DRR thru Schools Project at a glance

- Multi-country project to reduce vulnerability through HFA implementation in 9 countries (Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Malawi, Kenya, Ghana, Zambia, DRC, Haiti)

- Safe schoolchildren, communities & school buildings through knowledge, education and action on risk and hazards at local to national and international level - rooted in community

- International reach through UNISDR, inter-agency group, and Global Network of CSOs on DRR

- Primary stakeholders: Over 60 schools in selected districts in project countries – over 15,000 pupils and 300 teachers, and 80,000 community members
Community organisation around schools for disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction

- Participatory vulnerability assessments & action plans
- Disaster Risk management committees
- Natural resources management clubs eg in Malawi
- Strengthening of existing community groups
Safer school initiatives across all countries

- Retrofitting of classrooms
- Re-location of unsafe schools
- Access bridges
Safer community initiatives

- Safe schools as shelters
- Flood control activities around schools in Malawi (e.g., dredging of silted river beds)
- Access bridges during floods

River de-silting in Malawi; a community activity inline with PVA community action plan

A low cost bridge built to ease access to school in Bangladesh
Children as DRR agents
DRR integrated in education curriculum

- Local curriculum for local risks (Malawi, Kenya, Ghana)
- Engagement with education and other actors for DRR in education curriculum
National Policy work

- Support for institutional frameworks eg National Platforms (Kenya, Malawi)
- Climate change adaptation & integration into DRR
- DRR in education curricula
- Building codes & safer schools
Issues/Lessons

• Inadequate awareness on HFA - need to simplify

• Crucial role of local government as interface with communities

• Exploit potential of education to reach out to other sectors

• Exploit potential role of children as agents of change

• Need for participatory vulnerability analysis at community and other levels

• Need to build bottom-up demand for local level advocacy and accountability
Thank you for your attention

John Abuya
International Project Manager DRR
ActionAid International

E-mail: John.Abuya@actionaid.org

Website: www.actionaid.org