

FINAL SET OF RECOMMENDATIONS

of the
Consultation on

Tsunami Recovery -
The past, the Present and the Future

held on 22nd & 23rd September 2006
at Chennai.

Housing and shelter and related infrastructure and Water and Sanitation

- Housing to be extended to tsunami-vulnerable
- Based on vulnerability mapping (200m should not be the criteria)
- Habitat planning as a pre-requisite.
- Insitu reconstruction should be allowed wherever occupant has patta / EB / ration card
- Retrofitting should be explored systematically prior to deciding whether reconstruction should be done.
- Identify "vulnerable" beneficiaries through a separate state-level agency

Housing to be extended to tsunami-vulnerable

- Government-managed Vs Owner-driven process – Two options should be explored further
- NGO to be urged to provide in the software / facilitatory support
- Cost should not be defined; it should be based on area and current market prices
- Alternative technologies should be explored.
- Transit / interim (with reusable, recyclable material) shelters should be provided or rental arrangements should be made.

Improved co-ordination through:

- Inter-departmental steering committee at the implementation level
- Single point co-ordination for clearances.

Expanding the scope of public-private partnership for other infrastructure and O&M

Temporary shelters management

- Improvement of existing temporary shelters should be done as these are really interim / transit shelters
- Stock piling of reusable material for temporary shelters for 1,000 families should be done at district level for dealing with future disasters

Sanitation

- Inappropriate NGO-constructed sanitation should be redone where necessary
- Campaign on an urgent basis for use and maintenance of toilets & related facilities
- Community involvement wherever feasible.
- Appropriate technology choice that has minimum O&M

Asset management

- Development of peripheral area by building community assets in order reduce conflict.
- Training the beneficiary for the use and maintenance of individual / community assets.

Health & Nutrition

Mainstreaming and expanding quality maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health services (life cycle approach):

- Operationalizing RTI/STI services and Cancer Cervix
- Consolidation of newborn care and IMNCI approaches
 - Extend multi staff model of ICDS
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Continue strengthening of facilities

- Equipping health & ICDS centres: personnel, equipment & untied funds
- Development and availability of service delivery guidelines e.g. acute trauma and poison treatment
- Provision of mobile health units for Emergency obstetric and newborn care

Capacity Building

- Initiate skills based training: maternal health, simulation training on disaster preparedness, mental health
- Ensure quality e.g. in trainings and programme monitoring
- Expand the resource pool of trainers e.g. IMNCI, Infant and Young child feeding, Adolescent Reproductive and Sexual Health

HIV / AIDS and Anti Trafficking

Monitoring of vulnerable groups through Village Level Watch Dog Committees (VLWDCs) under the (District Level Advisory Committee on Trafficking) DLAC – guidelines revisited and include HIV/AIDS issues and address capacity development of VLWDCS and line departments (short term).

Involvement of People Living with HIV/AIDS networks – in recovery efforts of livelihood, education, access to other services (medium term).

Inclusion of HIV/ AIDS and Trafficking issues into Disaster Risk Management module (long term)

Psychosocial support

Consolidation, dissemination, additional capacity building of Community Level Workers like ICDS etc and link the workers to ongoing programmes like District Mental Health Programs in TN.

Integration of Psychosocial Support into developmental Programmes.

A quality indicator to be built into Psychosocial Support programmes and institutionalized.

Other Infrastructure (roads, bridges and physical restoration of public buildings)

Harmonization of procurement procedures of multilateral agencies and aligning that to the state government procedures is necessary and multilateral agencies need to take a lead in this regard.

Contract registration system can have one more category, i.e. contractors who have the capacity to respond in emergency situations.

Evolving appropriate procedures for carrying out rescue, relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction in post disaster scenario without losing control and room for misappropriation shall be one of the key steps that government needs to take and be prepared.

Education

Having schools in all new permanent habitations – the design of all schools in coastal areas should be disaster resistant.

Capacity building of all teachers in Disaster Risk Management by periodical training and mock drills – Incorporation of disaster risk preparedness in curricular and co-curricular activities.

Introduction of innovative, flexible and child centered teaching learning process to reduce dropouts and long absenteeism using information and communication technologies.

Social Equity

A COMPREHENSIVE RELIEF CODE AND REHABILITATION POLICY TO BE FORMULATED WITH STRONG EQUITY AND RIGHTS PERSPECTIVE ALIGNED WITH INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED STANDARDS.

AN INDEPENDENT SOCIAL EQUITY FACILITATING/ MONITORING TEAM TO BE CONSTITUTED COMPRISING WOMEN, PWDs, HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANISATIONS AND PUBLIC AUTHORITIES. R&R DEPARTMENT IN COORDINATION WITH SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND APPROPRIATE INGOs / NGOs TO ORGANISE SOCIAL EQUITY AND RIGHTS BASED APPROACH TRAININGS FOR RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS SUCH AS

* NGOs WHO WILL CONTINUE TO WORK WITH THE AFFECTED PEOPLE

* RELEVANT GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT STAFF

* PANCHAYAT AND COMMUNITY BASED LEADERS

STATE SHALL CONTINUE TO RECOGNISE THAT 'COASTAL COMMUNITIES' HAVE RIGHTS OVER THE COAST AND CUSTOMARY RIGHTS TO SHELTER TO BE RECOGNISED AND RESPECTED UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES.

Disaster Risk Management / Emergency Preparedness

Plan:

Finalise and periodically update disaster management Plan (including regular targeted training and mock drills).

System:

Establish an accountable system for execution of disaster preparedness activities on a continuous basis from Panchayat to State level (within local body/Govt system).

Human Resource:

Establish a good understanding of DRM concepts among NGOs and suggest that they focus, among other things, training resource persons (trainers) as per the requirements

Child Protection

Monitoring and Tracking system for Children without Parental Care to be strengthened by the Existing Core group within TNTRC consisting of Social Defense/Welfare, UNICEF, Save the Children and ICCW

Strengthening Village Level Watch Dog Committees on all Child Protection issues through training – DOSD to bring together I/NGOs to support the process.

Strengthen the Juvenile Justice System in all Tsunami affected districts by appointing Child Welfare Committees and training them appropriately and link them up with Village Level Watch Dog Committees.

Environment

Restoration and afforestation efforts need to be better planned & monitored specifically with reference to the site identification, their ultimate purpose and the species chosen for planting.

Each Revenue Village must have detailed maps of all the coastal regulatory zones for public use including survey numbers.

Participatory systems need to be put in place to enable monitoring of all coastal issues such as industrial mining, Special Economic Zone (SEZ), tourism, including the enforcement of various policies/laws and regulations; in particular the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ).

For the conservation of ground water in coastal areas, pollution due to sanitation facilities & ground water extraction from 0-200 m should not be permitted.

Livelihood including fisheries related infrastructure

The ongoing tsunami recovery efforts should integrate future vulnerability factors future disaster mitigation including market chain analysis and sub sector analysis.

Scoping study of FAO, World Bank on Fisheries livelihoods can be taken as the initial reference to take forward the Fisheries Livelihood agenda. A task force of stakeholders could oversee the process with responsive interventions.

Programme design must focus on sustainable impacts with SMART indicators to measure, process, out put, outcome and impacts. Include targeting and community ownership process, critical for sustainable and replicable impacts. Programme design and management process must ensure community ownership. -with well informed choices of the community. Programme strategies must show potential for upscaling. Skill enhancement, facilitation of market linkages (backward and forward) should also be part of the design.

Coordination and Information

•Short term

–Legitimize the existing / new coordinating structures

–Undertake in depth sectoral stock taking

•Collate and collect all relevant documents, studies, data etc for wider circulation (i.e., start with agreed cross-cutting themes such as on women empowerment, NREGA, etc)

–Strengthen and create decentralized bodies (Panchayat) / Village Info Centre / Other Community based structures

•Financial and technical capacitating

–Initiate and strengthen micro level planning with relevance to social equity

–Detailed village level information to be available to all stakeholders.

•Long term

–Ensure last mile connectivity for disaster management