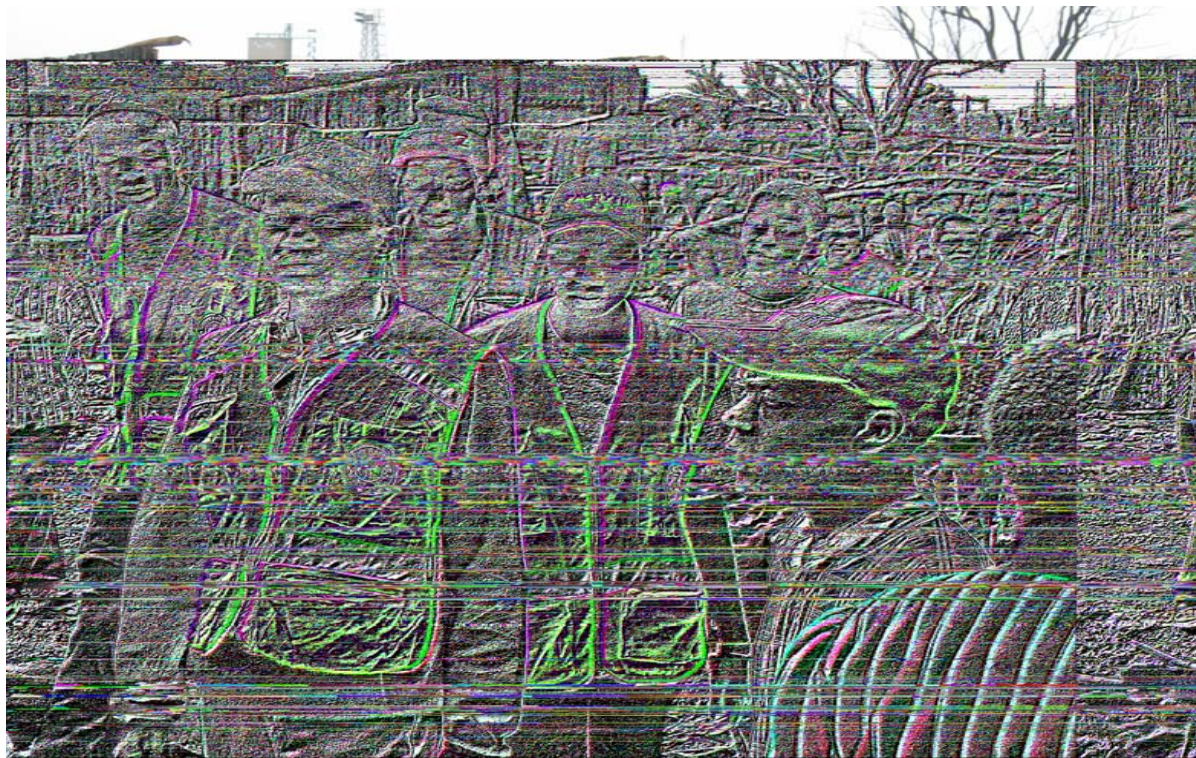


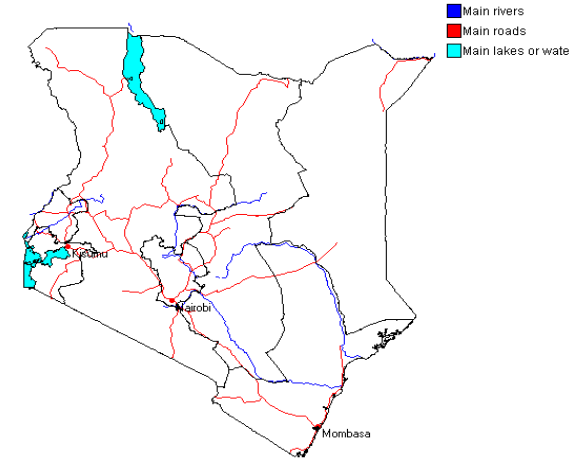


BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE THROUGH DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE





Disaster preparedness begins at home



Effective disaster response and sound use of donors' money are "primarily dependent upon good disaster preparedness. All disasters are first tackled at the local level by local organisations. International response is built upon those local efforts".

World Disasters Report 1993



Kenya: resilience to drought & disease

- In 2000, Kenya suffered worse drought for 37 years – 4 million affected by famine
- Kenya Red Cross targeted Machakos District – where over 50% lived in absolute poverty
- Community-based programme's priority: strengthening capacities of poorest women-headed households
- Drought prevention, coping & recovery through introduction of drought resistant crops, drilling of boreholes, establishment of local water committees & revolving fund
- Health education (incl. malaria and HIV/AIDS prevention) through RC volunteers
- **Lesson:** resilience must be multi-dimensional, addressing different hazards simultaneously





Disaster preparedness

Achievements

- Gradual trust in weather forecasts and early warnings
- Building on national and local knowledge and national and local structures
- Simple mitigation and other risk reduction measures at village level raises awareness and increases resilience
- Red Cross/Crescent disaster plan part of government plan
- Disaster committees composed of government, non-government, national and international agencies with partners at all levels - national, provincial, district, municipal level
- Risk reduction included in disaster plan and development
- Training of Disaster Management Teams at local level
- Traditional early Warning systems



Challenges

- Level of Poverty
- Modern early warning system-appropriate technology
- Inequity in distribution of resources
- Illiteracy
- Frequency and Magnitude of Disasters
- Extreme weather conditions
- Insecurity



Disaster preparedness

RCRC National Societies

More than 120 National Societies have disaster preparedness programmes.

- Network of local branches
- Organisation, structures, systems
- Trained staff and volunteers
- Local first aid and rescue teams
- Early warning safety awareness raising and education
- Policies and guidelines, codes of conduct and standards (Sphere)
- Preagreements, contingency planning, assets

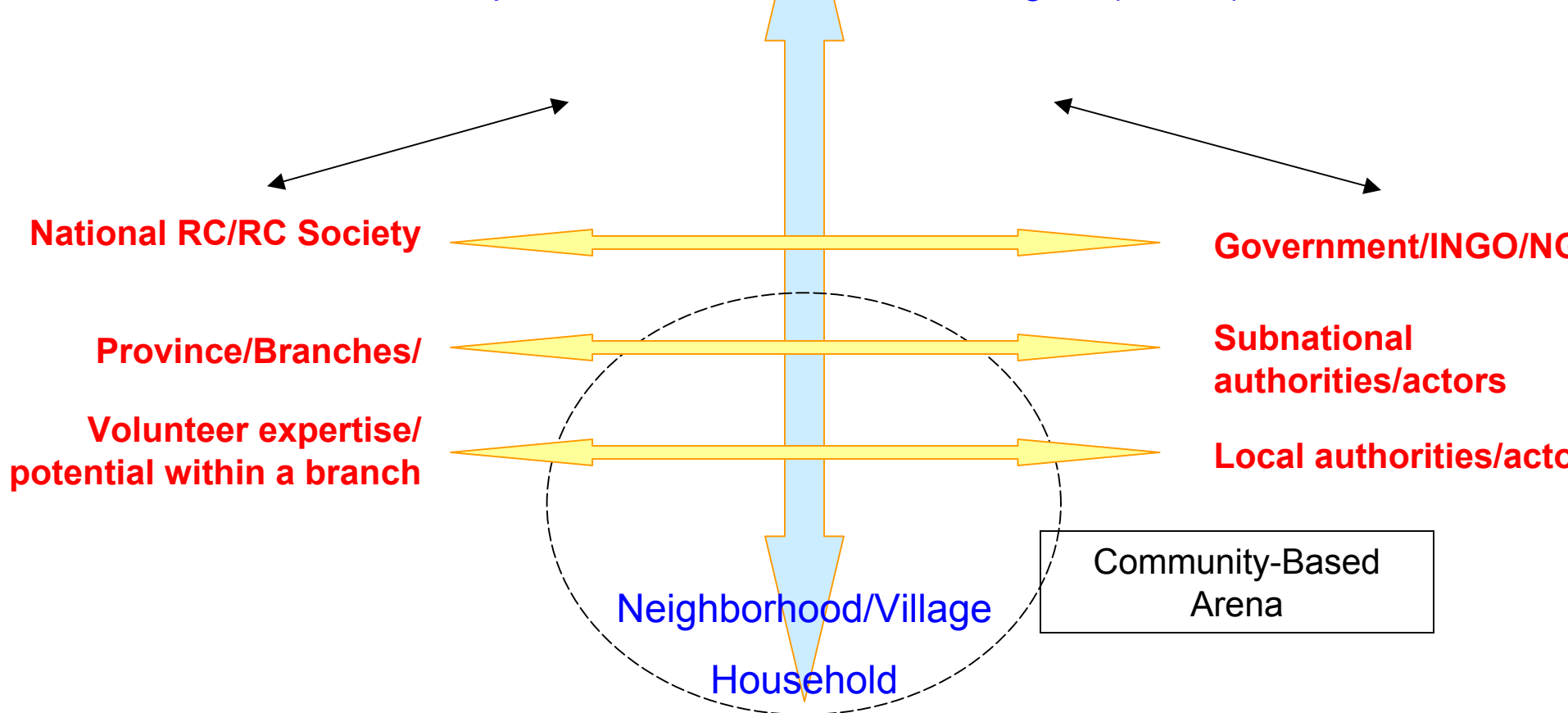


Disaster preparedness

‘From Local to Global’

Group of Countries – Global DM Tools (ERU, FACT)

Groups of National Societies in a region (RDRT)







Community-based DP

A simplified process:

- Community Action Team creation and training
- Risk and resource mapping (or Vulnerability and Capacity assessment)
- Community preparedness and mitigation projects
- Awareness raising, education and training
- Relief stocks, revolving fund and other sustainability issues
- Can be integrated with health, HIV/AIDS, Food Security, Institutional Development



Recommendations

- Governments and international organisations commit resources to Community Based Organisations(CBO) to enhance resilience through DPR at the community level
- Improve ability of Individuals and Communities to cope with hazards through promotion of the Community Based Disaster Management Committees
- To scale up community response by creating partnership with governments, local, National, International in advocating for changes in policy and practice at all levels

