Concept Note

Working Session: DRR in Humanitarian Contexts: A Localized Perspective

Type of Event	☐ Plenary ☐ Thematic Session ☒ Working Session ☐ Learning Lab
Title of the Event	DRR in Humanitarian Contexts: A Localized Perspective
Date, Time and Venue	23 October, 12:15-13:30 Kuiseb
Relevant Conference Plenary	☒ Plenary 1: Applying Risk Information for Transformative Governance ☐ Plenary 2: ☐ Plenary 3: ☒ Cross-Cutting Issue:
Background and Rationale	In disaster, emergency, and humanitarian crises, at-risk groups, particularly women, children and persons with disabilities, are among the most affected. Climate change can significantly reinforce people's vulnerability, especially in fragile contexts. Disaster Risk Reduction is a very important perspective to consider when organizing either response or resilience building of the communities affected. The localized approaches of DRR such as risk assessment, early warning systems, and anticipatory action require the important role of local experts, communities, and marginalized groups. Indeed, these actors are key to disaster preparedness, response and recovery. Preparedness such as inclusive early warning systems provide timely information to all members of the communities particularly the most vulnerable groups which often do not receive either basic information nor basic supports needed to prepare for and respond to disaster and lack access to humanitarian support. The participatory approach in early warning system enhances community engagement and ownership. It takes into account and integrates the Indigenous knowledge and priorities enabling anticipatory actions and early responses and therefore, minimizes the impacts of forecasted disasters. Empowering local communities through training and resources enhance DRR capabilities. It encourages local leadership and inclusive planning. It ensures the participation of all including those at the frontline. That is how DRR initiatives become accessible and effective for all. Policy advocacy can influence national and international policies and secure support and funding needed for locally led DRR efforts.
Session Objectives	This working session aims to bring together governments, international organizations, civil society actors, including national/regional organizations of persons with disabilities, and other relevant stakeholders to accelerate progress in advancing DRR at local level to enhance the

	preparedness, response and recovery of the local communities living within, and/or affected by humanitarian context.
	The working session aims to:
	- Highlight the importance of localizing DRR and discuss the benefits of community-based DRR initiatives and their role in building resilience. - Promote inclusive DRR and emphasize the need to consider the specific needs and vulnerabilities of women, youth, elderly, individuals with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups in DRR planning and implementation. - Showcase successful examples of localized DRR initiatives that have incorporated inclusive approaches, in alignment with national DRR strategies and community needs. - Discuss the challenges faced in localizing global, regional, and national DRR efforts and explore potential solutions to overcome these barriers.
Expected Outcomes	- Recommended pathways to enhancing the coping capacity of local communities to adequately manage their disaster and climate risk - Concrete examples, best practices and lessons learned captured on localizing DRR in Humanitarian Context - Produce clear and actionable recommendations and actions on how stakeholders can translate policy into inclusive action - Announce the new CSO Stakeholder Group for DRR
Structure	**Welcoming remarks, introduction of the session, and setting the scene by the Moderator** **Panel with Case Studies:** - Empowering Communities: Local Leadership for Sustainable Solutions in the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus by GNDR - Integrating Indigenous Knowledge to Enhance Disaster Risk Reduction and Early Warning for all at Local Communities Level by - Inclusive Early Warning Systems – A case study from Niger + Disability Inclusive DRR - A Case of OPD Engagements from Cameroon by CBM - Harnessing Partnerships for Anticipatory Action and EWS in Fragile Context by World Vision **Breakout Groups: Discussion and Production of Recommendations on how to localize DRR in Humanitarian Context led by Panellist** Every group will answer four questions. Two will be the same across all groups which include: - How can we develop a shared vision and set of common goals for localizing DRR in humanitarian contexts? - What are the main challenges and constraints to localizing DRR in humanitarian contexts, and how can these challenges be overcome? - How can we develop a shared vision and set of common goals for localizing DRR in humanitarian contexts?

	• What are the key principles that should guide the development of local DRR strategies and plans in a humanitarian context?
	 • How can we ensure that local DRR initiatives are sustainable and resilient to changing circumstances?
	 • What are the best practices for adapting DRR strategies to meet the evolving needs of communities and humanitarian crises?
	
	 The two remaining questions will be customized to the interest of the groups:
	 • Empowering Local Leadership to enhance Community Resilience
	    ○ What are the key strategies for empowering and building the capacity of local leadership in disaster risk reduction (DRR)?
	    ○ How can local leadership be supported to develop and implement effective DRR plans and initiatives; ensuring accountability mechanisms are included?
	 • Developing customized and effective local DRR interventions using Indigenous Knowledge
	    ○ How can indigenous knowledge be integrated into existing DRR frameworks and methodologies?
	    ○ How can indigenous knowledge be incorporated into local DRR planning and implementation?
	 • Ensuring the inclusion of at-risk populations in local DRR planning and implementation
	    ○ What strategies can be used to address the unique needs and concerns of at-risk populations in DRR initiatives?
	    ○ What are the main barriers to the inclusion of at-risk populations in DRR, and how can these barriers be overcome?
	 • Strengthening Local Partnerships between Communities, Governments, Development Partners, and Humanitarian Partners to enhance localization
	    ○ What are the specific roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder in localizing DRR, and how can these roles be clearly defined and coordinated (avoiding duplication)?
	    ○ What are the most effective communication and coordination mechanisms for ensuring that all partners are aligned and working towards common goals?
	
	 Report Back: Audience members from each group share recommendations for localizing DRR based on Discussions
	
	 Wrap Up by Moderator

Moderator of the Session	TBC
List of Panellists	Facilitators: ● Ibrahim Malam Soumaila, CBM ● Pauline Madiro, GNDR ● Dr. Tabi Joda, GreenAid ● Ms. Nogning Armelle Aimerique, Board Chair of Associations of Persons with Disabilities in the Northwest Region

	• Mr. Barzil Mwawughanga, World Vision East Africa
Reference Documents	• Early warning systems in Cameroon and Niger • Inclusive Participation Toolbox • Mainstreaming Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction in Community Development • Scaling up disaster risk reduction in humanitarian action
Public narrative [For the website]	This session will explore the critical role of localization of disaster risk reduction (DRR) in humanitarian and fragile context. It will highlight how vulnerable populations, particularly those living in fragile zones, are disproportionately affected by disasters and climate change. The session will discuss the importance of empowering local communities and providing timely support to enhance their resilience, reduce their vulnerabilities, and engage them as agents of change. It will also emphasize the value of indigenous knowledge in building resilience and the need for inclusive and timely actions to address the challenges faced by vulnerable populations.
Interpretation	English, French, Portuguese, International Sign