

2014

RESILIENCE



**SUMMARY NOTE: BRAINTRUST III OF
THE COMMUNITY RESILIENCE
CAMPAIGN, SEPTEMBER 13-15**

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SUMMARY NOTE: BRAINTRUST III OF THE COMMUNITY RESILIENCE CAMPAIGN SEPTEMBER 13TH TO 15TH, 2014 BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

I. BACKGROUND

Building on the ongoing Resilience Campaign planning process and the 2012 and 2013 Braintrust meetings, the Community Resilience Campaign expert team gathered for three days to continue to build shared understanding and ownership of the aims and strategies of the campaign.

The participants of the Braintrust III consisted on grassroots women, NGO leaders and resource experts that have been anchoring the work of disaster risk reduction and resilience building through the Community Resilience Campaign.

Participants:

Africa:

- Joyce Nangobi – SWID, Uganda
- Fridah Githuku– GROOTS Kenya, Kenya
- Masitulah Nakisozi – Kawempe, Uganda
- Veronica Kanyango, Seke, Zimbabwe

Asia:

- Jhocas Castillo – DAMPA, Philippines
- Emma Manjares – DAMPA, Philippines
- Naseem Shaikh – SSP, India
- Hapi Rahmawati – YEU, Indonesia
- Sobina Lama – Lumanti, Nepal

Latin America & the Caribbean:

- Analucy Bengochea – WAGUCHA, Honduras
- Haydee Rodriguez – Union de Cooperativas Las Brumas, Nicaragua
- Maite Rodriguez – Fundacion Guatemala, Guatemala
- Relinda Sosa – CONAMOVIDI, GROOTS Peru
- Carmen Sanchez – SEA, GROOTS Peru
- Carmen Griffiths – CRDC, GROOTS Jamaica

Facilitators:

- Prema Gopalan – Director of SSP, India
- Sandy Schilen – Strategic Director of Huairou Commission/GROOTS Global Facilitator
- Katia Araujo– Deputy Director of programs, Community Resilience, Land & Housing

Community Resilience Campaign team:

- Regina Pritchett – CPP Global Facilitator, Africa Regional Organizer
- Suranjana Gupta – Senior Advisor, Asia Regional Organizer
- Manuela Pinilla – LAC Regional Organizer
- Sadie-Evelyn Gillis – Program Associate
- Ana Liz Flores – External Consultant, LAC advisor
- Vinod Menon – External Consultant, CRF Review
- Rachael Wyant – Governance Campaign Coordinator
- Katie Gillet – Communication Coordinator

The HC Secretariat was the facilitator and overall coordinator of the event. The meeting was an opportunity to take stock of the current state of the campaign, to review and establish priorities around two core strategies – the Community Resilience Fund (CRF) and Community Practitioners Platform (CPP) – **to agree on monitoring and evaluation processes for the campaign and to review and evaluate the Campaign Work Plan 2014-2015 putting emphasis on the upcoming road to the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai and the implementation of the HFA2 agenda.**

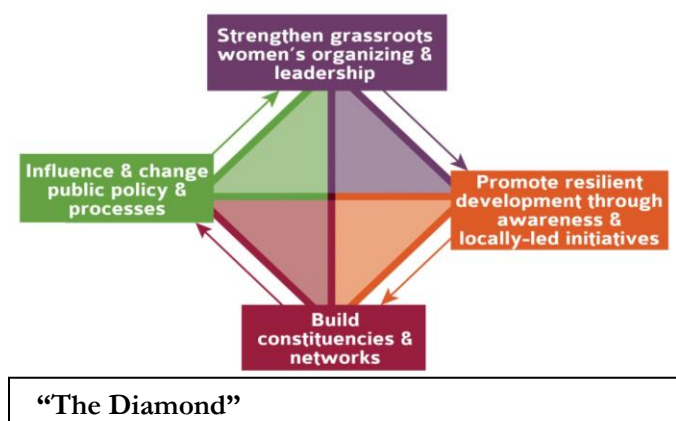
The participants returned home with a better understanding of the agreed guidelines of operation of the CRF and the practices funded by it, the establishment and ways to formalize the CPP in their own contexts, better procedures to monitor and report on their successes and challenges and, finally, a collective plan of action for Sendai and beyond.

II. OUR COMMUNITY RESILIENCE APPROACH

The Community Resilience Campaign uses an integrative and holistic approach to reduce risk and vulnerabilities, raise awareness and capacities and advance long-term sustainable development localized in communities and led by organized grassroots women. Within this approach, the members of the campaign have collectively agree a framework that encompasses the grassroots women’s empowerment ultimate objective of the Huairou Commission and the local needs and initiatives to build resilient communities that

withstand the increasing climate threats and disasters and advocate for more inclusive and equitable public policy and governance.

The members of the Campaign have been implementing the two mechanisms that steer “the diamond” and have accelerated the consolidation of the resilience practices of the groups and their advocacy at the local, national and regional level: the Community Resilience Fund and the Community Practitioners Platform, which will be discussed more in depth in the next sections of the document.



The Community Resilience Framework, is bottom-up and grassroots women led construct, and therefore the Braintrust meetings have an important significance to the Campaign and its members. It’s the space to gather inputs, clarify concepts and renew primary directions, from the leadership of the Resilience thematic campaign in relation to its vision, goal and objectives, in particular in relation to its two main mechanisms -

the Community Resilience Fund (CRF) and the Community Practitioners Platform (CPP) at national, regional and global levels.

II. COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FUND REVIEW

After a brief reminder of our resilience approach, there was a presentation on the current state of operation and implementation of the Community Resilience Fund, drawing emphasis on the eligible practices, scaling up and results. The presentations were followed by in-depth discussion by regional teams with agreed conclusions on definitions, eligibility criteria and operations.

A) HOW RESILIENCE IS UNDERSTOOD IN THE COMMUNITY RESILIENCE CAMPAIGN

The Community Resilience Fund (CRF) is a mechanism that utilizes flexible funds for DRR, and is managed by grassroots women to address their priorities from the bottom-up. The CRF is based on the Resilience framework. This resilience framework is a value added for previous work and offers another window to address previous issues like food security, water, health, and sanitation.

- The core element in community resilience is using the local knowledge or local resources to bounce back from disasters, to adapt, reduce the risks.
- CRF is also a political tool to shift power to support women's priorities, organizing and actions.

The CRF was created to debunk the idea that in poor or marginalized communities it is not possible to scale up or replicate projects without the non-stop flow of money from the government or donors. Instead, the experience of the grassroots women's organizations show that a small investment results in the multiplication of development initiatives and benefits for their communities.

How does the CRF reduce risk in vulnerable communities?

The CRF addresses the three risk factors: hazard, vulnerability and exposure. One strength of this work is that it takes into account the whole spectrum of vulnerability.

Understanding risk:

- **Underlying conditions:** power and inequality at the macro-level, corruption, how institutions function
- **Progression of vulnerability:** looking at what causes vulnerability rather than calling people themselves vulnerable
- **Dynamic pressures:** land tenure, land degradation, migration in and out of communities, energy poverty, financial poverty
- **Unsafe conditions:** how they interact with concrete hazards (hurricanes earthquakes floods droughts) and either construct or lessen risk
-

B) ELIGIBLE PRACTICES AND SUSTAINABILITY OF THE CRF

The CRF in the implementing groups has supported the development, refinement and scaling up of an array of practices that have been identified by the communities as solutions to address hazards and vulnerabilities, previously identified through community risk mappings and other risks assessments. The variety of practices shows the integrative approach to resilience of the Resilience Campaign and the innovation communities can bring to disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and poverty reduction efforts.

Portfolio of Current CRF funded Practices

Risk identification, awareness and mobilization	Community Risk Maps, Risk assessments and diagnosis, awareness campaigns and manifestations
Infrastructure	Upgrading infrastructure, housing and basic services (e.g. water supply, sanitation and waste management), alternative clean-safe energy sources, drip irrigation,
Food Security and livelihoods	<p>Diversified plots, demo/urban/elevated gardening, adaptive farming (rapid growth, drought resistant species), access to markets, rotating livestock, seed banks of native/indigenous species, recycling and selling products, food banks, community pharmacies, value additions, improving post-harvesting practices, organic fertilizers and pesticides</p> <p>Goat rearing project - (goat kid passed on to another beneficiary within the process)</p> <p>Agro-business – supporting women’s group to change from subsistence agriculture to agro-business, opportunity to diversify crops and earn income</p> <p><i>Quintal Productivo</i> -Productive Gardens in a format of a Mandala, an agricultural system based on ecological principles that ensures food security. This demonstration plot model uses natural resources- water, land, and agricultural inputs to regenerate soil and indigenous crops also maximize the use of scarce water.</p>
Hazard mitigation	Water management against drought, flooding, and soil erosions, reforestation of hills and riverbanks, vegetative and stone/cement barriers
Emergency response	Organized response to flooding, landslides, Haiyan typhoon, emergency packages, first aid training, shelters identification
Water Harvesting	For domestic and small agriculture use, agriculture possible year-round with mechanism to maximize water storage

Criteria of eligibility

In order to secure value added to the CRF practices and inscribe them within a resilience building framework, the participants agreed on criteria of eligible practices that are prioritized by communities to address hazards and vulnerabilities, are strategic, transferrable to other communities and are sustainable in the long term.

- ✓ Linked to a hazards/vulnerabilities identified in a collective process of risk assessment and prioritization of actions.
 - *If we chose a particular livelihood it has to address not just income but must also be a response to climate change.*
 - *You cannot have a general strategy- you need to say what you are focusing on, who you are focusing on. Describe the impact, and THEN describe the intervention that you are taking.*

- *The context is provided by the hazard.*
- ✓ Practical and Strategic:
 - *Reduces impacts of disasters and climate change bettering living conditions.*
 - *Improves quality of life through food security, improved nutrition and health, diversification of income, etc.*
 - *Long term transformations in grassroots women's role as leaders and key actors and their relationships with decision makers.*
- ✓ Transferrable and with potential to scale-up
 - *Generates knowledge, promotes peer learning and solidarity.*
- ✓ Long-term sustainability

Sustainability of the CRF

As the practices funded by the CRF need to have long term sustainability, the implementing groups need to secure not just the survival of the CRF over time, but make it grow to reach more communities and expand the culture of resilience in their countries. Currently, the implementing groups have implemented different actions to avoid the depletion of the CRF, however, it was a common agreement the practices that secure the growing of the fund and the autonomy of communities to decide what their priorities for use, like the revolving funds, should be strengthened. Current sustainability strategies:

- Leveraging resources through partnerships:
 - Local Governments: *Upgrade infrastructure, local budgeting and emergency response planning*
 - National Governments: *Access to social protection, training and subsidies*
 - Universities and research centers: *Agricultural extension services and training*
 - NGOs: *Training*
 - Revolving Funds: Replenishing part of the CRF and making it accessible to a larger number of communities and groups. Need to make sure that the money is **not just rotating but growing.**
- (To a lesser extent)*
- Rotation of livestock:
 - *Rotating Goats, pigs, etc.*
 - Training and demos:
 - *Teaching communities how to access markets, fundraise, advocate, raise awareness, inspire.*

<u>Checklist for Screening Applications for Revolving Fund</u>
✓ Only available for activities linked to resilience: mostly livelihoods, food security enterprise
✓ Collective benefits related to vulnerability reduction in relation to disaster/climate change
✓ Groups receiving funds must sign agreements with facilitating organization or federation
✓ Groups guarantee individual loans
✓ All groups must have savings to receive loans
✓ All groups should have rotated their own money before getting external money, such as the revolving fund



C) AGREED SHIFTS OF OPERATION AND ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

As diverse as the local priorities in different context are, the participants of the Braintrust agreed on a common understanding of what the CRF should be use for, in accordance to the definition above and the experience of the groups of what is working and what did not.

What the CRF should be use for:

- ✓ Piloting and scaling up of resilience practices that comply with the criteria. Including:
 - *Risk assessing/ mapping*
 - *Direct interventions on hazards*
 - *Food security, climate smart agriculture and livelihoods*
 - *Emergency Response*
 - *Improvement of infrastructure, housing and basic services*
- ✓ Access technology that:
 - *Saves money*
 - *Saves time*
 - *Impacts many women and communities*
 - *Helps conserve water, energy and other resources*
- ✓ Asset building (collectively managed or benefited)
- ✓ Value chains
- ✓ Revolving funds

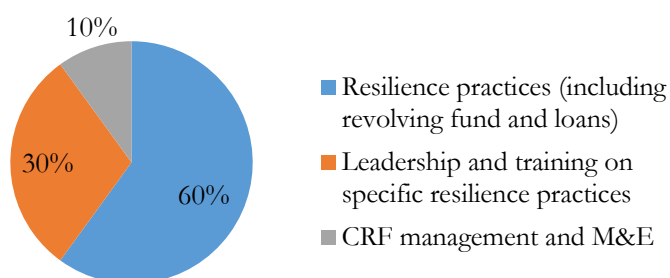
- ✓ Skills training and capacity building related to specific resilience practices
- ✓ Local advocacy

What not to use CRF for:

- ✓ Livelihood practices that are not related to hazards and vulnerabilities found in mapping
- ✓ Activities that produce more risk (i.e. non organic agriculture)
- ✓ Leadership training that is not linked to practices
- ✓ Traveling related to global, regional, or national advocacy
- ✓ Practices that can be funded with other resources
- ✓ National, regional, global advocacy

In the same manner, the discussions on the current operation of the CRF, the lessons learnt of the past years and a shared vision of progress and what success looks like for the campaign and the communities benefiting from the fund, the campaign members agreed on the following shifts for improvement:

- Strengthening of:
 - o CRF Financial Management team at each level of the organization.
 - o CRF Steering Committee team (related to practices and development goals) at each level. This team to provide technical support and monitor implementation.
- The CRF Committees should have clear decision-making structures and criteria for eligible practices at the local level.
- The majority of the governing body of CRF must be grassroots women.
- Agreed Percentages of Allocation of CRF¹:



- Must be used to fund practices, activities and trainings that build resilience and that were identified and prioritized in the Community Risk mappings or assessments.
- Modes of sustainability should be stressed and put in practice urgently:
 - o Revolving funds, leveraging resources, etc.
 - o Fund should not be completely depleted and dependency on donors should be reduced
 - o Non-financial resources leveraged should be quantified
- Need to increase the loan component of the fund (of the 60% allocated to practices). The loan component should keep the fund going and generate surplus to continue the work in a sustainable manner.

D) WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP AND CAPACITY BUILDING IN THE CRF

“The reason the Huairou Commission exists is to empower women at the grassroots level. Resilience is the overarching impact that we want to have in our communities, but we all agree that without our leaders there would not be any resilience.”

¹ For Africa the allocation had some variations: Practices 60%, Leadership and training 15%, Admin 10%, M&E 5%, Advocacy 10%

As stated above, the empowerment of grassroots women is the crosscutting element of our resilience framework. For the Braintrust participants, being members of the Resilience Campaign has allowed them to assign necessary resources to organize and support grassroots women’s leadership, which is rarely a possibility when using funds from external donors. Using the CRF as a mechanism to build resilience also has meant to build capacities and technical knowledge of women and leadership to implement, transfer and communicate resilience practices and raise awareness in communities to advocate through the CPP with local governments and other intuitional actors.

It is important to recognize, that leadership is built over time, and trainings are one of the inputs to build skills for leaders. The CRF contributes to the formation of leaders, through training and capacity building of women in relation to prioritized resilience practices in the community that builds on the different entry points of leadership or issues that encouraged women to become leaders of their communities to find solution to:

- Disaster response and recovery
- Secure land tenure (post-conflict, against evictions)
- Alleviation of poverty and food insecurity
- HIV/AIDS and home-based care work
- Unemployment and capacity building
- Violence and unsafe cities for women

Leadership Training and Organizing Funded by CRF

The CRF, thus, supports the capacity and skills building of grassroots women in:

- ✓ Risk and vulnerability identification
- ✓ Practices to mitigate risk and vulnerability to disaster and climate threats
- ✓ Strategies for building good practices that promote sustainability of women in light of these threats (coping vs responding)
- ✓ Transferring knowledge across communities
- ✓ Mobilizing funds and resources and training in administrative management of the fund

Through these trainings, some of the implementing groups have been able to specialize the leadership of grassroots women in different actions:

- ✓ Implementing resilience practices
- ✓ Training others in resilience
- ✓ Advocating/negotiating with stakeholders
- ✓ Building networks
- ✓ Communicating

Leadership Audit

Below, the current state of leadership and training in the participant’s organization and the necessary shifts to address the skills and training gaps to promote the formation of better skilled women and more effective CRF operation and implementation:

<i>Strengths</i>	<i>Gaps</i>	<i>Shifts</i>
- Risk identification - Power analysis/mapping and building partnerships - Mobilizing women in networks	- Resource mobilization - M&E - Communication and Documentation	- Financial management trainings - Strengthen revolving funds management - More importance to communications

and coalitions - Implementing and transferring good practices - Awareness raising	- Proposal making - CPP building - Sustainability of practices over time/scaling up - Advocacy at national level	- Improving M&E capacity - Lobbying in the national level - Increased opportunities for peer exchange - Focus on scaling up
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III. COMMUNITY PRACTITIONERS PLATFORM (CPP)

The CRF discussion was followed by an in depth reflection on the Community Practitioners Platform as networking and partnership mechanisms to support grassroots women’s advocacy efforts in the local, national and regional public policy processes aimed to promote disaster and climate resilience.

A) COMMON UNDERSTANDING OF THE CPP

For the participants, the CPP is a governance and power strategy intended to strengthen engagement with public officials and to advance agendas that are:

- Supportive to resilience at the community level
- Position grassroots women in decision-taking, relevant to decisions on how money is spent
- Build the public power of grassroots women
- Feature organizing and leadership of women

There are two key notions that are required in order to build and advance the mechanism. First, communities need to federate and link with a CPP in order to develop a broader advocacy agenda that only one group cannot develop and sustain on its own. This means connecting across boundaries to develop joint resilience advocacy agenda. Second, it is necessary to incorporate other actors who want to advance the communities-agenda. For example, local authorities that often experience lack of money to solve community problems or that within the favorable political climate can benefit greatly from joining efforts with communities and other stakeholders that have the knowledge and leverage resources. Is this multi-stakeholder aspect of the CPP that allows a broader range of people who recognize the value of partnering with communities to advance the agenda of localized and people centered resilient development.

B) CURRENT STATE OF THE CPP

The Braintrust gave the opportunity to groups to present and dialogue about the various ways they are building and advancing their CPPs. This varies according to the nature of the organization (i.e. grassroots organization vs. facilitating NGO) and the political context they are immersed in. Below the summary of the current state of the CPP:

Policy and Institutional Opportunities used to build and advance CPPs:

- Disaster management laws and policies and national DRR agencies
- Women’s programs and ministries
- National ministries of agriculture for rural programs
- National ministries of housing for urban issues
- Social protection programs
- Decentralization laws and budgets with resources available from different entry points

Different political and institutional contexts shape different CPP structures:

- Some countries have local partnerships or CPP—district, city, barangay. There is interest in continuing to working through these but also in federating these local CPPs.
- National CPPs are having impacts at the national level. Whether or not groups have national platforms, they're still making national level interventions.
- Groups are able to establish formal partnership agreements, both broad collaboration and specific agreements on roles and responsibilities.

What have been the main gains so far of the CPPs?

- Women are partnering closely with local governments
- Accessing local resources (money, infrastructure, training, collaborative planning)
- Women are being recognized as experts, trainers, monitors, implementers—they have a role vis a vis government programs
- Some also sitting inside government committees and structures to help design programs

What have been the main challenges so far of the CPPs?

- Formalizing partnerships with governments with MoUs
- Rotation of public officers
- Convening different stakeholders at the same time
- Linking with stakeholders and building the CPP at the national level

C) AGREED SHIFTS OF THE CPP:

As a conclusion of the CPP discussion, the participants agreed on the following shifts to move towards a better functioning of the mechanism:

- Formalization of partnerships within the CPP
- Establishment and/or strengthening of the regional CPPs
- Regional planning meetings and learning exchanges
- Linking CPPs at national levels

IV. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

A crosscutting element of the discussion in the Braintrust, was about finding better ways to monitor and evaluate the work the groups are doing in the ground, especially one that effectively describes the community gains and positive impacts on each of the goals of the resilience framework (see above for graph). In fact, more effective monitoring and evaluation processes are important to measure the impact of our work, keep us accountable to the donors, and enable the growth of the Community Resilience Campaign.

In this sense, it is important to improve our capacity to translate our gains in the ground to quantitative and qualitative indicators that help us keep track of the work and the progress over time. Some of the recommendations made by the participants were around being more specific with numbers and be careful of double counting, naming explicitly the disaster/shocks that the groups are addressing and in that manner being able to compile comprehensive rationales and argumentations on how an activity is related to mitigating climate and disaster risks.

The Huairou Commission Secretariat has been developing two different monitoring and evaluation tools, and they were presented to the participants for their input and contributions on how to improve and refine our existing M&E systems.

A) RESILIENCE BASELINE

What is the Baseline?

It is a tool to continually monitor and measure qualitative and quantitative progress and impacts, locally, regionally, and globally. It collects concrete evidence of the work already accomplished in the past and establishes a starting point of where to measure progress. The baseline is feed continually, with the progress reports submitted by groups in relation to their resilience plans.

The baseline is useful for understanding how that work has been scaled up or built upon and connects progress of specific activities and outputs to impacts of those specific activities. It tracks the details and history behind the impact. It also establishes indicators based on the four objectives of the Resilience Framework that seemed to be divided in two sets: one focused on women's leadership and organizing and the other ones about impacts in communities

Main challenges:

- Need to clearly articulate the contribution of partnerships in activities and practices. These give a new meaning to an activity.
- Double counting– how can we discern if the same woman is engaged in multiple trainings and how many times she is accounted for across indicators? Similar issues with a community engaged in several activities/impacts.

Action Points and Proposals

After the Baseline was presented to the groups, and each of the participants had the chance to go over their organization's baseline, there were key action points and recommendations proposed:

- Track the direct impacts of trainings.
- Broader framework to track how many families and communities have been benefited.
- Add another category of the number of disasters women faced and track the changes in the response and recovery over time: how resilience to disaster has actually improved.
- Need to aggregate the indicators that came out of the baseline and the ones we report to the donors.
- Track indicators along a developmental spectrum and use specific indicators that track improvement in quality of life (e.g. improve food intake, nutrition, etc.).
- Create a 1-10 scale or index of resilience for all communities: How resilient is community XYZ?

B) GOVERNANCE MAPPING

What are the Governance Maps?

Governance Mapping is a tool to assess gains and impacts of the CPP and identify opportunities to move forward, using a cross cutting analysis. It improves the sustainability of built-in governance mechanisms by promoting longer relationships. It tracks i) Norms, laws, policies that exist in groups' countries regarding resilience issues related to their work, and ii) decision-making structures and partners. The mapping is also a way to better integrate the Community Resilience and the Governance Campaign efforts.

Potential uses of the Governance Maps:

- Internal and external M&E
- Tracks progress and is value added in advocacy and influencing policy making
- Maps policy, partnerships and advocacy opportunities and challenges
- Tracks partnerships and their impacts over time
- Internal reporting for donors
- Tool to facilitate exchanges and bring the conversation to a common point
- Mitigate the negative impacts of rotation in governments and decision-making bodies

C) OVERALL RESILIENCE INDICATORS

The participants of the Braintrust agreed on the need to have a collective set of indicators for the whole Resilience Campaign. To be able to track progress, impact results and show the scale of the work. The groups can add/modify these to align with the national resilience/DRR indicators (if applicable) of their governments to use as advocacy tools. These indicators need to be measurable and precise, and they need to have a common understanding to all groups tracking them. Likewise, it is important to qualify concepts and language, i.e. Communities can have a vastly different meaning in different contexts: e.g. a rural community of 400 inhabitants vs. a populated informal settlement of 20,000.

Current indicators:

- # of Multi-community/ multi-city/ multi-province community networks formed with common learning and advocacy agendas.
- # community leaders with the capacity to train and transfer practices
- # community leaders with the capacity to engage and negotiate with decision makers
- # of Institutional champions' and opinion leaders' agreement to support community agendas.
- # of Reports of outcomes of government-grassroots dialogue meetings.
- -Meeting minutes and agreements reported from Community Platform meetings.
- # of Transferrable community-led practices identified.
- # of Presence of grassroots resource teams who have mastered community resilience practices.
- # of Requests from NGOs, communities or institutions to learn from community-led practices.
- # of strategic regional and global policy spaces and institutions identified and strategic alliances established
- # of community practitioners included as speakers or advisors in policy dialogues, advisory groups and planning committees of regional and global policy institutions.
- Financial resources accessed by community based organizations from local, provincial or national governments
- # of Communities invited by institutional actors to train them or advise on program design, implement and assessment of resilience programs.
- # of (Development of) good practices for scaling up of community-led approaches building resilience.

Proposed indicators

Vinod Menon, after his review of the CRF, proposed the following indicators:

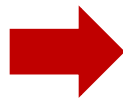
- % of women-headed households
- % of women-headed households who are landless and with no rights on houses
- % of households participating in government programs and schemes
- % of households with fragile houses vulnerable to damage from natural disasters like floods, hurricanes and earthquakes
- % of households of women living in poverty
- % of women who participate in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation initiatives
- % of households receiving pensions or other social protection scheme benefits
- % of the population in the village who have migrated to the cities for employment
- % of households who have brought assets, livestock, land, house, etc. in last five years
- % of households depending on wood, charcoal, agricultural residues, etc. for cooking and heating water
- % of households who have to travel long distances for collecting drinking water, fuel wood and fodder

- % of households who have received compensation for crops damaged due to natural disasters in the last five years
- % of cropped area affected annually by floods, storm surge, cyclones, drought etc.
- % of households living in vulnerable, high risk, disaster-prone areas
- % of representatives of grassroots women leaders in local administration bodies
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V. WAY FORWARD

A) COMMUNICATIONS

Communications are a key element of visibility and advocacy for the work of the Community Resilience Campaign. Unlike traditional messages around women and disasters, which show them in victimized, disengaged positions and as beneficiaries of aid, the message of the Community Resilience Campaign is that grassroots women are active agents and development experts, who are organized at the local, regional and global level and working to build resilience in their communities in partnership with local governments and other institutional partners.



To carry this message, the Community Resilience Campaign uses an array of communication channels that serve different purposes and reach different audiences:

Internal Communication:

- Communication Hubs
- List Serv
- Regional CPP Newsletters (in progress)

External communications:

- Website: www.huairou.org
- Social Media: Facebook – Huairou Commission, Twitter: @HuairouConnect, Vimeo, LinkedIn
- HC Update
- Brochures and policy statements

- Publications
- Press and TV

These communication channels and tools have served to create the identity of the Community Resilience Campaign and have set a strong platform to present our key messages. Currently, the Communications Team has started to set up a visual identity for each of the regions based on successful pieces as the Action-researches of Asia and Latin America and the Regional Newsletter in Africa. This effort to create the “brand” of the Campaign will continue and be strengthened in the upcoming policy spaces key to our work, as it is the World Conference on DRR in 2015.

B) POST 2015 DRR AGENDA – SENDAI AND BEYOND

Involvement of the Huairou Commission in the Hyogo Framework for Action:

At the WCDRR in Japan in 2005, we emerged as one of the first civil society partners to work with UNISDR. In 2008, we held special session at the Geneva Platform to illustrate community knowledge and problem solving. We left with the commitment to model the real inclusion of communities. In 2009, Margareta Wahlstrom (head of UNISDR) asked for a private meeting to anchor a global CPP to broaden civil society representation and to convene action space for communities to represent themselves directly. Since 2008, have held trainings and dialogues on HFA1 nationally and regionally, held a multi-country grassroots academy which analyzed this HFA and created evidence-based work and highlighted the importance of women’s empowerment and community role pieces of HFA1. Additionally, we have been on the steering committee and playing role in Resilient Cities Campaign.

Involvement of Huairou Commission in the HFA2 Process and the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR)

Apart from actively participating in the Africa, LAC, and Asia platforms to center-stage our priorities, the Huairou Commission is one of two civil society representatives on the Advisory Group for Margareta Wahlstrom. This has allowed us to facilitate a civil society dialogue with Margareta Wahlstrom and 30 civil society representatives and function as one of four co-leads as the Civil Society Major Group for Sendai, where we have committed to hold a Global Grassroots Academy, with collaboration from JANECA, Action Aid, Oxfam, Practical Action, Cordaid, that will be an official pre-event to the WCDRR.

Likewise we submitted one side event to showcase the CRF as a voluntary commitments for DRR communities have been advancing with great success and are aiming to have spaces in high-level panels and working sessions.

C) SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

The Huairou commission has engaged for the past one and a half years in the SDG process through the Women’s Major Group. On July 19, 2014, the OWG closed its 13th and final session and accepted the first draft and later UNGA adopted the draft of the 17 SDGs. From now until next September (2015) it will be governments working on the document. In terms of the document, under Goals 1 (End poverty), 5, 11, 13, 14, are resilience related targets/indicators. These indicators give us the chance to leverage and be part of the implementation at the national and local levels. Finally, the HC has been engaged since WUF with two larger networks: Women in Informal Employment Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO) and Slum Dwellers

International (SDI) to have more traction as a grassroots global constituency in the final outcome and implementation of the SDGs agenda.