


# World Disasters Report

Focus on community resilience

2004

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 International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

# Focus on community resilience

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*Supporting community resilience is the key to reducing the impacts of disaster*

*3 key characteristics: capacity to –*

- Cope with the impacts of disaster
- Recover from disaster and ‘bounce back’
- Adapt to cope better with future risks



# Why support communities?

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- Local people first to help: Tsunami, Bam, Turkey, Bangladesh
- Evidence shows top-down, donor-driven interventions less effective
- People at risk may be poorly protected by their own governments
- Community-led approaches are more likely to be self-sustaining when donors leave
- Communities possess vital local knowledge to create long-lasting solutions to complex disasters
- Cost-effective

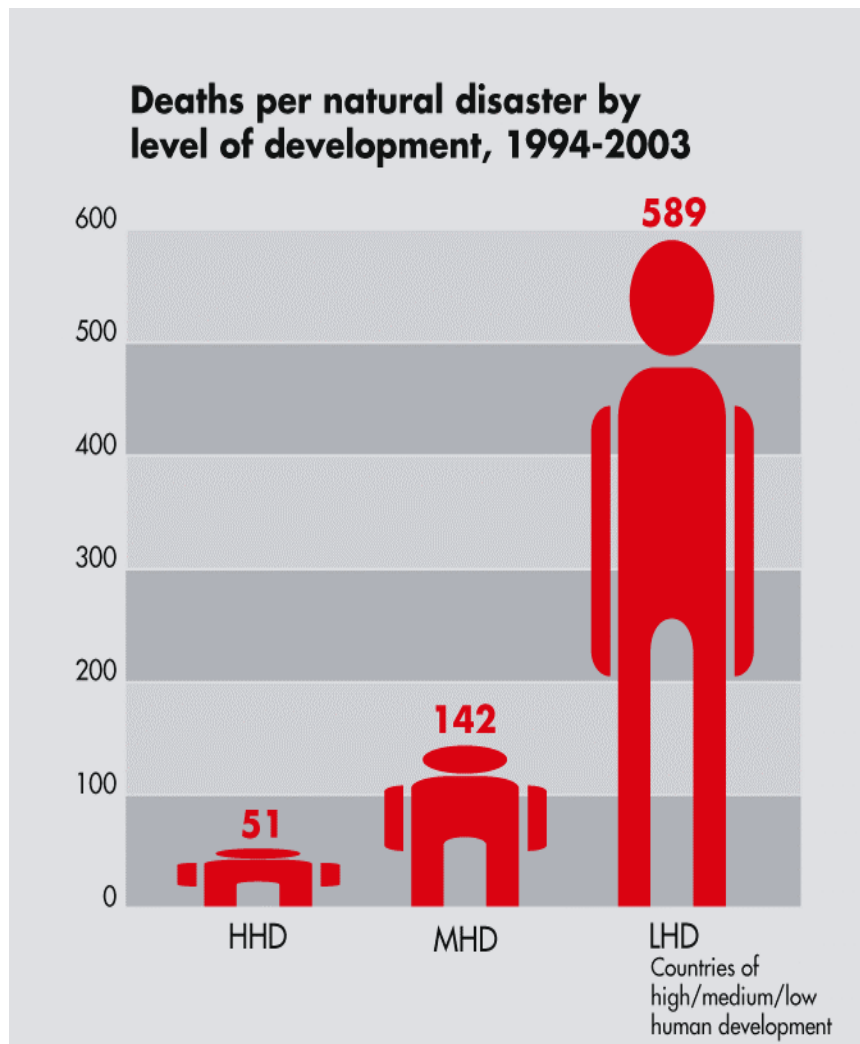
# Community resilience: success factors

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- Building on the knowledge, capacities and priorities of people at risk
- Women taking a leadership role
- Spreading public awareness of disasters
- Long-term approach to supporting community-led initiatives
- Scaling up local successes through wider coalitions
- Developmental approach – supporting livelihoods

# Development improves resilience

- 51 deaths/‘natural’ disaster in HHD countries
- 589 deaths/disaster in LHD countries
- Developmental approach to disaster management – sustainable livelihoods & community participation



# Presentation of case studies

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- 6 case studies of successful community resilience from around the world, featuring initiatives by local Red Cross & Red Crescent societies, NGOs and civil society groups
- Bangladesh: Obaidur Rahman (Bangladesh Red Crescent)
- France: Judith Bourgeois (French Red Cross)
- Honduras: Suzanne Shende (Garifuna/Huairou/GROOTS)
- India: Satheesh Periyapatna (Deccan Development Society)
- Philippines: Danilo Atienza (Philippines Red Cross)
- Viet Nam: Ha Ngyuen Hung (Viet Nam Red Cross)
- Facilitator: Jonathan Walter, Editor, World Disasters Report

# What next?

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- How can *your* governments and international organizations help enhance communities' resilience to disaster?
- Come up with a list of 5-10 key action points for national and international action
- Discuss the key action points in break-out groups



