

Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery

Disaster Reduction Unit (DRU)



Project title:

Strengthening the implementation of the national disaster risk management (DRM) strategy in Madagascar

Project number:

XXXX

Estimated start date: 1/6/2005
Estimated end date: 1/6/2007
Implementing agency: UNDP
Total budget: 552,300 US\$
Beneficiary countries: Madagascar

General background:

Madagascar has one of the highest levels of disaster risk in the world: the island is affected by approximately one natural disaster a year. The country has few operational plans of action to cope with disasters and they tend to be reactive rather than preventive. Institutional structures and procedures which are adopted at the national level should foster more effective coordination and management of disasters; however, such measures need to be properly supported. Logistical and human resources to deal with disaster management are still under developed.

Project summary

This current project is part of UNDP's support towards the Malagasy Government to support the implementation of its poverty reduction strategy which in particular addresses the needs of those populations who have suffered from the combined effects of devastating natural disasters, and inappropriate response plans and means of recovery. It follows and builds on two previous UNDP projects which reinforced national and local DRM capacities, resulting in the finalization of the national DRM strategy. This current project aims to strengthen the implementation of this strategy through a series of coordinated DRM activities: at the regional level, the Malagasy authorities' capacities to implement its national DRM strategy will be enhanced, and at the community level, early warning and preparedness capacities will be improved.

Overall and specific objectives:

- To establish appropriate DRM institutional mechanisms;
- To strengthen long-term DRM capacities at national, regional and local levels;
- To set up an integrated food security and DRM information system;
- To develop long-term financial mechanisms;
- To integrate risk reduction into national planning, in particular into economic and development programmes;
- To develop regional and international cooperation.

Expected results:

- The legal implementation acts concerning Madagascar's DRM policy are finalised, adopted and implemented;
- The national DRM strategy is updated;
- The national DRM office is renewed and its capacities are strengthened;
- National DRM skills are developed through regular DRM training sessions; a comprehensive DRM information system is developed;
- Rapid emergency interventions take place thanks to better communication;
- A sustainable financing strategy is established;
- DRM plans are drawn up and implemented;
- DRM is integrated transversally into all sectoral programmes;
- Information-sharing and partnerships.

Activities:

- Ensure that the legal implementation acts for Madagascar's DRM policy are properly finalised;
- Devise certain local and regional DRM strategies; organise DRM workshops in 11 regions; carry out vulnerability reduction studies and present recommendations;
- Carry out a review of the structure, functioning and work procedures of the national DRM office;
- Devise a staff training and evaluation plan; carry out DRM training courses in 11 regions and update the information programme and train-the-trainers programme on a quarterly basis;
- Set up a computerized information network in the national DRM office, as well as information collection, analysis and sharing systems; set up a database, including information on food security;
- Evaluate existing disaster alert systems; acquire adequate alert communication resources; develop rapid damage evaluation methodologies; develop visual disaster prevention and mitigation communication tools;
- Identify different potential funding sources; analyse and draw up a medium to long-term funding strategy for the national DRM office;
- Create DRM plans for 11 regions and integrate them into regional and communal development plans; create simplified application documents;

- Develop and implement collaborative agreements with government agencies so that DRM is integrated transversally into all sectoral programmes and strategies;
- Research any regional or international DRM technical cooperation initiatives in Madagascar; actively coordinate and share information on DRM with other neighbouring countries with similar problems; participate in regional and international DRM fora/networks;
- Establish protocol agreements with international relief organisations; periodically produce information materials on DRM and natural disasters.

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