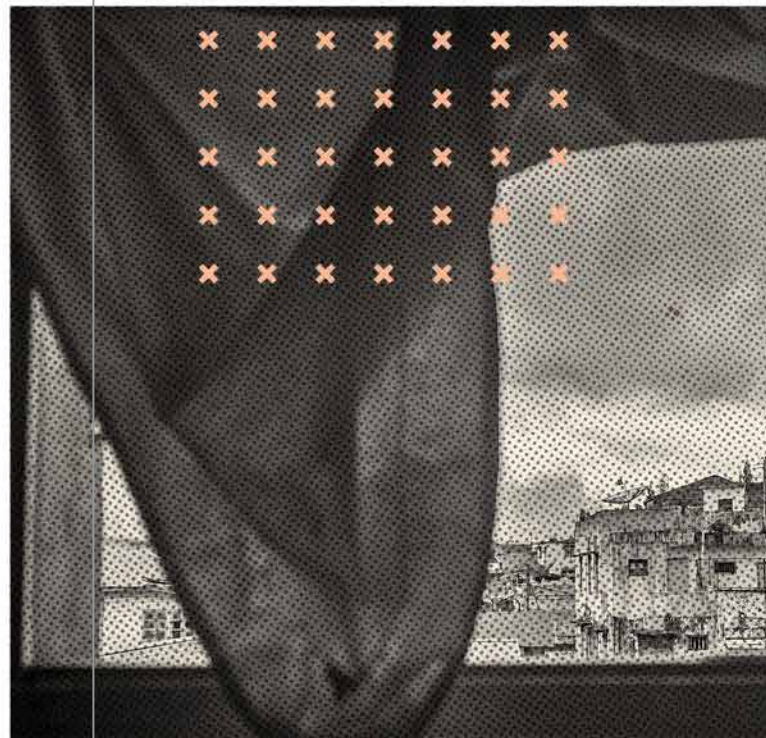
Priority activities

In response, RDI worked with displaced communities in Huntap Babakan Carik and Cigadog to create livelihood opportunities while utilising a community cooperative model. The government's relocation scheme mixed households from various communities in one area rather than relocating whole communities. To strengthen community cohesion, RDI engaged individuals from various communities to work together toward common goals. They facilitated meetings in accessible settings to ensure that marginalised populations had an opportunity to participate in community decisions.

The project began by providing capacity strengthening opportunities including workshops on post-disaster psychological recovery, the establishment of cooperatives and their management, business planning and management, financial literacy, and waste management. Community members were able to build on these skills with cooperative business planning and implementation. In Huntap Babakan Carik, the community agreed to create a community cooperative that would provide better waste management in the area, while also supporting the community's economic recovery by establishing a community-based cooperative that developed stalls, waste banks, and maggot cultivation.

The community in Cigadog agreed to combine the concept of community cooperative with the traditional flea market. The initiative focused on supporting community entrepreneurship while maximising the potential of Putri Mountain (a tourism attraction) to hold the flea market. Additionally, Cigadog worked on clean water management and aimed to create a savings and loan business.

In order to commit government authorities to sustained engagement with displaced communities, a task force for community members and local stakeholders to express their concerns was established. National and regional workshops to improve understanding of disaster displacement policy and to clarify the roles of different agencies. Relationships with national and local government, as well as regional bodies and international actors, were established. In order to implement projects in Garut Regency, buy-in was required from local government actors. RDI worked with the displaced people to improve their understanding of their rights and advocate for support from local authorities. At the national level, RDI held a national workshop to introduce topics on how to make displacement safer and discuss disaster displacement in Indonesia. Internationally, RDI presented at the 2022 Global Platform on DRR in Bali, Indonesia.

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Facilitation from RDI has increased my confidence and expanded the networking, which opened up opportunities to obtain technical assistance from Local Government Units.

Ibu Wawat, living in Cigadog, Indonesia

About the Resilience Development Initiative

The Resilience Development Initiative (RDI) is an Indonesian think tank that focuses on disaster and climate resilience, renewable energy systems, gender equality, child welfare, and sustainable development. RDI believes interdisciplinary studies and evidence-based policymaking are crucial to furthering resilience in Indonesia.
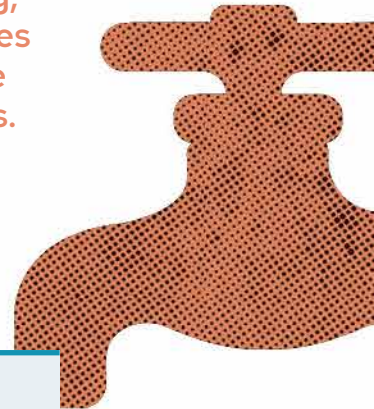
Niger

Collaboration with local government secures civil documents for displaced people

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Introduction

When people flee, they often leave without the necessary documentation to access government services or rebuild their lives. This recipe responds to displaced people's need for civil status documents and shares how Développement pour un Mieux Être (DEMI-E), a civil society organisation in Niger, was able to partner with the local government to support displaced people to access their rights.

Key ingredients

- Tailor support to access services
- Support advocacy to access rights

Background to displacement

Niger suffers from the increasing impacts of climate change. Over the past 10 years, the southern strip of the Diffa region has been hit by severe flooding on multiple occasions.

Communities that depend on irrigated agriculture have seen their fields ravaged and homes destroyed. What's more, droughts, violent winds and erosion mean dune fields are no longer productive, leaving the population extremely vulnerable. Additionally, the conflict with Boko Haram has destabilised the southeastern part of the country. All of these factors have led to widespread displacement: much of the southwest strip has been emptied of its population, with hundreds of villages abandoned and people living in camps or spontaneous settlements.

> This activity was prioritised because it includes sub-activities that are highly relevant and the whole package addresses the root causes of the target group's vulnerability. We started from the premise that someone who does not even have documents that make him a citizen of his country, who does not even know the texts that govern his status, cannot claim anything rightfully. If they are regularly registered as Nigerien citizens and they are aware of the laws and regulations in force, then they will be able to claim in all legality and legitimacy all that is rightfully theirs and even ask to change the provisions that do not take into account their real needs.

Mani Tahirou, DEMI-E, Niger

Priority activities

On the outskirts of the urban commune of Diffa, displaced people from seven different villages within, and outside of, Niger have fled to the village of Awaridi. DEMI-E utilised the VFL methodology to identify the main challenges displaced people face. This included access to basic social services, exclusion from laws and strategies, and lack of DRR knowledge. As revealed through the urban living labs process, the community agreed that access to basic services including healthcare, housing, and food were its main priorities.

In order to ensure that displaced people have access to government services, DEMI-E partnered with relevant government authorities to issue civil status documents to 3,000 displaced people. The documentation initiative prioritised women and children.

Project participants advocated for the views of displaced people to be included in a national humanitarian policy and disaster management document. They also took part in campaigns to raise awareness of Law No. 2018-74 on the protection of, and assistance to, internally displaced persons. Engaging more than 10,000 people, the campaign led Diffa regional authorities to take into account the movement of people in the regional response plan to crises and disasters.

About Développement pour un Mieux Être

Développement pour un Mieux Être (DEMI-E) is a Nigerien national non-governmental organisation that provides support in the areas of water, sanitation, hygiene, food security, resource management and social protection. Its mission is to contribute to building the resilience capacities of rural and urban communities through the implementation of selfmanaged development initiatives.

El Salvador

Access to DRR information and tools strengthens community cohesion

Introduction

In La Union, El Salvador, the government has relocated displaced populations from other municipalities and from illegal settlements. Yet the relocation presents new disaster risk.

This recipe, contributed by GNDR partner Funsalprodese through MDS support, combines community cohesion, working with government authorities and promoting disaster risk reduction information and tools to concoct an early warning system.

Key ingredients

- Foster community cohesion among displaced people

- Partner on service and programme delivery

- Co-develop a civic engagement platform with government authorities and displaced people

- Promote access to displacement risk reduction information and tools

Background to displacement

Following the relocation of multiple communities, a number of risks and new vulnerabilities may appear relating to social cohesion, access to services, infrastructure and general disaster risk. In this example, the relocation areas are exposed to climatic and seismic risks.

Streams and ravines and the poor condition of drains and gutters rendered the area vulnerable to floods, and in the dry season, the area experiences drought. The displaced population in three relocation sites lack permanent housing, drinking water, home electricity and access to healthcare and education.
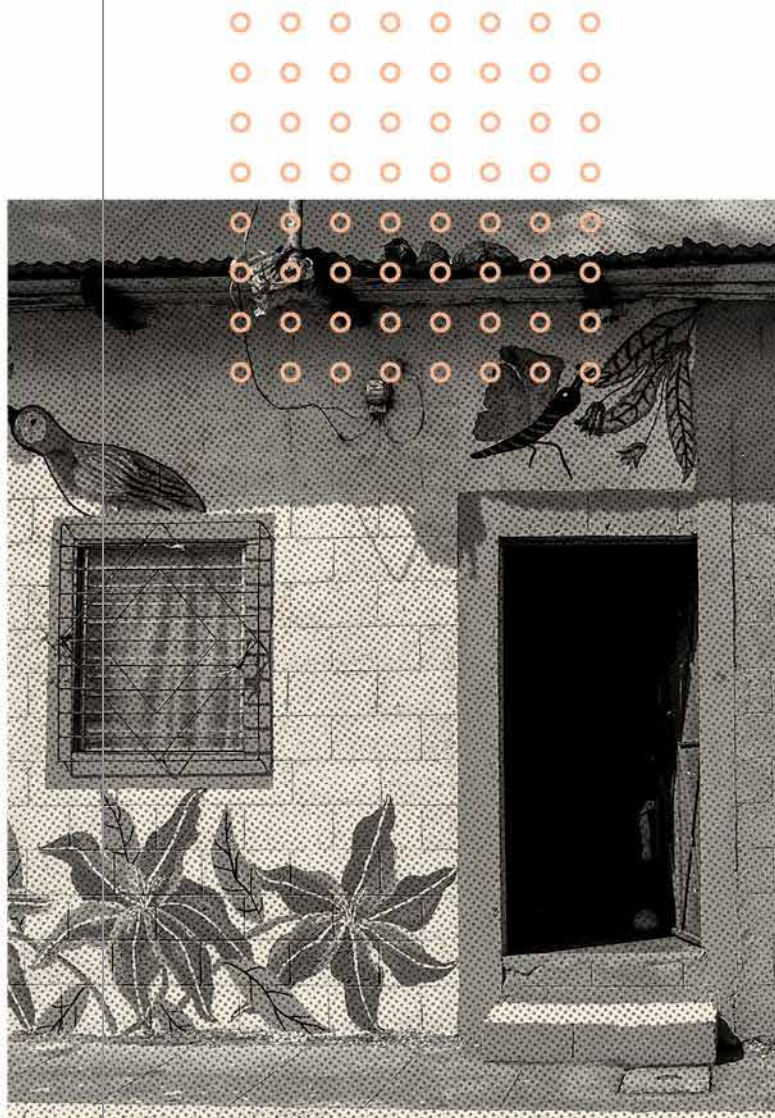
Priority activities

Funsalprodese ensured the communities had access to early warning systems and evacuation preparedness infrastructure. To address flood risk in three communities, they supported the installation of lighting and signage along the evacuation route, as well as loudspeakers for early warning. More than 70 solar lamps were distributed among the three communities, improving the community's safety as well as preparedness for evacuation.

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The early warning system has worked well for the community; we communicate about any type of emergency and send out warnings. For example, with the recent rains, we sent out information about what time the hurricane was going to hit. So we were watching and sending out warnings to the families because most of the houses here are made of corrugated metal sheets. We were able to be aware of what was coming. Because what we were hearing from up North was scaring us. That it was going to destroy our houses. So we were telling the community what time the hurricane was going to come so they could be prepared. So that's very helpful for us because we can keep the whole community informed; we can be ready and aware of any warning.

Anabel Ventura, Committee of the Nuevo Amanecer Community, Intipucá, La Unión, Funsalprodese, El Salvador

The two communication systems installed comprised nine-metre sound towers with two loudspeakers, two microphones and amplifier equipment. The communities also received training to maintain the equipment, in addition to training on first aid, water and sanitation, shelter management and displacement risk.

Community gardens were established. Communities were supported by Funsalprodese to create an agricultural committee and establish rainwater harvesting and drip irrigation to improve soil fertility and moisture retention. The community gardens were able to address multiple objectives including access to food and livelihoods, and enhancing community cohesion.

Having shared information with the community concerning their rights of participation, each community developed its own advocacy strategy to government authorities. Each community proposed improvements to local officials and claimed their right to participation in the preparation of the budget and annual participatory investment plan. The relationship with government authorities improved with continuous communication facilitated by the agro-environmental committees. As a result, the government has asked for the formalisation of the committees as associations to provide government support.

About Fundación Salvadoreña

Fundación Salvadoreña para la Promoción Social y el Desarrollo Económico (FUNSALPRODESE) began as a social movement initiated by ten organisations and was legally constituted in 1998. Its purpose is to coordinate training, and defend freedom of expression and the right to organisation, and to protect displaced victims of the armed conflict.

Sri Lanka

New civic engagement platform and education improve resilience efforts

Introduction

In 2004, the Indian Ocean tsunami caused the destruction of over 65,000 residential structures in Sri Lanka, displacing thousands and causing widespread difficulties in accessing basic services and livelihood opportunities. Although it has been 19 years since the disaster, communities are still struggling to find durable solutions to their displacement.

In this recipe, the Sri Lankan CSO, Janathakshan GTE Ltd, responds with a recipe that tailors support to address the displaced community's need for education and civic engagement to advocate to government authorities.

Key ingredients

- Tailor support to access services
- Support advocacy to access rights
- Co-develop a civic engagement platform with government authorities and displaced people
- Strengthen skills for employment and entrepreneurship

Background to displacement

In response to the thousands of people displaced by the Indian Ocean tsunami, the government of Sri Lanka created housing for displaced populations, including the target population of highrise apartments, comprising 288 units and housing 1,752 individuals.

Upon surveying residents of the apartments, Janathakshan GTE Ltd found that the people who had been relocated faced extreme poverty, limited access to livelihood opportunities, and unemployment. Low social acceptance and poor education had led some towards alcoholism and drug addiction. Furthermore, the displaced community had not received any legal documents after relocating to prove ownership of their housing units. They faced social exclusion from the host community, as well as a lack of community cohesion within the housing scheme.

Priority activities

To address this, Janathakshan GTE Ltd provided vocational training and self employment programmes, including: a programme specifically for single-parent-headed households; facilitated dialogues between youths and vocational training officials; a business and marketing workshop; and the establishment of a community youth leadership team. It also facilitated a dialogue with vocational training authorities, at national and divisional levels, to advocate for the inclusion of displaced populations.

In order to further support youths in the community, Janathakshan GTE Ltd provided revision seminars to help students prepare for secondary school final exams, and school equipment (e.g. school bags, bottles, stationery and textbooks) to those most in need. It developed a fund to support pre-school, primary, secondary and vocational education, and conducted a programme to motivate young people to continue their education. This intervention was based on findings that an increasing number of students from the housing scheme were dropping out of school and some children did not have access to formal education services.

The project aimed to demonstrate the value of education and motivate children to continue their education. Art, poetry and essay competitions were held. Students from nearby villages were invited to participate and contribute to social integration. Motivational programmes were also held for parents to understand the importance of keeping their children in school.

Although government authorities and institutions had clearly assigned roles and responsibilities for service provision to the community, they were struggling to provide services for two main reasons: there was no channel for communication between the community and the authorities, and there was poor coordination among institutions.

Janathaksan GTE Ltd organised a joint event with the local government representatives, the Panadura Divisional Secretariat, to share the challenges faced by the community and to discuss possible interventions with government ministries and departments. This led to the establishment of a working committee at the Panadura DS office to connect the displaced community and government authorities, which in turn led to several bilateral meetings with the respective authorities (i.e. zonal education office, school principles, DS office) to advocate for long-term solutions.

One of the prioritised advocacy initiatives was to bring to the attention of the authorities the issue of home ownership. A situation analysis was carried out to identify the initiatives that had been taken by authorities and to identify the gaps in the process. Based on that analysis, recommendations were drawn and shared with the authorities responsible for housing, education, child protection and vocational training.

A range of partners were engaged in different ways. In order to ensure the sustainability of the project's aims, a multistakeholder steering group was established and a fundraising strategy drafted. Policymakers from different ministries were brought together, facilitating a space for dialogue about holistic and long-term solutions. Janathakshan GTE Ltd found its community-based approach to be a key success factor. "We were able to bring together the community and other key local stakeholders – bringing them into one platform to discuss and seek durable solutions for the most pressing issues. Alongside the opportunity to better understand the various socio-economic issues faced by the community 16 years after resettlement, this platform importantly contributed to building trust and bridging the disconnect between the community, authorities and other key stakeholders." said Chandrika Kularathne, Senior Manager – Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience.
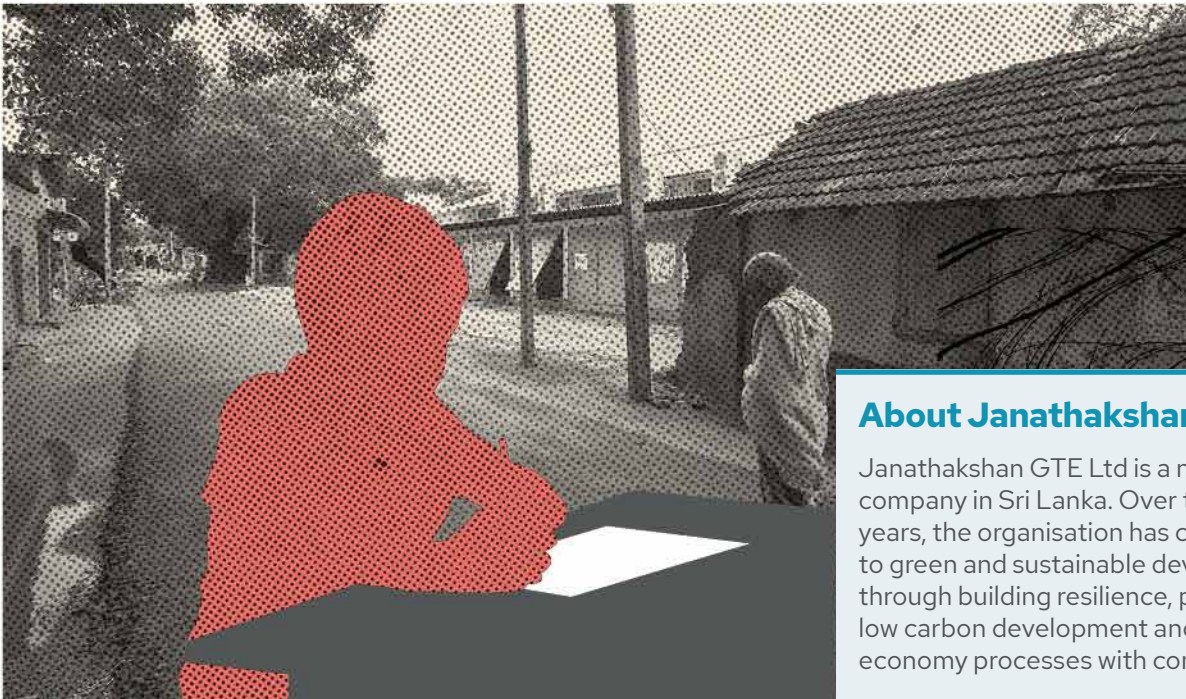
About Janathakshan GTE Ltd

Janathakshan GTE Ltd is a not-for-profit company in Sri Lanka. Over the last 25 years, the organisation has contributed to green and sustainable development through building resilience, promoting low carbon development and circular economy processes with communities.

South Sudan

Support to access rights through advocacy and training to rebuild livelihoods

Introduction

Since 2013, recurring conflicts in South Sudan have caused approximately 4.2 million people to flee their homes. Floods and droughts further compound displacement risk.

Displaced people lack access to essential services such as food, water, healthcare and shelter. Root of Generations (RoG), a local NGO and MDS implementing partner, has responded to the challenges of displaced people, living in Gumbo, on the edge of Juba and strengthened a sense of community. The organisation has supported displaced people in Gumbo to understand their rights and has worked together with civil society groups to commit government authorities to take action to generate livelihood opportunities for urban displaced.

Background to displacement

Around the city of Juba, many displaced people live in informal settlements and rely on humanitarian assistance. They have limited resources and live in houses made from whatever materials they can find locally. RoG worked with six communities to understand their needs and capacities and enhance their resilience. Three of them are slums and squatter settlements. Many of the residents have been displaced by conflict and - being newly located near the river - are exposed to substantial flood risk. Another community, settled in semi-permanent structures, has been displaced for over 20 years, with residents dependent on small-scale agriculture and operating businesses along the highway. Other communities - also living in semi-permanent structures - were displaced by flooding in 2019 or by violence in 2016 and 2019. Many of these communities suffer similar vulnerabilities, including exposure to industrial waste, floods, high crime rates, water insecurity, poor housing and inadequate sanitation.

Key ingredients

- Foster community cohesion among displaced people
- Promote integration of displaced people within host community or in new settlement
- Support advocacy to access rights
- Strengthen skills for employment and entrepreneurship
- Co-develop locally relevant income-generating activities

Priority activities

Although access to basic services was highlighted by a majority of the communities, they agreed that addressing unemployment was a key priority within MDS. As a result of the work by RoG, beneficiaries have reported improvements to food security, shelter quality and confidence in advocating for themselves and their community.

The first step to address the communities' needs was to foster cohesion. Differences in ethnic and cultural backgrounds among displaced people and also in respect to host communities, can sometimes create misunderstandings and challenges. In order to address cultural differences and conflict over land ownership and access to resources, RoG staff held separate meetings with the host community so they could voice their concerns. RoG also worked to increase livelihood opportunities for displaced people to avoid straining available resources such as farmland.

RoG raised awareness among displaced people of their rights, in particular to basic services, decent work, and education, and of ways to claim those rights. Representatives went door to door to provide information about their rights and also utilised community meetings and local media – such as TV, radio, newspapers and social media – to bring attention to the challenges faced by displaced people. Three radio talk shows reached a combined audience of 50,000 people and called for their inclusion of displaced people in future interventions.
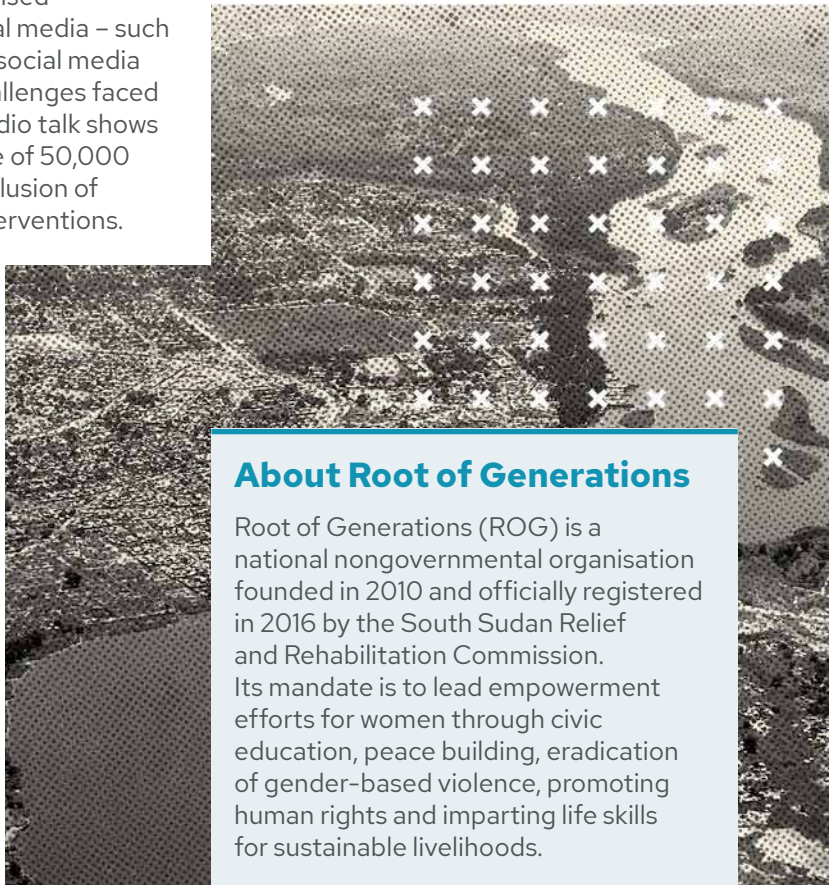
Local government authorities were involved at the start of the project, participating in both the VFL methodology and the ULL approach. RoG visited displaced people's homes to understand their needs, and engaged local and national government authorities by facilitating roundtable discussions with displaced people and the host community. A social media campaign highlighted displacement as a national risk and aimed to promote the inclusion of displaced people in decision making and development planning. In response, the national government asked host states to allocate land for displaced people.

At the community level, RoG worked with 25 beneficiaries to develop five businesses in the community, providing goods and services like tailoring, fast-moving consumer goods, second hand cloth, fresh produce, and agricultural seeds. The groups pooled their savings so that if the group reached a particular threshold, the extra money was used to support a sixth new startup group. In this way the capital keeps growing to benefit more displaced people.

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>
> I can now make dresses and sell them to the community. I contribute my cash to the group pool on a weekly basis without fail. My family life has been transformed. My children are back to school. I save money and pay for their fees. We have a meal twice a day which was not there before. I can afford hospital bills in case of sickness. I renovated my house and added a small room where my children can sleep. We used to all sleep in the same room and our legs stayed outside, which was hard when the rains fell.

Alice[26] **,** living in Gumbo, Juba, South Sudan

About Root of Generations

Root of Generations (ROG) is a national nongovernmental organisation founded in 2010 and officially registered in 2016 by the South Sudan Relief and Rehabilitation Commission. Its mandate is to lead empowerment efforts for women through civic education, peace building, eradication of gender-based violence, promoting human rights and imparting life skills for sustainable livelihoods.

Nepal

Livelihood and DRR training strengthens resilience

Introduction

This recipe was concocted by the National Society for Earthquake Technology – Nepal (NSET), which supported a displaced community in the Kathmandu Valley by combining civic engagement, income generation, and the utilisation of DRR tools and information to enhance the community's resilience and self-reliance.

Key ingredients

- Strengthen skills for employment and entrepreneurship
- Co-develop a civic engagement platform with government authorities and displaced people
- Support advocacy to access rights
- Promote access to displacement risk reduction information and tools

Background to displacement

Dozens of mixed informal settlements surround Kathmandu. While many people living in these communities are displaced as a result of conflict and disasters, others have relocated in pursuit of livelihood opportunities. After surveying over 50 mixed informal settlements in the Kathmandu Valley, NSET chose to work with a community located on an unplanned settlement on public property between the Bagmati Corridor Road and Bagmati River. The population has a precarious legal status and faces multiple disaster risk factors. There are no active DRR activities in the settlement.

> **Through this training, I got a chance to learn many things like proper hygiene, and caring for small babies, elderly people and people with disabilities. We knew some but this training has taught us a lot. I got a job after taking this training as house help, which indeed has changed my life.**
>
> **Ameerah[27]**, living in Kathmandu, Nepal
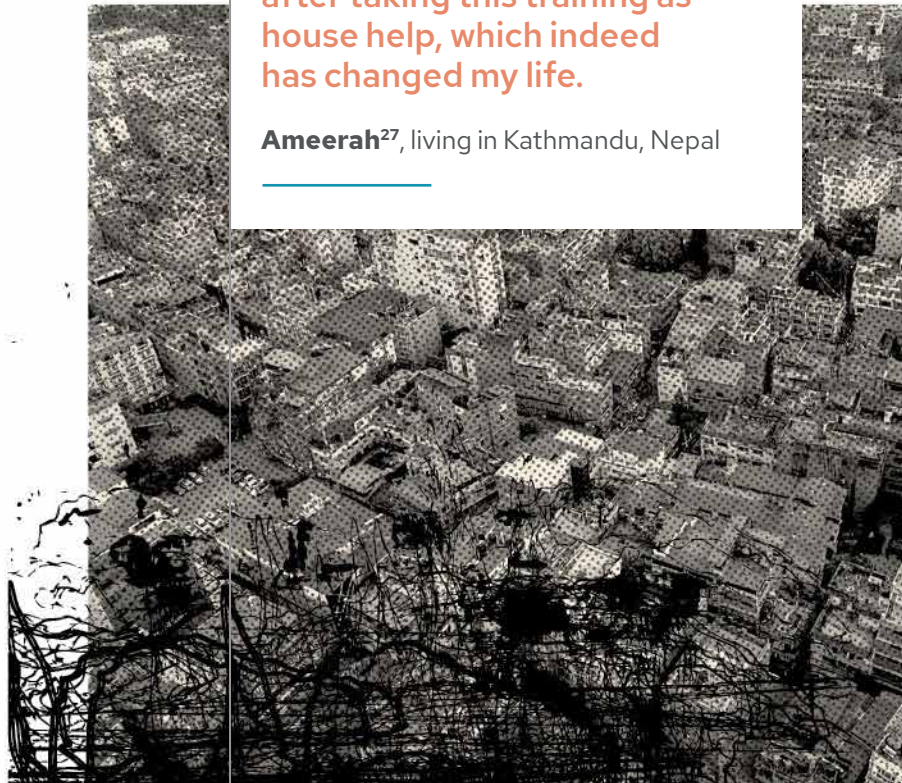
The community-level survey showed flash floods are the most significant threat, followed by seismic risk and poor sanitation. 83% of respondents have been affected by disasters, including loss or damage to homes, illness, injury, or loss of livelihoods. A lack of awareness and education about disaster risk is reported as a barrier to building resilience. Displaced people also face challenges regarding their legal status and potential eviction by the government.

Unfortunately, at the time the community survey was being conducted, a flash flood did occur. On 6 September 2021, the Bagmati river burst its bank amidst heavy rain and the drainage system could not cope. At 4am the community were woken by flood water entering their homes (approximately 30% of the houses were affected) and to a submerged settlement. NSET were able to respond quickly, based on their research work with the community. This changed the relationship between community and government, leading to closer contact.

Priority activities

In order to strengthen employment skills, NSET staff worked with the Kadambari College and Skill Factory Nepal to provide a vocational training programme for female domestic workers on housekeeping and caregiving.

Disaster risk reduction measures also play a key role in this recipe, with NSET providing both training and infrastructure improvement to enhance the resilience of the community. Training focused on disaster preparedness, emergency response, search and rescue, and fire response.

The community also created an evacuation plan and was able to pre-position supplies like fire extinguishers. Action will be sustained by trained personnel and community members. NSET and the community worked together to train volunteers, build capacities and agree on plans to strengthen resilience. The fire response training was found particularly effective - a few weeks after the training a house caught fire and one of the trainees was able to respond quickly to extinguish it.

Community infrastructure was highlighted as a key challenge. One particular access road was in disrepair and susceptible to flooding. The road was levelled and the drainage system was repaired to prevent future flooding and to provide an evacuation route for the community. NSET worked with the community to design, prepare drawings and estimate labour and material requirements to improve the drainage system; it also assisted the community to raise additional funding for supplies.

Finally, a committee of federal and local government officials, private sector stakeholders, and civil society organisations was formed. Their aim was to institutionalise the engagement of displaced people in DRR and disaster response, and thereby bridge the gap between policy and practice. A task force was also formed that included local government officials, community members, and civil society organisations to help coordinate local efforts and promote the inclusion of displaced people. In addition to a national advisory committee meeting, a national workshop enabled committee members to initiate a dialogue on how to involve displaced communities and to address policy gaps.

About the National Society for Earthquake Technology

Established in 1994, The National Society for Earthquake Technology – Nepal (NSET) is a Nepali non–profit organisation working on disaster risk reduction with special focus on earthquake risk management. The vision of NSET is for communities in Nepal to be resilient by 2050.

Kenya

Advocacy promotes access to displacement risk reduction information and tools

Introduction

Kisumu lies on Lake Victoria and is Kenya's fourth largest city. Unregulated development has a negative impact on resilience, leading to reduced livelihood opportunities, low quality services, and increased disaster risk, including displacement. In this recipe, GNDR member Winam Grassroots utilises data collection and monitoring to inform CSO interventions and partnerships in service delivery.

Key ingredients

- Partner on service and programme delivery

- Promote access to displacement risk reduction information and tools

- Tailor support to access services

- Promote data collection and monitoring for advocacy, accountability and evidence-based programming

- Support advocacy to access rights

Background to displacement

Unregulated development has exposed communities living along the banks of Lake Victoria to great risk. Floods destroy houses and businesses and decimate agriculture and livelihoods. People are left to stay in temporary camps or with their neighbours and families for months.

Winam Grassroots conducted surveys, focus group discussions and in-depth interviews with displaced people to understand how many people are affected and the support required. The data provided an indication of the actions local government and other stakeholders should prioritise and to inform resource allocation to support the community. People needed help with farm inputs, food and other basic needs, as well as support for women to obtain national healthcare cards. Winam Grassroots also held a stakeholder review meeting and shared the report with various agencies to provide insight into the main challenges faced by the displaced community.

Priority activities

Winam Grassroots worked with leaders of various community structures to rally citizens and come up with a plan on how to share information, communally cook food, clean their environment, and provide their own camp security. Together they co-developed a plan that attributed responsibilities for sharing information and decision making during a flood event. In a presentation describing their work, a member of Winam Grassroots said: "We all need to scale-up networking. CSOs should work together more and not be silent." By utilising local-to-local dialogues and grassroots assemblies to engage various community associations and organisations, they were able to form action groups and conduct capacity strengthening and awareness raising. The community was introduced to early warning signs and worked together to clean up shared spaces, clear drainages and manage waste.
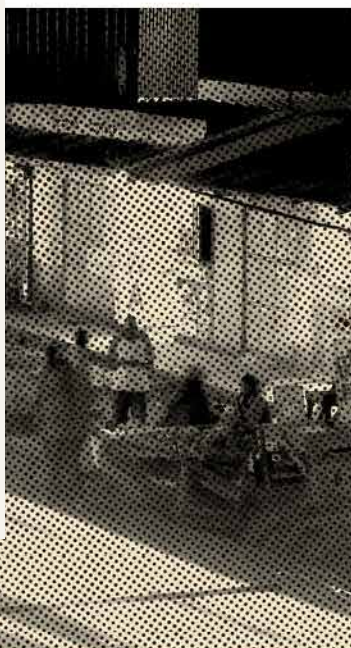
Imagine a woman who goes to bed only to be woken up by screams. Water is quickly coming in. Her children are asleep on the floor. She is scared, unsure whether to pick up her children and move out quickly or try to salvage a few of their much needed belongings before she escapes the fierce and raging waters of a river that has broken its bank.

They have nowhere to go, no information on who they can go to for help other than their neighbours who are in the same situation. They have to sleep out in the cold, and as the day breaks, they are hungry, dirty and cold. All their belongings – including those for their livelihoods – are turned upside down. The future seems bleak.

Dorothy Midimo, Winam Grassroots, Kenya, describing the situation that many community members faced when flooding struck Kisumu

Imagine a woman who gets woken up by an alarm sound and bells. She goes out and sees her neighbours have already gathered outside. The community mobilizer/responders who she remembers speaking to weeks before is explaining the situation. The river levels are rising and the risk of flooding is high. There is a school that is a seven minute drive away and is deemed safe. Every family has one hour to pack its things and go to the school.

There will be food, shelter and more information there. The woman grabs her few valuables and leaves in the car with her children. She knows the route and there is no water logging on the route. In the school there are community responders at work with the evacuation plan and neighbourhood leaders counting numbers. The children have a safe play area and there are mats for sleeping and warm food. She goes to sleep knowing that the risk is not over but they have a community team that will work together and know how to tackle it. They are safe.

Dorothy Midimo, Winam Grassroots, Kenya, describing the situation that many community members faced when flooding struck Kisumu

As part of their work in the makeshift camps, Winam Grassroots advocates for the provision of security by the national government, swift provision of food, access to healthcare, shelter, water and sanitation, and ultimately, for a planned and well-managed relocation.

Winam Grassroots is working on *The City We Need Now*[28] campaign, in support of the New Urban Agenda for sustainable cities and communities. It runs a platform for local communities to advocate, innovate, and act on climate change. And aims to influence policy implementation, especially on budget provision and allocation, in the annual development plans.

About Winam Grassroots

Winam Grassroots works to empower communities in the Lake Region of Kenya by creating awareness about the environment and climate change, conservation agriculture, gender equality, and empowerment and community development.

Winam Grassroots is a memberled organisation that puts the needs of its community at the centre of development by amplifying voices of the community to bring change.
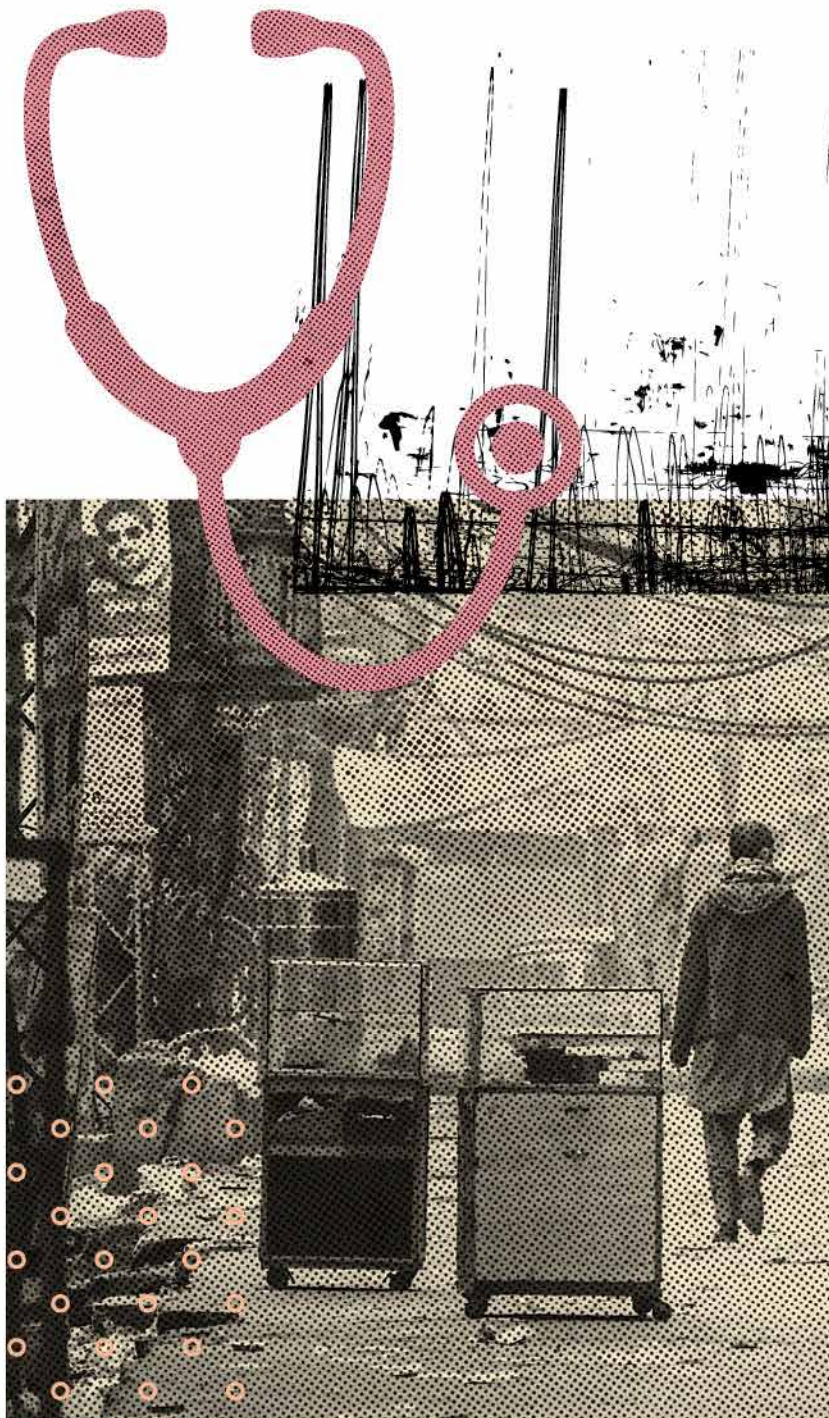
Pakistan

Addressing health needs for resilience and fostering local integration tools

Introduction

The 2022 floods in Pakistan caused widespread damage, destroyed over two million homes and affected approximately 15 percent of the country's population. Following the floods, GNDR member Alight provided access to education and healthcare to the affected community, utilising a recipe that fostered cohesion among the displaced populations, enabled access to systems and services, and created new partnerships with other CSOs.

Key ingredients

- Foster community cohesion among displaced people
- Tailor support to access services
- Partner on service and programme delivery

Background to displacement

Seeing the need for access to healthcare for people displaced by the 2022 floods in Pakistan, Alight focused its efforts on renovating three rural health centres and stocking them with necessary medical supplies, while also providing primary and maternal, newborn, and child health services. Though the renovation succeeded in supporting much of the community, Alight found that some people were unable to access the health centres.

Priority activities

To address this gap, Alight reached out to local organisations to find the way to best support housebound patients - such as women and children - and ensure that everyone has access to medical care. They collaborated with local actors to provide psychological support and established temporary learning centres to engage and rehabilitate young children through education and sports. Alight convened representatives of the organisations working in the same area. Together they successfully coordinated the division of tasks among them to minimise duplication and avoid service gaps. For instance, where Alight was delivering health services, another organisation provided water and sanitation services.

While it focuses on meeting the needs of displaced populations, Alight recruited volunteers from both the host community and the displaced community in order to strengthen social dynamics. Alight also employs host community members in emergency response roles to improve community relations.

To amplify the voices of displaced people and raise awareness of available services, Alight mobilised its local volunteers to use social media. It also reached out to the local representatives of national media to inform the population of the local districts and their public representatives.

> "
> **Alight does not solely rely upon the needs assessment reports or situation reports. It engages the displaced and host community members to become a part of the response plan. This approach has benefited the response in multiple ways: enhancing social cohesion, accelerating response time, and innovating cost-effective solutions.**
>
> **Tariq Cheema,** Alight, Pakistan

About Alight

Recognising that humanitarian aid often takes a one-size-fits-all approach, Alight works with displaced populations to co-create humanitarian responses and provide support from their initial displacement to finding durable solutions. Alight centres its work on those who are displaced and develops trusting local partnerships that build resilience.
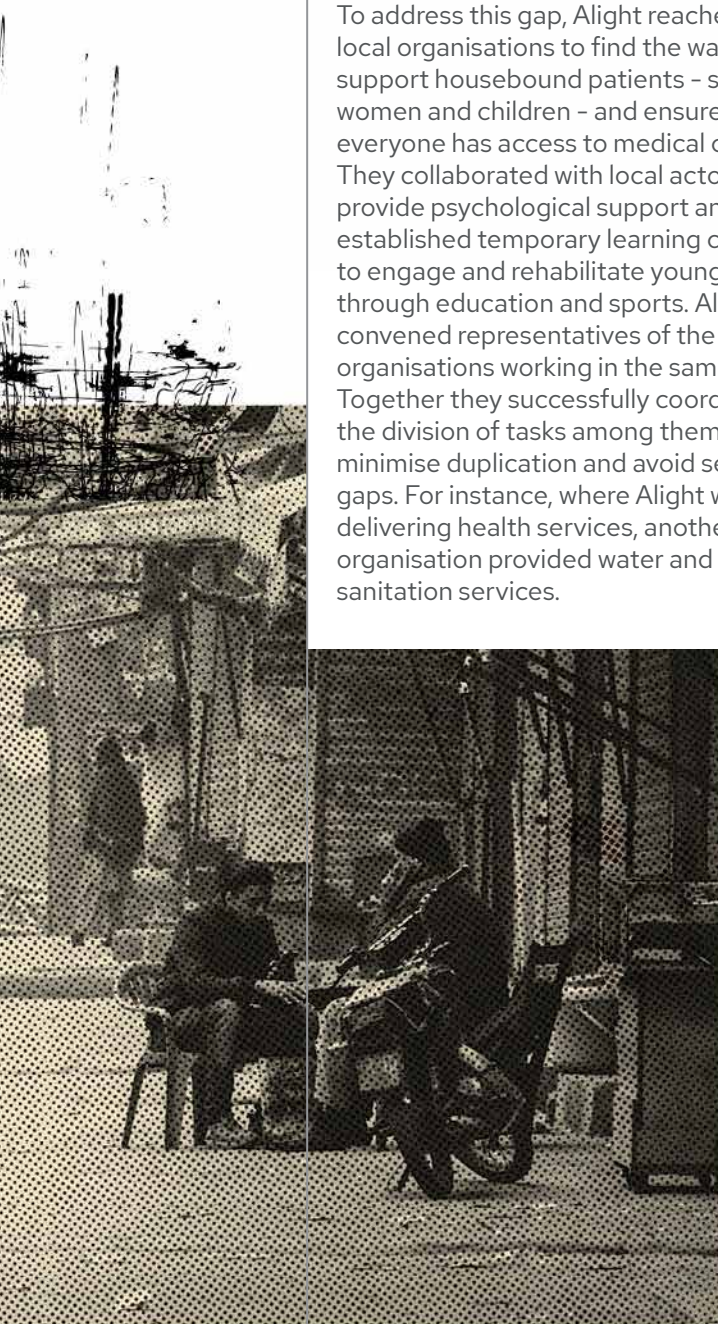
Create your own recipes

The recipes in this cookbook demonstrate that it is possible to make displacement safer.

Governments, CSOs and local communities can work together to reduce the risk of displacement and respond effectively when it does happen. Displaced people need to have an active role in risk reduction and disaster response activities in their communities. CSOs are well placed to help displaced people rebuild their lives by using the four key ingredients recommended:

1. **Strengthen community**

2. **Be a catalyst for displaced people to access their rights**

3. **Commit government authorities and leaders to action**

4. **Rebuild livelihoods and resilience**

CSOs, and others, are invited to consider how they can best apply - or strengthen their use of - the ingredients. For example:

- Embed in the community and understand the challenges displaced people face – both those intrinsic to displacement and those related to marginalisation and exclusion from services and opportunities

- Conduct risk assessments to understand the likelihood of displacement and address what might cause it

- Work to foster cohesion among displaced and host populations by providing opportunities for dialogue and services to the whole community affected by displacement

- Commit to participatory, inclusive, whole-of-society, human-rights-based approaches to ensure actions reflect the community's priorities and address the needs of the most marginalised among displaced people

- Facilitate conversation and joint decision making with all who have a stake in addressing displaced people's needs

- Articulate and advocate for displaced people and with displaced people: open communication channels for displaced people to express their views and to directly call upon government authorities to take action

"Women are among those most affected by climate change, and these difficulties are accentuated in situations of displacement. The government and the international community must go in the direction of urbanisation of the displaced sites, build and equip more health centres, schools, modern water points and support young people and women to learn new trades adapted to the realities of the moment and the place, but also create opportunities."

Falmata Boulama, living Awardi, Niger and speaking at COP27

- Amplify the voices of displaced people at local, national and global platforms to trigger policy change for displaced people

"Unlock the huge potential that is currently hidden among IDPs! Involve IDP group leaders in your decision making and strengthen their capacity for critical success in community-led processes. Include local and indigenous knowledge and continue to collaborate with all stakeholders."

Md. Shahidul Islam, Voice of South Bangladesh (VoSB) presenting at the Asia Pacific Disaster Displacement Working Group & Issue-Based Coalition on Building Resilience and Mitigation

- Collect data on displaced people's perspectives – including through tools outlined in this cookbook – to identify challenges and hold government accountable for supporting durable solutions

"The project has captured previously unknown needs and priorities within displaced communities in urban settings., Its overall success in putting this topic – and potential solutions – on the local and even national government radar is likely to have a substantial impact if sustained over the coming years."

Mani Tahirou, DEMI-E, Niger

- Support displaced people to access services and strengthen capacities so they can start businesses or get employment
- Strengthen community and promote leadership and action among people who may have nothing but displacement in common

"We did not sleep, since many streams and rivers were overflowing. There were landslides and we had no way to get out. What we were waiting for was that someone would find us or that it would stop raining. With effort, the men of the family made a path through the mountain and we set out: young people, the elderly, children, men and women. We felt a lot of pain and anguish in leaving our things and without knowing what could happen in our homes and [to our] material goods. After three hours of walking we managed to reach the community of Tegucigalpita. Many people were waiting for us with great human warmth since we had informed them in advance that we were on our way. We met with great joy since we were safe."

Perla Jackeline Martinez Menjivar, project participant, CASM, Honduras

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Deciding what your recipe looks like depends on your environment. The best solutions are co-created and enable everyone involved to bring what they have to the table.

As you start to get your ingredients together, consider these questions:

Understand context: Why are people displaced? When did they relocate to this community? What are the dynamics between the displaced people and host communities?

Ask the displaced population: Do you have access to basic goods and services? Do you have access to employment and livelihood opportunities? Do you have the documentation necessary to access social services provided by the government and to claim compensation?

Build collaboration: Get in touch with the community and reach out to local leaders. Let them know your strengths as an organisation, your relationships within the community and beyond it, and see how you might be of use. How can you work together to address the challenges they face?

Design the action together: What are the community's capacities? What capacities would they like to develop? What resources do they require to achieve their goals?

Build connections: See how your project or actions connect to work being done by other stakeholders in the area. How can you make sure there is no duplication? Is there a way to pool resources for maximum impact?

Make sure it's sustainable: Who do you need to engage now to make sure that the outcomes or results achieved will be sustained?

You have in your possession the key ingredients and the know-how to further address the challenges faced by displaced people.

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Songshoptaque, Bangladesh

Voice of South Bangladesh, Bangladesh

We Are A Light, Pakistan

Winam Grassroots, Kenya

Footnotes
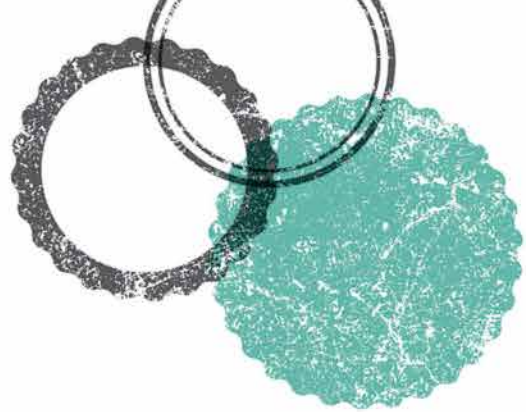
1 In 2022, the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) reported that 32.6 million new internal displacements worldwide were triggered by disasters in addition to 28.3 displacements resulting from conflict. As of 31 December 2022, IDMC's Global Report on Internal Displacement 2023 found that the number of people living in internal displacement (including new and continued displacement) has reached a record high at 71.1 million.

2 Learn more about becoming a GNDR member at www.gndr.org/become-a-member

3 The *Making Displacement Safer* project was implemented by GNDR partners in 11 countries: Bangladesh, El Salvador, Honduras, Indonesia, Iraq, Nepal, Niger, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, South Sudan and Sri Lanka.

4 See list of workshop participants in the Acknowledgements.

5 For more information, see *Internal Displacement in an Increasingly Urbanized World,* a submission made to the United Nations Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement by JIPS, UN Habitat and IIED.

6 See UNDRR Displacement Addendum to the Disaster Resilience Scorecard for Cities.

7 See GNDR's *Forced Displacement Global Paper* 2022 www.gndr.org/forced-displacement-global-report

8 For a more comprehensive terminology, see the UNDRR Words into Action guide "Disaster Displacement: How to Reduce Risk, Address Impacts and Strengthen Resilience" Annex III.

9 Adapted from the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement p 7.

10 The United Nations Refugee Agency defines a refugee as "someone who is unable or unwilling to return to their country of origin owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion." To learn more, see www.unhcr.org/uk/about-unhcr/who-we-protect/refugees.

11 Adapted from Nansen Initiative Protection Agenda para 20.

12 For more information, see IDMC Global Estimates 2015, p 14.

13 Adapted from the original: "A community that hosts large populations of refugees or internally displaced persons, typically in camps or directly integrated into households." See UNHCR 2010 Global Protection Cluster, Handbook for the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons p 505.

14 See the UNHCR-NGO Toolkit for Practical Cooperation on Resettlement for more information.

15 See UNHCR Community based hosting arrangements.

16 Adapted from UNDRR 2019 Words into Action on Disaster Displacement, p 44.

17 See GNDR Forced Displacement Global Paper 2022, p 38.

18 For more information, see the GNDR Strategy.

19 Adapted from A/71/644 General Assembly (V) 22.

20 www.gndr.org/resource/risk-informed-development/what-is-risk-informed-development

21 For more information, see the GNDR strategy.

22 See IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons p. A1.

23 For more information, see European Commission The Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA)

24 See UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement

25 See *Words into Action on Disaster Displacement: Making Displacement Safer in Indonesia*, RDI Indonesia film featured on YouTube - www.youtube.com/watch?v=DeR4_OSIgjo

26 Named changed to protect identity

27 Named changed to protect identity

28 wuf.unhabitat.org/event/city-we-need-now

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