



REPORT ON INDIVIDUAL EVENT

Date of event: Your name:

Event type (tick the box):

Event name (write the name below):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Pre-session	<input type="text" value="Hyogo Hard talk"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	High-level panel	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Round Table	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Informal Plenary	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Event	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	

Number of participants -

Total: approx 50

(Please count or estimate this, as not all will be recorded in the list.)

1) Key questions or issues raised, main challenges or constraints identified (say, max 5):

If possible, record who raised these.

- **DRR has not reached grassroots** Both the GAR and VFL shows that the closer one gets to the at risk communities progress slows down. How we can increase progress ahead of the next global platform?
- **It should not take this long to achieve local level change**
- **What are the institutional processes necessary to create an enabling environment?** How can institutions like ISDR invest in local level institutions to create demand from below, and create incentives at the national level to help them bridge the gap? How important is the internal drive of the local communities as compared to local government processes?
- **Insufficient resources as a constraint to local progress.** How can these be identified and scaled up?

2) Principal proposed solutions, messages or recommendations:

If possible, record who offered these.

- John Abuya, ActionAid; Are we really aware of the nature of risks and hazards? To what extent are we, government and CSO, organised? To what extent do national policies reflect the needs of the vulnerable populations? We need partnerships and participation to create synergies. We need to make sure our policies are relevant to vulnerable people. And we **need resources** – financial, human and technical to address this. **Where local government works with local people, where there is a good common analysis of the risks and hazards, where there is an enabling environment things do work** well. “The wearer of the shoe knows where it pinches” – local people know what the issues are. Where local institutions are involve in the analysis it is very helpful.

- Maite Rodriguez, Guatemala; **we need to show what communities can achieve.** We need a different appreciation of what can be done locally.
- Kafil Uddin, local government of Bangladesh; **CSOs good for piloting, but only government able to scale up. Local government, as it is elected, has the mandate to take forward.**
- John; we need to **ensure that DRR is built in to the planning, with specific targets and roles.**
- Mr. Kafil Uddin; I don't have ideas about what all the CSOs are doing in my area, but I do know some of them. Whoever comes for support I try to help them, but **resources of local government are limited.**
- Kafil; climate change is definitely affecting us as we are getting more and more flooding. Erosion is affecting agriculture. There is a reduction in the variety of fish, affecting the economy of my area. In a way it is an opportunity as we can make future generations aware of the issues. We do have an environment department at the local level, but it lacks resources. Does CC mean they work more on disaster reduction? In a limited way.
- Govt Gambia delegation; government is a scape goat. "we mis manage funds, we do this, we do that.." But government e is always there be for the people. How could we lose our development from disaster and government not care. We are at pain, even more than NGOs. Money does not filter down to the people in NGOs. But we have many pressures on us. When we receive anything – we have our policy and platform – now there are new things coming up, like climate change. Government is a victim because government is the people.
- **Local government is so important we need to build in mechanisms so they can access resources.**
- Helena Molin Vades; We need national policies, but still need local level action and plans. There has been a lot, but not enough and there has been a disconnect between the two. We need a commitment from national governments to work at the local level from both sides. **This needs to be driven as a local policy by local politicians.** Disconnect is both ways and both sides have been weak.
- How dependants are local governments on their national governments? Helena; we are trying to build the HFA as a multi stakeholder base. **Ownership cannot be forced, but only taken up by conviction.** At the secretariat level we are seeking to create an enabling environment – this meeting is such an enabling environment. It brings people together who can then work together back in their local level.
- Kafil; **when I am trying to make a 5 year plan, one thing I find is that DRR requires huge investment and this cannot be addressed by local government or even national government alone – we need donor support. But ownership can be made locally.**
- How can institutions like ISDR invest in local level institutions to create demand from below, and create incentives at the national level to help them bridge the gap? Johan Schaar It is very difficult as there are issues of national sovereignty. But there are **examples such as Rio 21 where special recognition is given to local governments. We need to build on these agreed norms.**
- There is a lack of coordination between DRR – CCA and Poverty reduction. What concrete actions can we take to integrate these things as the person on the ground does not see them as separate things? Johan Schaar; there is one level where everything is perfectly integrated and coordinated – and that is in the individual person. The issue arises in the system above. There is a human weakness to divide to understand but in so doing we lose track of the overall problem. There are no easy solutions. These things have to come together at the highest level of government; the president or Prime Minister's office so instructions can be sent through the system. **Do not underestimate the importance of leadership** here. It does not go out side the sphere of politics here.

- CC is seen as an additional burden, and so we are creating additional structures. Could CC be a tipping point for bringing things together? Maite; **For local organisations we have been trying to build this relationship through community resilience.** Communities are very practical in addressing the problems they are facing.
- Risks of DRR being subsumed within the climate change adaptation debate and processes? Helena Molin Valdes; any opportunity or profiling is an opportunity. We need to get out the urgency of vulnerability issues and the need to act. It is an opportunity for dialogue at national and local level. But the higher up you come the more divided is the community and the more important is the battle over the pie. We believe we will all suddenly be fully funded – which is not true. **It may make us think we do not need to work on our existing budgets and take a risk approach to our everyday work.**
- Johan; Copenhagen is an opportunity, but it is also a big risk. The current text sees disaster risk as something that needs to be addressed through hard inputs. The opportunity is to help negotiators see it is about building local resilience to shocks. **We need to see trees not just as sticks of carbon but as fundamental natural assets livelihoods are built on.**
- From the floor; Insurance is not a silver bullet. It has a role to play, but how will it help if Bangladesh sinks? Will it offer Bangladeshis US immigration?
- Helena; use the opportunities of the HFA to have a leveraging voice - it is building – if we all take this on, our influence is huge to go to Copenhagen, the village, our national governments. Use the monitoring aspect which may lead to new policies. **Become champions.**
- Kafil; the role of CSO in monitoring and auditing government and NGO work.

Videos were shown from www.youtube.com/provention

3) Conclusions by the Chair of the event:

None given

4) Your additional thoughts on the event:

(E.g. on tone and success of event, unresolved issues, commitments made by participants, etc.)

Collegiate tone, some helpful debate. Main area of discussion really around local government and local government – civil society partnerships.