



Swedish Civil
Contingencies
Agency

The Philippines

Driving change in Disaster Risk Management

Dear Change Agents,

The MSB Resilience Building Section wants to extend a big thank you to all of you who have been part of the ITP journey and to your organizations for acknowledging the ITP potentials both for you and for your Change Initiatives.

Driving change is anything but easy. But we hope that the ITP generic tools have supported your way forward in your specific DRM context, from starting the process towards change to sustaining change.

We also want to thank you for generously sharing your expertise, contexts and missions with us – in training sessions in real life and online, in your reports and as alumni. Thank you also for welcoming us to your country. We have learned so much from you. This knowledge is invaluable to us as we are looking in to the possibility of a second-generation ITP DRM.

We also hope that the ITP DRM alumni network will continue to develop and give back to our organizations to the benefit of DRM and the people and livelihoods that it serves.

On the following pages you find an overview of the participants and Change Initiatives per cycle of the Philippines. The three stories display ITP cases of making change happen.

It has for sure been a true pleasure.

Please, stay in touch with each other and with us.

Congratulations to all of you for being great Change Agents.

Team of the MSB ITP DRM

ITP change story #1

Mobilizing local level civil society and private sector engagement in disasters for enhanced outreach and impact

The Leyte Centre for Development (LCDE) focused on consolidating resources, skills and networks to effectively respond to the increasing severity of climate-induced disasters and other emergency crises in the Eastern Visayas of the Philippines. The initiative emphasized emergency assistance and livelihood recovery which involved establishing a collaborative emergency platform integrating the NGO sector, the local business community, academic institutions and media outlets.

The joint initiative between LCDE and the private sector is a key step in building resilience in Eastern Visayas. Fostering collaboration has created a sustainable model for emergency response prioritizing the needs of vulnerable communities while enhancing the capacities of stakeholders.

Moving forward, expanding partnerships and sustaining the platform is key.

Change Initiative

Establishment of a multi-sectoral DRRM platform at regional level in Leyte for preparedness, response and recovery

Change Agent

Leyte Centre for Development

Key Milestones

The Emergency Platform

Discussions between stakeholders led to the creation of the joint emergency platform for NGOs, the Ormoc City Chamber of Commerce and associated civic organizations.

Agreement between partners

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between LCDE and the Ormoc City Chamber of Commerce laid the formal foundation for coordinated disaster response.

Response Operations

The partnership successfully launched joint relief missions aimed at communities heavily affected by typhoons and landslides. Immediate activities included distribution of essential relief aid and support for early recovery.

Livelihood Recovery and Shelter Support

After the relief phase, efforts transitioned towards providing core shelter to survivors and initiating livelihood recovery programs, thus addressing both immediate and longer-term needs of affected populations.

Outcomes

The collaboration between LCDE and the private sector resulted in significant benefits for disaster-affected communities. They include:

Enhanced Reach and Impact

Pooling resources and logistics, the joint platform effectively ensures that aid reaches a greater number of affected of the most vulnerable populations.

Reduced Response Time

Joint localized response efforts make LCDE and partners able to reach the vulnerable population faster thanks to better administrative processes.

Capacity Building

The initiative contributed to building the experience and credibility of LCDE in humanitarian response, aligning with its broader vision, mission, and goals.

Business Sector Engagement

The Ormoc City Chamber of Commerce participated actively in the platform and strengthened the social responsibility and community engagement of local businesses.

Conclusion

The challenges posed by the climate crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic underscored how important it is to design programmes that adjust rapidly to changing circumstances and community needs. Establishing formal partnerships across sectors – also with academia and media – is crucial for mobilizing a wide range of resources and support. Continuous outreach to partners is key to continue to strengthening the platform.

Change story #2

Is your community ready for the next disaster? Institutionalizing Disaster Waste Management Practices Across the Philippines

The Development Academy of the Philippines' (DAP) initiative is a vital step towards a resilient framework for solid waste management in the Philippines. By addressing the inefficiencies and equipping local government units with tools and knowledge, this project not only aims to mitigate the impacts of future disasters, but also works towards a more sustainable environmental future.

The Philippines is recognized as the most disaster-prone country in the world (2022 World Risk Index). Frequent typhoons, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions generate an increasing amount of mixed waste. It can be 5 to 7 times greater than normal solid waste levels in affected areas. If poorly managed, the spike in waste can overwhelm local waste management systems and cause secondary hazards. Despite legislation on solid waste management and disaster risk reduction, disaster waste management (DWM) is not explicitly addressed.

To institutionalize DWM, DAP has initiated practices, research and the development of a framework and training programs empowering local government in improving overall waste management.

Objectives

To develop and institutionalize a framework for disaster waste management that can be integrated with existing solid waste management systems.

To enhance the capacity of local government units through standardized operating procedures (SOPs) and targeted training programs.

To advocate for the integration of waste management considerations into disaster risk reduction plans.

Change Initiative
Guidelines and capacity
for Post Disaster Waste
Management in the
Philippines

Change Agent
Development Academy
of the Philippines (DAP)

Key Milestones

Framework

DAP established a framework for disaster waste management anchored on the four pillars of Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM): a legal overview, established guidelines for local government units and development of SOPs tailored to disaster scenarios.

Training

DAP conducted trainings for local government officers and personnel on waste management principles, implementation of SOPs and stakeholder coordination.

Partnerships

Partnerships were established between key agencies and they are intended to grow including additional partners.

Outcomes

The DAP's initiative encompasses disaster waste management and regular solid waste management strategies. Key achievements include:

Stronger Community Resilience

By ensuring that communities are better prepared for the aftermath of disasters, the project mitigates the risks of waste overload and contamination.

Informed Municipal Solid Waste Management Plans

Incorporating insights from disaster management experiences into routine strategies.

Awareness and Preparedness

The training and resources for local government units promote a culture of proactive waste management and disaster preparedness.

Regulating Disaster Waste Management

Vetting of SOPs for legislation opens for the integration of disaster waste considerations into local and national policies.

Circular economy

Partnerships between local actors and the China Productivity Centre were established on recycling technology in biodegradable food waste.

Change story #3

Integrating Climate Change Adaptation into Private Sector Disaster Management Practices

The Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF) initiative enhanced climate change adaptation (CCA) in both community resilience and private sector engagement in disaster management. Targeted capacity-building initiatives, policy advocacy, and programme evidence lay the foundation for a more resilient future in the face of climate change.

Advocating for sustainable solutions, the PDRF plays a critical role in disaster risk reduction and management in the private sector. This initiative seeks to develop a comprehensive roadmap to institutionalize disaster risk reduction and CCA into PDRF's operations. PDRF leveraged its role to influence and engage private sector stakeholders in adopting proactive disaster management practices.

Climate change adaptation is a multifaceted process requiring a balance of environmental, social, economic and political factors. To meet these ends, the PDRF team, throughout the program, developed visions, objectives and designed small step actions to create change and ultimately integrating CCA in strategic plans. Continued commitment from all stakeholders will be critical to sustain and foster an adaptive culture in making the disaster risk management moving forward.

Change Initiative
Climate Change
Adaptation in
private sector

Change agent
Philippines
Disaster Resilience
Foundation

Key Milestones

The ITP bottom-up process supported in making the case for CCA integration, such as:

Building Community Capacity

Support to fisherfolks affected by Super Typhoon Rai by assisting in the construction of fiberglass boats as a long-term sustainable solution and distribution of community water filter kits following an earthquake. Partnering with Build Change to provide training for homeowners affected by Typhoon Odette to raise climate smart rebuilding and preparation skills of households for future disasters.

Empowering Local Government

Capacity building sessions for Local Government Units in drafting

proposals for access to climate funds and grants, and provision of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) equipment.

Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Training

Managing and executing EOC management training and simulation exercises targeting energy companies enhancing preparedness for disaster response.

National Innovations Search

Co-organizing nationwide initiative to identify and promote local innovations in water demand management to foster community engagement and resource utilization.

Carbon Accounting Initiatives

Implementing an accounting framework for greenhouse gas emissions associated with PDRF's activities using the Humanitarian Carbon Calculator and other open-source tools, promoting transparency and accountability in environmental impact assessment.

Policy Advocacy

Submitting a formal appeal to the PDRF Management Committee advocating for the adoption of the Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations.

Outcomes

Raising awareness and building capacity in the private sector

The project raised awareness among member companies about the importance of integrating climate adaptation measures into disaster management practices. For instance, the EOC training for energy companies facilitated a greater understanding of operational readiness in the face of climate-related risks.

Community Climate Resilience

The initiative has contributed to building climate resilience in affected communities. Support extended to fisherfolks post-Typhoon Rai has equipped them with essential resources and knowledge to adapt to future climate risks, thus diversifying their income sources. Additionally, the distribution of reusable water filter kits and shelter repair kits, along with training on climate-resilient construction techniques, has enhanced community preparedness for extreme weather events.

Institutionalization of Climate Change Adaptation

PDRF is in the process of integrating CCA into long-term strategic plans and policies. Member companies shows commitment ensuring that CCA becomes a fundamental aspect of their operations.

Complete list of all cycles

Cycle 1

2019

Change Agents	Change initiative
Dorothea Boy-Navarro Jasmine Sabado Marites Solomon Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP)	Guidelines and capacity development for Post Disaster Waste Management in the Philippines
Carl Caro Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF)	Incorporate a predictive analysis system to the existing information products (Advisories, Situation Reports) of the Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation's Operations Center
Blanca Cercado Boris Pascubillo Department of the Interior and Local Government	Ensuring coherence in disaster risk reduction and management mechanisms through the local governance regional resource center
Raquel de Leon Romina Marasigan Office of Civil Defense	Development of minimum qualification standards for disaster risk reduction & management subject matter experts
Mayfourth Luneta Michael Mercado Center for Disaster Preparedness (CDP)	Developing Inclusive Data Management System for Persons with Disabilities

Cycle 2

2020

Change Agents	Change Initiative
Jasmine Aguisanda Jerusalem Leyte Center for Development Inc.	Establishment of a multi-sectoral DRRM platform at regional level in Leyte with focus on preparedness, response and recovery
Elvis de la Raga Quitlig Office of Civil Defense	Develop a harmonized contingency plan for Manila Trench, with focus on earthquake hazard
Melissa Correa Abigail Guiang Anthony Zuniga Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF)	Develop a new data driven recovery model to encourage more participation from the private sector in recovery efforts, focus on small and medium size enterprises

Cycle 3

2021

Change Agents	Change Initiative
Eena Barrun Center for Disaster Preparedness (CDP)	Family Rights-based Approach in Disaster Prevention Mitigation and Preparedness for Emerging Threats (FRAPPE)
Anna Katrina Aspuria Erwin Paulo Tolentino Germaine Fay Ramirez Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF)	Improving PDRFs stakeholder management processes
Lucy Sinay Iloilo City Government	Creating a network of village or barangay public information officers to facilitate risk information and communication
Baintan Ampatuan Bangsamoro Transition Authority-Bangsamoro, Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao	Strengthening the Bangsamoro Disaster Risk Reduction and Management coordination mechanisms

Cycle 4

2022

Change Agents	Change Initiative
Natalia Tabal Jerome Balinton Pepito Romero Save the Children Philippines	Children's participation and involvement in DRM
Camille Rae Lim Maria Isabel Almenteros Miguel Adrian Garcia Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF)	Climate Change Adaptation in private sector
Ruel Halanes Ferdinand Tamulto Office of Civil Defense	Increase of Local Government Units (LGU) capacities to implement DRM actions and utilize allocated funds
John Kien Develos Local Government Academy	Children's participation and involvement in DRM

Cycle 5

2023

Change Agents	Change Initiative
Edgar Lascano Emmanuel Victor Serrano Center for Disaster Preparedness	Recognizing and Thrusting the Communities Frontline and Leading Roles in DRR
Jorie Mae Balmediano Office of Civil Defense	Enhancing the DRRM/CCA Programs by Integrating Anticipatory Actions and Rapid Response Mechanisms, Establishment of a Responsive Risk Communication Program with Community Engagement, and Creation of a Training Package on Gender and Development (GAD) in DRRM
Julius Hontiveros Office of Civil Defense	Prioritization Criteria for Rehabilitation and Recovery Interventions
Fhannie Laine Abella Sharry Ledesma Lester Mark Carnaje Iloilo City Government	Building a Culture of Innovation in Learning and Development in DRR-CCA
Alex Czar Masiglat Philline Neille Cruz Jeanne Michelle Bayhonon Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF)	Building a Community of Practice: Harmonizing Community-Based and Private Sector Anticipatory Action to Address Climate-Related Hazards
Jhaziel Bermejo Hector Tuburan Dunstan Egar Save the Children Philippines	Anticipatory Action for CEPC: Making Pre-Arranged Financing Work for Women and Children

Cycle 6

2023-2024

Change Agents	Change Initiative
Floremar Macapobre Office of Civil Defense	Community-Based Rehabilitation and Recovery Planning
Francisca Doctolero Geanette Galvez Center for Disaster Preparedness	Innovating Local Indigenous Knowledge for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaption (I LINK for DRR & CCA)
Rachelle Nuestro Marlon Matuguina Save the Children Philippines	Localization and Popularization of the Comprehensive Emergency Program for Children
Byrone Benson Barrinuevo Clifford Robin Gabatin Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWS)	Training of Trainers on Humanitarian Supply Chain Management
Quennie Rose Rizal Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP)	Development of Disaster Waste Management Guidelines among agricultural sector

Cycle 7

2024

Change Agents	Change Initiative
Arvilyn Mae Jusden Baquiano Renz Louiz Darwin Joemil Papa Iloilo City Government	Project CRISP: Collaborative Risk Information Sharing Program
Veronica Gabaldon Rudyard Jose IV Nano Claudine Yvette Talaran Hannah Grace Escamilla Philippine Disaster Resilience Foundation (PDRF)	The G.R.E.E.N. Initiative: Gender Equality, Resilience through Inclusion, and Environmental Sustainability to Empower Communities and Livelihoods leaving No One Behind
Joan Bimano Office of Civil Defense (OCD), Cordillera Administrative Region	DRRM Capacity Building Initiative in the Cordillera Administrative Region
Ma. Theresa Amor Tan Singco Marjorie Romero Center for Disaster Preparedness Foundation (CDP)	Communicating Climate Crisis and Climate Science to Children and Educators

*The organization stated for each change initiative was the workplace of the participants at the time of the cycle. Change of workplace is not included in this document.