Second Africa Regional Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction Consultative Meeting

May 5 – 7, 2009

Theme 3
Knowledge, Education & Innovation

Francis Dube
Community Resilience Manager-Africa Region

Introduction

- **World Vision adopted the HFA as a "Blue Print" to building resilient communities and nations.**

- **Working with a select few countries in piloting projects covering mainly themes 2, 3, 4 and 5.**

- **Working through the existing structures**

Gaps/Challenges

- **Capacity**

  - **Personnel, systems, technical skills to support those who lives and livelihoods are at risk.**

    - **Limits effectiveness of early warnings.**

    - **Limits our ability to reach out to at risk community through trainings.**

    - **Limits institutional preparedness to deal with the hazards.**

  FOCUS = Institutional Capacity Building

Database/Information Sources

- Central Information/data bank close to point of action to assist decision making
  - Shared Risk Assessment Reports (National and localized assessments
  - Shared evaluation
  - Targeting strategies
  - Common agreement on local level priorities

  FANRPAN Model for Household Vulnerability Index (HVI)

Awareness at all levels

- DRR awareness across all structures and stakeholders remain limited.
  - Awareness level at lower institutional structures is still not at desired levels.
  - Re-orientation of these structures is necessary to drive desired changes as these are evolving from a response modes

Learning & Adaptation

- Learning and adaptation are key attributes to building resilience.

- Adaptation entails change in some cases – but at times they appear to be limited learning in some levels.

  – Communities continue to do the same things.

  – Support packages given to community post disasters not different from pre-disaster packages.

Communication Bottle-necks

- Institutional Framework to support DRR
  - Excellent regional and national institutions charged with developing policies frameworks and higher level programs but weak local level institution (districts, community)
    - As a result good policies, programs, products etc failure to benefit the target beneficiaries

    How do we revamp/reconstitute delivery structures to link national programs with communities?

Poverty & vulnerability

- Livelihoods diversification is increasingly being seen as one of the key DRR strategies for communities across Africa.

- Poverty however limits diversification due to narrow asset base and limited marketing opportunities to support emerging livelihoods strategies.

FOCUS – How to efforts on development of local economies?

Conclusion

- **More information and guidelines for frontline staff.**

- **Capacity building**

- **More vertical integration is needed to ensure communication flow.**

- **Need to re-orient systems and policies to give meaning to DRR.**

World Vision

Thank you!!