



PROJECT PROPOSAL

- Project Title** : **Regional Training Programme on Sustainable Rural Development and Disaster Management**
- Project Duration** : Two weeks
- Implementing Agency** : Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) in collaboration with the sponsoring agency
- Country Coverage** : Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Iran, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam
- Budget** : US \$ 63,650 approximately
- Venue** : To be decided
- Funding Agency** : To be identified

Background

The relationships between development strategies and existing and emergent disaster threats and their consequences have gained proper recognition. Although the effects of a range of climatological disasters upon the agricultural economies can readily be appreciated, there are other and sometimes subtle relationships under which development itself can increase the disaster threat to the people, their livelihoods and the environment upon which they are dependent.

These inter-relationships have been recognized in policy statements by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), G-7 nations, UK Overseas Development Administration

(ODA), and more recently by the Economic Union (EU). These policy statements, however, are yet to be fully translated into positive courses of action in many of the industrialised and developing countries. To become effective, they must be reflected in programmes of action at the country level in relation to both natural and man-made disasters.

In an agricultural economy, environmental management must begin and be practised at the field level in the same way that disaster preparedness and mitigation should begin and built up from the community level in both urban and rural environments.

The formulation of development policy is the responsibility of the governments and the implementation of such policies and projects remain the responsibility of the various echelons of the public service through local government officers. The same is true of environmental management, disaster preparedness and mitigation for disaster reduction. It is, therefore, necessary that the government officers should have a sound understanding of the relationships and interactions between development, environment and disaster threats. Sound guidelines are necessary if theory and policy are to be effectively reflected in responsibilities and practice.

The important role and responsibilities that the non-government organizations (NGOs) and the community itself can have in national development, environmental management and disaster reduction activities are now increasingly recognized. The lead role must, however, lie with the government if resources are to be mobilised, programmes initiated and the momentum maintained.

In this backdrop, it is proposed to organise a programme for national level policy makers and decision makers in a regional forum so that experiences and problems can be shared, examined and analyzed.

Objectives

The objectives of the training programme are to:

- a) examine the linkages between policy and practice in development, particularly in rural development, environmental management and disaster reduction in CIRDAP Member Countries (CMCs) and other countries and assist to establish linkages between these aspects;
- b) identify responsibilities within national governments, UN agencies, regional organizations, Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) and research and training institutes in order to improve environmental management, mitigate disaster effects and raise standards of disaster prevention and reduction within the context of rural development planning and management;
- c) examine training needs and resource requirements to ensure improved management and co-ordination between development and environmental management, counter-disaster planning and disaster reduction at the country level;

- d) delineate role of local government institutions in managing disaster and rural development.

Participants

The training will seek to bring together policy makers from various departments in the field of environmental management and disaster reduction of the CMCs and representatives of UN regional and national development organizations. The participation of the training programme will be at a senior level which will permit policy recommendations and commitment to actions or acceptance of follow-up responsibility.

Structure and Outline of Training Programmes' Modules

It is expected that the training , through discussions at the national levels by the senior decision makers, will encourage integration of those with responsibilities for development planning, environmental management and counter-disaster planning and management.

Professional inputs for the programme will be provided by resource papers and country level presentation on the themes and subjects mentioned below. The participants from the CMCs will present country pape. The presentations and discussions in the programme on different aspects of the subject will provide the opportunity for the identification of the common problems and the cross-fertilization and discussions on issues to be addressed.

Presentation of the papers will be followed by comments and discussions. As a follow-up, the participants will be divided into several working groups. The working groups will identify

specific problems of policy, co-ordination, management and the responsibilities within and between government departments, non-government organizations, the communities and others. The working group sessions will be followed by the plenary presentation and discussions of working group recommendations.

The following themes are suggested for country papers and working group examination:

- * relationships and interaction between development, environment and disaster and identification of the responsibilities of the governments;
- * project analysis
 - threat
 - vulnerability
 - environmental impact
- * technology in
 - mitigation
 - environment monitoring
 - disaster reduction
- * the community
 - public awareness and information programmes
 - roles and responsibilities
 - inducements and constraints
 - income generation and development
- * government
 - policy and planning
 - legislation
 - finance
 - training programmes
 - environmental monitoring
- * economics
 - costs/benefits of disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness
 - the economics of environmental management in development strategy

- * disaster effects - in small island communities in isolated areas, logistics and stock holding (disaster and development)

The examination of the above themes and subjects by the working groups will lead to a greater understanding and definition of:

- * responsibilities;
- * realistic objectives in action and management of programmes;
- * implementation action at country levels;
- * outline of training needs;
- * guidelines for action at national levels.

This will assist governments/NGOs in formulating programmes and lead to more effective development programmes, co-ordinated with the needs of environmental management, disaster reduction and mitigation. It is proposed that the Regional Training Programme should be followed by National Workshops in the CMCs, the first of which is planned to take place in Bangladesh.

Venue, Date and Duration

The venue of the training programme will be decided in consultation with sponsoring agency.

The duration of the training programme will be for two weeks. To ensure effective discussion on the training programme's topics including the country situations by the working groups, the presentation and discussion in the plenary sessions and the subsequent preparation of an agreed report will be undertaken during the period of the training programme.

Broad Coverage

- Relationships and interaction between government departments in development planning, environmental management and the disaster threat.
- Project analysis in the context of rural development and disaster reduction.
- Development and disaster reduction in small island states.
- Community involvement programmes through income generating activities targeting rural development and disaster reduction.
- Technology in disaster reduction planning.
- Environmental monitoring projects in rural areas of China.
- The economic aspects and considerations related to rural development and disaster reduction costs and benefits.

The training programme participants will be divided into six working groups. The working groups will analyze the issues arising out of country experiences and the resource papers presented in the training programme . The tentative topics/issues to be discussed by different working groups are as follows:

Group 1

Identification of the problems in defining responsibilities and allocating coordinating authority for:

- Rural development planning;
- Disaster reduction and environmental management;
- Disaster relief management;
- Integration of rehabilitation/resource the rural development process.

Group 2

Examination of the responsibilities for development planning at national and/or national levels and how this should be related to project analysis concerning:

- Impact analysis of development projects upon environment;
- Disaster threats associated with the projects.

Group 3

Appropriate mechanisms to influence political decisions concerning development by cost/benefit analysis of disaster reduction:

- In multi-sectoral economies;
- In rural development situations;
- In small independent nation states

Group 4

Mechanisms to effectively involve seasonal labour, the unemployed (young and old) and women in rural areas in disaster reduction and development through traditional income generating schemes (e.g. Food-for-Works programmes). Some of the critical issues for discussion include:

- What are the most useful projects?
- How can the community be involved and stimulated in the planning process?
- Who should identify schemes and projects?
- How should these be technically planned and managed?
- What roles the cooperatives should play?
- How should these be stimulated?

Group 5

The key issues for discussion include:

- What are appropriate sources of providing technological and scientific inputs to the Government?
- When and how are these inputs best brought into development and disaster reduction planning?
- Who should be the responsible authority for evaluating and managing these inputs?
- What are the possible sources of finance to realize these inputs?

Group 6

The topics for discussion involve:

- How can a culture of environmental management and conservation be created at appropriate levels within the Government, economic sectors as well as the community?
- How can environmental degradation be penalised and conservation effectively enforced?

Budget

	<u>US\$</u>
1. Travel cost of 20 participants from 14 CMCs	24,000
2. Travel cost of three resource persons	6,700
3. DSA for 25 participants @ US\$ 30 for 15 days (25xUS\$30x15).	11,250
4. Organising expenses	5,000
5. Preparation of training materials, stationeries and supplies etc.	4,000
6. Preparation, publication and distribution of training programme report	2,500
7. Contingency	4,500
8. CIRDAP Overhead (10%)	5,700
Total:	<u>US\$ 63,650</u>