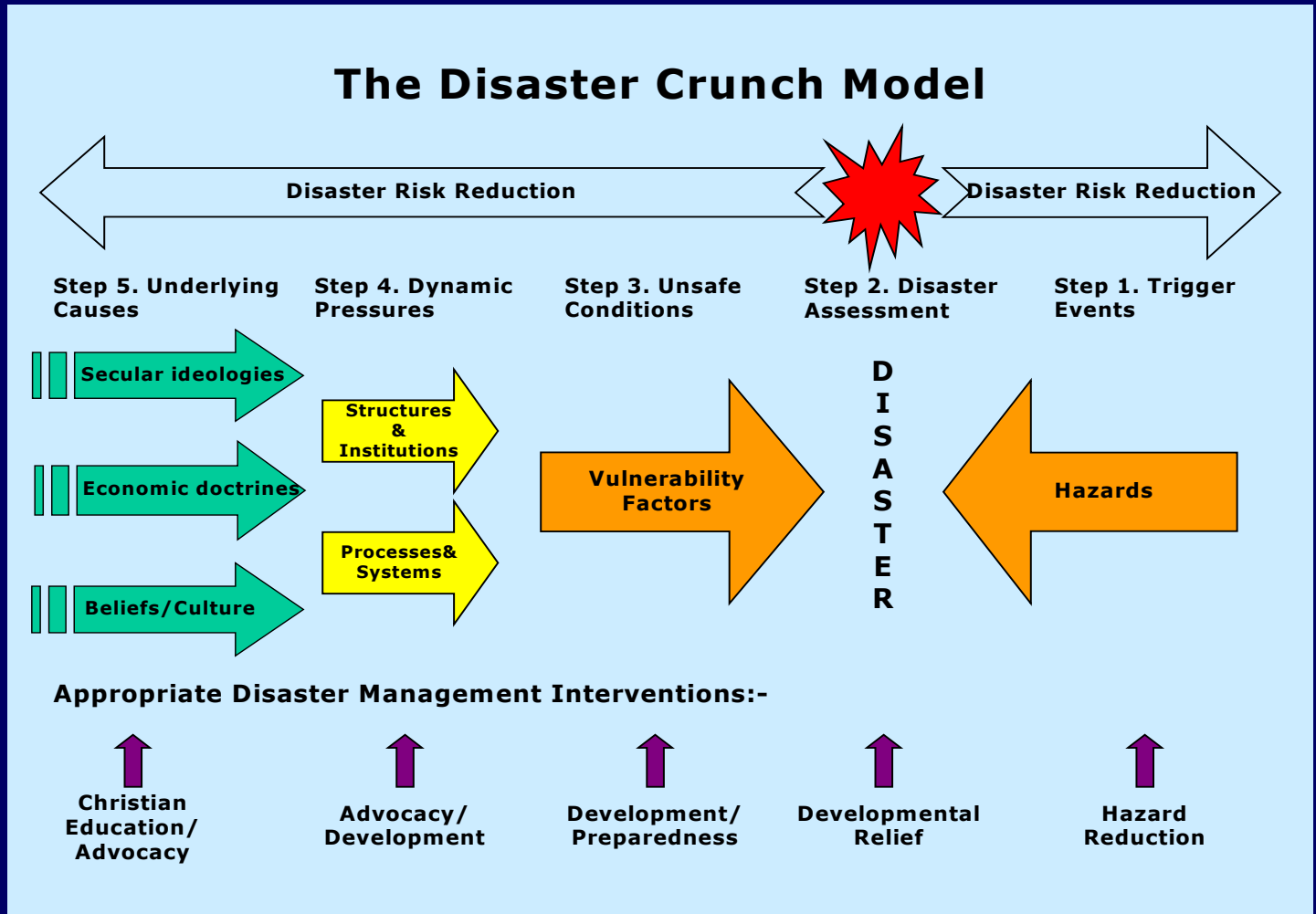


Participatory Assessment of Disaster Risk (PADR)

**A methodology to assess risk –
and then to reduce it!**

Disaster Crunch Model





PADR – a 6 step process

1. Preparation
2. Hazard Assessment
3. Vulnerability Assessment
4. Capacity Assessment
5. Key Informant Interviews
6. Action Planning



1. Preparation

- Meetings with community leaders – relationship, purpose, access
- Planning of focus group meetings and informant interviews
- Practice appropriate PRA tools
- Arrange logistics – food, transport, props, etc



2. Hazard Assessment

For priority hazards....

- History
- Frequency
- Intensity/severity
- Speed of onset & warnings
- Duration
- Trends



Categories of Analysis

(for Vulnerability/Capacity Assessment)

From sustainable livelihoods frame-work....

- Human
- Social
- Natural
- Physical
- Economic



Vulnerabilities are....

- sets of prevailing conditions which adversely affect the community's ability to prevent, mitigate, prepare for or respond to a hazard event
- long term chronic factors & weaknesses, often due to failures in development processes or ignoring risk



3. Vulnerability Assessment

- Elements at Risk – key areas of life affected by the hazard.
- Unsafe Conditions – why those areas are affected by the hazard.
- Dynamic Pressures – actors creating those conditions, & processes used
- Underlying causes – political, economic, cultural and belief factors



4. Capacity Assessment

- ❑ Determines strengths & resources, which enable families to prepare for, cope with, mitigate against or recover from a disaster
- ❑ Realized or latent
- ❑ Past as well as present
- ❑ May be limited but always present!



PRA Tools used

- Community mapping
- Transect walks
- Time lines
- Seasonal calendars
- Problem trees
- Ranking
- Drama/Sketches



5. Key informant interviews

- People with a wider perspective – community leaders, Govt workers, teachers, doctors, religious leaders, etc
- Questioned on hazards, vulnerabilities, capacities and possible solutions
- Focuses more on pressures and underlying causes



6. Action Planning

- ❑ Community-based plan to reduce vulnerabilities & build capacities
- ❑ Developed with the community, not imposed on them; ownership.
- ❑ Higher levels of advocacy to address pressures and causes
- ❑ Linkage to Govt plans.



PADR – potential problems

- ❑ Raises community expectations; should be part of ongoing process with community.
- ❑ Terminology - local equivalents
- ❑ Time required - streamline process; pre-gathering of available information
- ❑ Dependent on good facilitation skills
- ❑ Raises sensitive issues - culture, politics!
- ❑ Reluctance to divulge capacities



Staff training

- Takes at least 1-week
- Combines class and field practice
- Include PRA tools & skills of group facilitation
- Mentoring of trainees – preferable to one-offs
- Clear linkage to action plan



Resources required

- ❑ Skilled facilitator
- ❑ Min 2 others in team
- ❑ Time!
- ❑ Flip-charts & markers
- ❑ Props for drama
- ❑ Items for PRA tools
- ❑ Question lists



Community priorities or ours?

- ❑ Be up-front about *hazard* focus rather than *problem*
- ❑ Willingness to be flexible
- ❑ Inject simple “can-do” ideas, minimal inputs
- ❑ Network with other providers
- ❑ Emphasis from start on participatory development



Benefits to organisation

- ❑ A shared understanding of community situation amongst staff
- ❑ Gives structure & causal relationships to known facts
- ❑ Enables causes as well as symptoms to be addressed – better programmes
- ❑ Process of mobilising community is important
- ❑ Locally owned A/Plan more sustainable



Resources recommended

- ❑ Roots Guide 9
- ❑ Facilitation Skills Workbook
- ❑ “Mobilising the Community”
- ❑ DRR case studies
- ❑ CBA paper
- ❑ Tearfund tilz-website