

needs and the risks must be addressed if a woman is to emerge from poverty⁹. How well life cycle of vulnerability and recovery issues are addressed in current M&E practices?

- **Monitoring and Evaluation of psychosocial issues.** It is estimated that nearly 90% of survivors undergo these emotional reactions immediately after the disaster. However, it reduces to 30% over a period of time with psychological reactions to stress, leading to a change in behaviour, relationships and physical or psycho-social situations. Continuation of the situation leads to an abnormal pattern and long-term mental illness among the survivors, if not attended to¹⁰. Fr. Sirinus, CENDERET, Xavier Institute of Management, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, has developed a long list of needs at district level with his students in India. This is especially true for M&E around access to information, mitigating consequences of conflict, and offering legal assistance to the poor after a disaster. In fact recent Consolidation Workshop of Special Unit for South South Cooperation in UNDP held in Bangkok, August 2012 suggested need for developing core techniques and mapping cross-cutting issues across Asia and Pacific hotspots of disaster events. Not only more thought on how psychosocial results are monitored but also what these results are and could be in a rapidly changing traditional societies in Asia. For example, The World Bank found that providing survivors with income-earning opportunities tied to physical work often helps as much as grief counselling¹¹. Though this issues is not new, new ways of looking at it to better reach the results is needed. A possible next step could be a critique of the existing knowledge system on this topic by multi-disciplinary group of participants.

The above five areas are enlisted to support the system wide discussion around the future of M&E in the humanitarian sector. The issues are coming from the ground, in Asia, and from ongoing projects and initiatives in the region.

Additionally, at global level, as HFA moves on and MGDs are being reviewed, better convergence of MGD targets and HFA indicators is desirable in ongoing and future M&E frameworks that are being developed by the donors and UN system. Without the integration of the two development and disasters will be monitored and evaluated in parallel.

⁹ Himal, South Asian, Renana Jhabvala, SEWA, of self-employed women August 2006, <http://www.himalmag.com/component/content/article/1523-.html>

¹⁰ National Disaster Management Guidelines, Psycho-social Support and Mental Health Services in Disasters, NDMA, New Delhi, December 2009

¹¹ ALNAP, Cyclone Nargis: Lessons for Operational Agencies, <http://www.alnap.org/resource/5241.aspx>

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Future of M&E in Humanitarian Sector: Possible List for Discussion*



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The following is a possible list of issues related to the future of M&E in humanitarian sector. The list is informed by ongoing work of All India Disaster Mitigation Institute (AIDMI) in and around India. The list is offered as a contribution to the ALNAP Evaluation Capacity, especially to the important discussion started by ACF-led review.

- **Monitoring and evaluation of social vulnerability will become both, an achievement as well as a challenge.** In evaluating disaster risk, the social production of vulnerability needs to be considered with at least the same degree of importance that is devoted to understanding and addressing natural hazards¹. Disaster management strategies would not be successful if they did not target—and reduce—the inequalities and vulnerabilities poor people faced, especially since they would be the “first and worst” affected as the climate changes². M&E in the ongoing safer school campaign of AIDMI with Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) and Andaman and Nicobar Islands suggests that now we know more about social vulnerability, including the role exclusion plays in it. But we still need to know far more about social vulnerability, including its nature in cities and urban areas. Socially created vulnerabilities are largely ignored in the hazards and disaster literature because they are so hard to measure and quantify³. The ongoing micro insurance work of AIDMI with local active organisation, SWAD, in Odisha, India with Concern Worldwide India support also found that social voluntary is sidelined in insurance related analysis in most cases. What is the role of M&E in capturing social vulnerability? What new tools and methods are needed? Who has done what on this theme in past five years? A next step could be to develop relevant tools and methods to develop geography of socially vulnerable populations in natural disaster hotspots.
- **The critical role of social infrastructure after disasters is better understood and also remains a challenge.** Dependency upon social structure will exist from populations within the society inflicted by the hazard that are alienated, remote, suppressed and ambiguous⁴. At the same time population in cities will also continue different stage of dependency. In the actually planning for emergencies, social vulnerability is captured under the heading of “special needs populations.” While small communities can identify their special needs populations, it becomes a daunting task in major cities⁵. M&E work of AIDMI around making more effective local disaster management plans in India with support from Cordaid suggests that we know more about social infrastructure of food security among the communities but do not know enough yet on social

infrastructure that ensures shelter. The field work by AIDMI team under Dr. Ian Davis in Malkondjee village in Maharashtra in India recently indicated that investments and impacts of social infrastructure is hardly known, even over two decade long recovery period. An IEG review of recent Bank experience notes that rebuilding social structures is a large challenge and one that is rarely done well. The characteristics of initial disaster response make this even more difficult if the response ignores local institutions and creates dependence⁶. Work of Save the Children in Bihar, Odisha, and West Bengal in India with children also highlights the critical role of social infrastructure. How to M&E social infrastructure related results? Over a longer period? What challenge laps of time offers to M&E? A next step could be to initiate a dialogue across individuals who have worked or addressed these issues.

- **Differences and commonality of urban and rural humanitarian action.** M&E must be far more enhanced to these two separations. The ongoing watch of India's growing involvement in humanitarian assistance by AIDMI has pointed to this issue. Humanitarian organisations often have more experience of disaster response in rural settings⁷ as compared to urban settings. However, the reported number of affected people and damages caused by the severe impact of disasters arising as a result of natural phenomena (loss of human life, social and economic assets, means of subsistence, etc.) is often higher in urban than rural areas⁸. This division between urban and rural M&E is more and more informing the conception of India's humanitarian assistance, but also its bureaucracy; relief in proactive; multilateral cooperation decisions; and finding cooperative solutions. What new tools and methods are available for urban and rural M&E studies? Who is doing what work on this theme? The role of key urban centers in facilitating rural recovery and their own vulnerability to natural and man-made hazards needed to be monitored and evaluated on pilot basis as a possible next step.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation of life cycle of vulnerability and recovery.** Excellent work done by Claudia Miere on humanitarian challenges facing the humanitarian system today calls for life cycle approach as humanitarian M&E moves to be more anticipatory; locally centered; flexible; context driven; and accountable. The group by AIDMI team discussions on risk transfer and micro insurance with local organisations in Odisha, India, supported by CWI pointed to the need to look at the “life at risk” and not a “part of life at risk” as most recovery or preparedness projects do. Life cycle concepts need more discussion and exploration by key humanitarian donors before it is piloted in the field. What does this concept mean to different actors? In different contexts? For example to a poor women? Throughout her life, a woman faces multiple needs and risks; work of self employed women suggests that both the

1 Ben Wisner: Natural Hazards, People's Vulnerability and Disasters, 2004, http://books.google.co.in/books?id=C_CEmstFXJEC&printsec=frontcover#v=onepage&q&f=false

2 Economic and Social Council, 2008, Substantive Session, <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs//2008/ecosoc6363.doc.htm>

3 Dr. Susan Cutter, Understanding Katrina, <http://understandingkatrina.ssrc.org/Cutter/>

4 Paul Latham, M.Ed., FPED, CHS, Disaster Risk Reduction and Social Vulnerability, <http://www.flghc.org/docs/2012WorkshopPDFs/HS103-RiskReduction.pdf>

5 Dr. Susan Cutter, Understanding Katrina, <http://understandingkatrina.ssrc.org/Cutter/>

6 Independent Evaluation Group, The World Bank, David Todd and Hazel Todd, Natural Disaster Response: Lessons from Evaluations of the World Bank Others, [http://lnweb90.worldbank.org/oed/oeddoclib.nsf/DocUNIDViewForJavaSearch/6E05ABFAE2ED2CF58525794400774EAE/\\$file/eval_brief_nat_disaster_response.pdf](http://lnweb90.worldbank.org/oed/oeddoclib.nsf/DocUNIDViewForJavaSearch/6E05ABFAE2ED2CF58525794400774EAE/$file/eval_brief_nat_disaster_response.pdf)

7 ALNAP, Responding to Urban Disasters, <http://www.alnap.org/pool/files/alnap-provention-lessons-urban.pdf>

8 ISDR, Making Cities Resilient, http://www.pacificdisaster.net/pdnadmin/data/original/ISDR_2010_IAP_MakingCitiesResilient.pdf