

## Checklist for Protection Mainstreaming in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

### Key protection concerns – WHAT AUTHORITIES SHOULD CONSIDER

#### Key messages

- Ensure community participation in DRR activities.
- Ensure to inform families of measures to protect civil documentation.
- Prepare for mechanism to replace lost documentation.
- Ensure to consider land, housing and property issues in DRR activities.
- Ensure that DRR activities positively enable equal access for all.

#### 1. Participation: Community-led DRR and Community Protection

- Ensure an active participation of communities when designing, implementing and monitoring DRR activities.
- Ensure wide representation in consultations. This should include: women and men, children/young people and older persons, persons with disabilities, religious and ethnic minorities and other marginalized groups likely to be excluded from community decision making.
- Encourage communities to identify vulnerability within their community and to identify specific needs experienced by these groups during disaster response.
- Ensure that community response strategies, such as evacuation plans and recovery responses, include special provisions to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable, and that they are accessible and available to all members of the community.

#### 2. Civil Documentation

- Within DRR activities, inform families of the importance of protecting their civil documents during a disaster, to have uninterrupted access to government services and to protect the rights of the family members.
- Inform families that civil documents should be kept in duplicate in separate locations or with other family members.
- Inform families that civil documents should also be kept in waterproof bags and in a safe location and/or a location where they can be easily taken if suddenly leaving the place.
- Ensure procedures and services for replacing lost documentation (NADRA).
  - Forms should be easy to complete
  - Services should not be far away and should be physically accessible.
  - Ensure that procedures are in place to assist. Provide staff to assist older persons and persons with disabilities with information and access legal services, services to replace documentation, and support to fill the required forms.
  - Contact specialized NGOs that have expertise in dealing with legal aid and documentation and that have contacts with the communities (e.g. CCHD, SHARP)

### 3. Land, Housing and Property

- Encourage secure land tenure and secure house and asset ownership.
- Encourage security of tenure by promoting land documentation
- Ensure that all those living or working in disaster prone areas, regardless of their landownership status (tenants, squatters, landlords etc.) are equally targeted in DRR activities, especially persons with disabilities and older persons who are often not landowners.

### 4. Ensuring Inclusion, Access, Equality and information

- DRR activities should facilitate the participation of **women** and address their specific needs. This involves:
  - Presence of female staff in the emergency response to facilitate communication with female community members;
  - Separate spaces made available for females observing *purdah*;
  - Address in DRR activities the specific concerns and needs of women in position of heightened vulnerability (female headed households, single women, pregnant women, women with infants).
  - Preparedness activities should equally address the needs of women and girls as a key element to prevent any form of gender based violence during the emergency
- DRR activities should facilitate the participation of **persons with disabilities** and **older persons**. These groups should be represented in consultations, design and implementation and monitoring and that special provisions are made to address their specific needs during a disaster. (See Disability leaflet)
- DRR activities should facilitate the participation of **children** and address their specific needs. Children should be seen as active members of society and also as specifically vulnerable groups during a disaster and during disaster response.
- Be aware of political or social dynamics that may inadvertently exclude certain groups.
- Ensure that **information dissemination** (such as an early warning system or information on a DRR activity) is tailored to reach all affected persons, including those with restricted movement (including women observing *purdah*), older persons, children, linguistic minorities, the illiterate, those with hearing or sight impairment and those living in remote locations.
- The support services of “Humanitarian Communications” can be approached to develop specific messages. <http://www.hcomms.org/>