**Cameroon: GEADIRR. Festus and Aka**

At local level a community project has enabled a river to be cleared, preventing seasonal flooding of low-lying areas. This has led to strengthened partnership with local authorities.

At a broader level a group of CSOs have agreed to develop a plan to address traffic accidents, identified as one of the greatest threats facing the population.

At national level the need for a new DRR agency has been identified so that the threats faced by the population and revealed in Frontline can be more effectively addressed, compared with the current situation in which only substantial disasters receive national response.

***Questions****: Material from GEADIRR shows concerns for change at local scales. There have been some successes and some challenges. For example it seems that the CSO have even faced the possibility of litigation! What are the key barriers to progress, who can be influenced – and how – to achieve progress?*

**India: SEEDS. Shivaangi and Mausumi**

Reflecting the large impact of many small scale everyday disaster in urban Delhi, there is a focus on addressing the effects of poor drainage, waste, bad building and social safety and security. These many small factors tend to accumulate, magnifying the effects of larger scale shocks. The complex and layered nature of government means there is no coordinated response. A Citizen Forum in East Delhi; “PDAP- Purvi Delhi Aapda Prehri” – East Delhi Disaster Vigilante” has been established as a multi-stakeholder group with representatives from Resident Welfare Associations, Market Associations, Local CBOs, Women groups and local leaders. It aims to link citizens to authorities, giving them voice, increasing awareness and mounting campaigns to press for risk reduction measures.

***Questions****: There are many different people influencing the safety of the city including residents themselves, small traders, businesses, builders, community associations, local government, local authorities and others. In what way are they influencing the safety of the city for better or for worse? For example do builders cut corners to increase profits? Are local government concerned for the safety of the citizens? Are residents adding to the problem by careless disposal of waste? In what ways can these different people be influenced?*

**Indonesia: YEU. Hepi**

The Frontline survey revealed that crop failure is a major threat for rural communities. However crop failure is not reflected In national statistics as they only look at reduction in total harvest for a district, ignoring the failures suffered by many small farmers. Local perception is that climate change is affecting famers and also leading to increased pest attack. The case study will show how local evidence differs from government estimates and how people at community level can address their problems through climate adaptive organic farming

***Questions****: What scope is there to address the government perception of agricultural challenges? Can people be persuaded of the value and relevance of local knowledge? Could other climate related data be accessed to strengthen understanding? Where does the resistance to change come from? If this change proves effective, what other actions might be considered?*

**Kenya: AFOSC. Mohammed**

Mandera county is in the very north-western tip of Kenya, bordering Somalia and Ethiopia. Conflict is a major threat in the area. The population hope fore external intervention, but local politics tends to mean that elected officials do not have the interests of local people at heart. Elections are on clan lines, and people often vote for people who do not represent their own local area. As well as conflict recurrent drought impacts the population. The CSO is attempting to build community cohesion to address the challenges people face.

***Questions****: The underlying challenge seems to be insecurity and lack of ability to influence the local politics because of the political structure and clan relationships. What could be done to make a difference here. Who can be influenced? How? (Many different people are described affecting the locality: Youth and women groups; community members and the local village administrators. Council of elders, sheikhs and Imam (religious leaders). Ethnic groups. Elected officials. central and local authorities. Area chief. Teachers. Governor. Elected political representatives (one Area Member of Parliament and 5 Members of County Assembly).*

**Kiribati: KSPI. Ruiti**

Marekei island is facing many losses as a result of climate change. There is a lack of fresh water as wells are contaminated. The traditional crops such as breadfruit and coconut are failing. Even fishing is being affected by ciguatera making some fish unsafe to eat, and the land and homes of the people are under threat from erosion. The community level programme here has started with improving water supplies and promoting home gardens. Beyond this broader objectives are to increase influence on, and access to information from external organisations including government, private sector, NGOs etc. New income generating opportunities are needed to make the communities sustainable.

***Questions****: How can the communities increase their ‘voice’ and forge relationships with external organisations and authorities? How can they access financial support and create income generating opportunities. Who has an influence on change and progress? Who is holding it back?*

**Nepal: NSET. Nisha and Khadga**

As well as the huge impact of the Gorkha earthquake, NSET have been promoting community level activities which reduce the impact of earthquakes and also of another everyday disaster – fire. Their programmes of work include; the use of social mobilisers to increase transfer of knowledge and understanding leading to better quality reconstruction; establishment of mason’s associations to train builders in better techniques and to use them as a means of monitoring building practices; mobilising womens’ groups to undertake non-structural mitigation measures by fixing cupboards and other structures to reduce the hazard from them falling during an earthquake (there was initial resistance to the idea of women using tools such as drills and hammers!); and community level fire awareness and training to reduce the impact of fires in dense urban neighbourhoods. In this work at local level they are addressing the impacts of over-development and badly managed development which lead to increased hazard from unsafe buildings and structures and from the spread of fire.

***Questions****: What are the challenges in mobilising people at community level. What resistance is found, for example from landlords. One report notes a lack of local government, is this a general problem? What scope is there to address lack of governance, lack of planning, and lack of management of building practices?*

**Nigeria: CDRCR. Amusat**

Gbekuba community identifies flooding as its greatest threat. The low lying land floods frequently and occasionally there is a really powerful flood. Clogging of the rivers and of other watercourses amplify this problem. The challenges faced by CDRCR in mobilising the community included effective communication, stimulating community motivation and securing support from local government. The work which has been done to clear the river, clear waste and improve drainage channels has improved the situation. The location of this community, and poor planning and management in the area mean this is likely to be a continuing problem

***Questions****: Why is it difficult to mobilise the community and what steps can be taken to do this? What other barriers are faced? What can be done to increase the involvement of local government? What else can be done to improve peoples’s livelihoods and security in this locality?*

**Pakistan**: Pattan Development Organisation. Sarwar

The community at Basti Rindan, on the banks of the Indus river, participated in an AFL case study in 2014. At that time the severest challenge facing them was river erosion, which had already taken about 90% of their land. Since that case study the community has had to abandon their lands completely and has scattered. Now Pattan is considering what, if anything, can be done to restore the community. In a previous case they were successful in doing so.

***Questions****: What are the challenges to dealing with the different people involved, including landowners, government, the village members themselves and the NGO. What could be done, and what are the barriers to action?*

**Phillipines: CDP. Grace.**

Gigantes islands are particularly exposed due to their offshore location, and as well as the threat from climate driven events social factors including poverty and limited social cohesion between the barangays lead to other threats, from illegal fishing for example. The case study is of the formation of the Island Sustainable Development Alliance, which has linked a number of organisations – CSOs and local government – to coordinate activities under a ‘convergence strategy’ taking account of the many different environmental, social and economic challenges faced in this locality. This ‘resilience’ approach was also stimulated by the Frontline survey work revealing the impact of diverse small scale everyday disasters. Activities included increasing food security, strengthening local governance, building ip local capacity, installing water supplies, and reforesting mangrove flood defences. There are further challenges to be faced as the level of poverty in the area is high and developing sustainable livelihoods is difficult. Also the wide range of organisations don’t naturally work together effectively. Overall the establishment of the alliance has already shown major benefits.

***Questions****: What will the future work of the Alliance entail? What are the constraints to further work? How can underlying issues such as poverty be addressed?*

**Vietnam: DWF. Guillaume**

DWF has wide experience in developing and promoting safe building practices contextualised to local areas. Alongside this it has increasingly recognised the value of horizontal networking as a means of sharing knowledge between different localities, outlined in a case study for UNISDR in 2010, highlighting the role of the commune local government network. This approach was also employed with three communes in three provinces in the AFL project in 2014, and DWF has a plan to develop a network between communities living on and near the canals of Ho Chi Minh city who are very vulnerable to floods.

***Questions****: Given Vietnam’s vertical political system what are the barriers to promoting horizontal networking and learning? How can these be addressed? What means of communication can be used between localities? What benefits have been seen where this networking has been achieved? What steps can be taken to move the Ho Chi Minh city project forward?*