



### THE ROLE OF CBID EMPOWERMENT COMPONENT IN DiDRR

Presentation by: Simon Munde MPHL in disability studies 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018
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#### PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Disability inclusive disaster risk reduction (DiDRR)
- 3. Empowerment
- 4. Empowerment strategies for DiDRR
- 5. Lessons from FEDOMA DiDRR

### The role of CBR/CBID empowerment component in DiDRR

#### **INTRODUCTION**

 CBR/CBID was initially meant to enhance the quality of life for persons with disabilities and their families; meet their basic needs; and ensure their inclusion and participation. It has now evolved to become a multi-sectoral approach to improve the equalization of opportunities and social inclusion of persons with disabilities.

### The role of CBR/CBID empowerment component in DiDRR CONTI...

#### **DISASTER**

• Disaster is a sudden, calamitous event that seriously disrupts the functioning of a community or society and causes human, material, and economic or environmental losses that exceed the community's or society's ability to cope using its own resources. Though often caused by nature, disasters can have human origins.( http://www.ifrc.org/en/what-we-do/disastermanagement/about-disasters/what-is-a-disaster/)

### The role of CBR/CBID empowerment component in DiDRR CONTI...

There has to be a broader and a more peoplecentred

preventive approach to disaster risk. Disaster risk reduction practices need to be

- multi-hazard
- multisectoral
- inclusive
- accessible

### The role of CBR/CBID empowerment component in DiDRR CONTI...

 Through the Sendai Framework for DRR Governments are now called upon to engage with relevant stakeholders including persons with disabilities, in the design and implementation of policies, plans and standards

 Persons with disabilities are one of the most vulnerable groups when a disaster, emergency, or conflict situation strikes a community and there are several factors for this

 They may not have access to warning information, or advice on actions to take when a disaster occurs because they are not in accessible formats for them.

They may also have physical barriers preventing them from responding in the same way as non-disabled people such as:

 Persons with disabilities being unable to negotiate roads that are flooded,

- Persons with visual impairments being unable to travel to food distribution points without assistance in areas of food insecurity.
- Response and recovery efforts including shelters, camps, and food distribution rarely consider the needs of people with disabilities.

- The UN report that, persons with disabilities are more likely to be left behind or abandoned during evacuation in disasters and conflicts due to a lack of preparation and planning, as well as inaccessible facilities and services and transportation systems.
- They highlight that the majority of shelters and refugee camps are not accessible for persons with disabilities.

- Disruption to physical, social, economic, and environmental networks and support systems affect persons with disabilities to a greater extent than those without disabilities.
- Due to the need for restoration and limited resources and time available the recovery process normally leaves out disability related needs.

 The Charter on Inclusion of persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action was developed in advance of the World Humanitarian Summit (May 2016, Istanbul). The charter sets out five core principles required in order to make humanitarian actions more inclusive of persons with disabilities. These include:

- Ensuring non-discrimination
- Fostering participation of persons with disabilities
- Developing inclusive policies and guidelines
- Fostering an inclusive response and services
- Improving cooperation and coordination among humanitarian actors.

One of the components of CBID is empowerment. This component is more persons with disability centred.

#### **Elements of Empowerment**

Community mobilization. Community mobilization describes the process of bringing together stakeholders to raise awareness of, and demand for a particular programme, and to assist in delivery of resources and services and strengthen community participation for sustainability and self reliance.

**Political participation**. Political participation happens when people who are affected by an issue are at the centre of decision-making to change it. In this people use their power as citizens to take part in and shape the decisions that affect their lives.

Advocacy and communication. People communicate by talking and listening to others, and expressing their emotions and opinions. This, among many other reasons, connects them to their family and community. However, impairments of various sorts can hamper communication so a CBID programmes should play a role in improving the ability of persons with disabilities to express themselves and to engage others.

- Self-help groups. When persons with disabilities come together and form self-help groups, they provide each other with mutual support and address their needs. Through these, they also explore their individual strengths.
- Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (DPOs). A DPO is a formally structured grouping of people with disabilities, with office-bearers and with systematic ways of conducting its work.

- People with disabilities come together to form organizations to promote their interests.
- DPOs, as opposed to self-help groups, are engaged in a wide range of activities that include representation on policy-making bodies, advocacy and campaigning.

#### **Empowerment strategies for DiDRR**

• Awareness: Initiatives to raise awareness among persons with disabilities empowers them to aspire for change and to remove barriers to improve their situation in their families and society. The existing barriers facing persons with disabilities make them more vulnerable in cases of disaster.

- Persons with disabilities can work with CBID stakeholders to raise awareness to communities to eliminate such barriers.
- Communities should also be made aware of the need to adopt inclusive approaches for the benefit of PWDs before, during and after disasters.

#### **Information:**

- A key activity of CBID is information sharing. The most marginalized people have the least information about their situation and options available to them for change.
- Provision of information in appropriate and accessible formats can ensure that people are better equipped to know and demand their rights, and to make use of available opportunities.

 In provision of information persons with disabilities and CBID stakeholders should ensure that persons with disabilities have DRR information in accessible formats.

 The information may be on, prevention and preparedness, emergency response and recovery.

#### **Peer support:**

- Sharing information and experiences with others with common challenges is very powerful. Many people with disabilities feel isolated and helpless therefore peer support is extremely important.
- Self help groups and DPOs need to mainstream DRR in their day to day activities. Use of experiences of persons with disabilities affected by disaster would help in bringing life into peer support initiatives.

#### **Participation:**

- When people with disabilities participate and make contributions within their households and communities it leads to social recognition and is empowering to the individual.
- Evacuation drills should be conducted at family and community levels with significant contribution from persons with disabilities themselves. Ensure self representation of persons with disabilities in disaster related structures at all levels.

#### Alliances and partnerships:

- Collective action brings greater community ownership to issues – whether it is related to disability, a disability issue or a broader community issue.
- Need to establish a network of DPOs so as to ensure a unified voice on DRR. CBID stakeholders need to mainstream DRR in their programs and take persons with disabilities as an important resource on the subject. Persons with disabilities and CBID stakeholders should lobby with DRR actors to participate in CBID programs.

- Inclusion of persons with disabilities in Civil Protection Committees and other development committees.
- The Civil Protection Committees have records of persons with disabilities (where they live and the type of disability that they have)

- As an early response mechanism they use the local carriages so during the rainy seasons they already identify the local carriages and brief the owners to be prepared in case of any emergencies. They are also briefed on who should be prioritised e.g. persons with disabilities.
- During the rainy seasons persons with disabilities and the committees conduct regular meetings with the communities to brief them on being prepared in case of a disaster.

- Persons with disabilities are oriented on the evacuation routes to be used during disaster.
- Caution is taken to ensure that PwDs are evacuated together with their assistive devices.
- Use of family members has proved to be an effective way in passing on information on DRR to those with communication and information related disabilities.

- Persons with disabilities through the DDF have created links with the district disaster office to ensure disability inclusiveness in emergency responses.
- Family members have proved to be an important link in the evacuation of persons with disabilities during disasters.
- The use of the District Disability Forum and Area Disability Forum has helped in empowering persons with disabilities with DRR knowledge and information

#### CONCLUSION

 CBID can assist people with disabilities and their families to prepare for potential crises, ensure that the response and recovery strategies are inclusive, and link people to services and assistance provided through humanitarian channels.









# DDiRR is doing DRR in the right manner!!!!!!!

### Thank you