



Collaborating Centre for Oxford University and CUHK  
for Disaster and Medical Humanitarian Response  
CCOUC 災害與人道救援研究所

## Building Community Health Resilience to Disasters: A Multistakeholder Partnership Approach

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### Introduction

The Sendai Framework advocates an inclusive and multi-stakeholder approach, recognizing in particular the need to mobilize research and scientific institutions toward reducing disaster risk and building resilience. Collaborating Centre for Oxford University and CUHK for Disaster and Medical Humanitarian Response (CCOUC) is well-placed to contribute to the regional implementation of the Sendai Framework, through using a distinctive health focus.

### About CCOUC



CCOUC with Yi Minority in Sichuan, China for a community health project (March, 2015)

- CCOUC is a Hong Kong-based non-profit academic center
- Established in 2011, it serves as a platform between researchers, frontline practitioners and students
- CCOUC is a regional learning hub on research, education and training, and community knowledge-transfer in the Asia-Pacific Region
- CCOUC is also the Sphere Country Focal Point for China (Aug 2014 onwards)

### CCOUC and Disaster Risk Reduction

#### 1. Research

CCOUC uses bio-statistical modelling skills and mixed methods research to examine a variety of topics relating to disaster risk, from urban and rural disaster health risk literacy to the impact of psychological first aid and the negative health outcomes associated with extreme weather patterns.



Post-disaster community focus group in Gorkha District, Nepal (June, 2015)

#### 2. Education and Training

CCOUC conducts disaster preparedness and response training for local and international governmental and NGO stakeholders. CCOUC also trains the next generation of DRR actors by teaching local students basic disaster preparedness and response techniques.



CCOUC training for humanitarian responders in Kathmandu, Nepal (June, 2015)

#### 3. Community Knowledge-Transfer

CCOUC's field-based research is also used to develop contextualised initiatives to build community preparedness and strengthen population health resilience toward disasters. An example of this is CCOUC's disaster preparedness kit which villagers can make using local resources.



Women's hygiene knowledge transfer with Tibetan minority in Qinghai, China (Nov, 2015)

### Partnerships

Overall, CCOUC partners with a diverse range of stakeholders to facilitate this work. These include:

- Academia (Harvard University, Oxford University)
- Government (China National and Regional CDCs)
- Civil society (Bridge to China, Oxfam Hong Kong)

CCOUC forms a platform which fosters dialogue and collaboration between these local and regional actors.

In particular, CCOUC, the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine and The University of Hong Kong work together to establish the Hong Kong Jockey Club Disaster Preparedness and Response Institute.

### CCOUC and the Sendai Framework

1. Use scientific needs assessments to **understand key issues** regarding disaster health risk literacy and preparedness levels.
2. Apply rigorous public health methodologies to develop **contextualised initiatives** to build community preparedness and strengthen population health resilience toward disasters.
3. Utilise robust and recognised frameworks to **measure the impact** of these resilience building initiatives.
4. **Train the next generation of actors** in the application of public health methods to the field of disaster risk reduction.

5. **Promote the Sendai Framework** amongst its vast network of partners, encouraging them to use their technical expertise to actively contribute toward the Framework's implementation.



CCOUC workshop on Implementation of Post-2015 Framework for DRR (March, 2015)

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