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Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainable Development: Relevance for TFCAs

Prof. Dewald van Niekerk
Director: African Centre for Disaster Studies
North-West University
Potchefstroom Campus



Scope

1. What is disaster risk reduction (DRR)?
2. Mainstreaming DRR.
3. Benefits of DRR in sustainable development.
4. DRR and TFCAs.



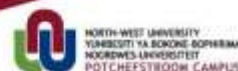
What is DRR?

- DRR developed out of numerous disciplinary focuses on disasters/hazards and their impacts.
 - Response side (disaster and emergency management).
 - Understanding underlying causes (sciences).



Defining DRR

- The concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through systematic efforts to:
 - analyse and manage the causal factors of disasters,
 - reduce exposure to hazards,
 - lessen vulnerability of people and property,
 - ensure wise management of land and the environment, and
 - improve preparedness for adverse events.
 - (sustainable development context)



Mainstreaming DRR

- Direct and conscientious integration of DRR measures into sectoral activities.
 - Policy.
 - Strategy.
 - Geographical planning.
 - Project cycle management.
 - External relations.
 - Institutional capacity.

(La Trobe & Davies, 2005)



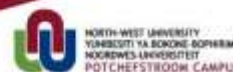
Mainstreaming DRR

- Main sectors for consideration:
 - Poverty reduction (PRSPs).
 - Agriculture and rural development.
 - Environmental management.
 - Water (and natural) resource management.
 - Land use planning.
 - Infrastructure development.
 - Gender issues.
 - HIV/AIDS and other health issues (animal, plant and human).
 - Climate change adaptation.



How can this be achieved?

- Trans-disciplinary focus
 - Move from “Mode 1” to “Mode 2” knowledge
 - Mode 1 = traditional discipline knowledge.
 - Mode 2 = new, radical, unconventional, fast changing and context specific knowledge.
 - e.g. bringing together non-traditional knowledge creators.
 - problem solving does not only lay in disciplines.
 - Modern changing, and traditional societies need relevant knowledge.
 - Disaster risk as we understand it is in constant flux and impacts on all sectors of society.
 - There is nothing like a natural disaster!



Benefits of DRR in sustainable development

- DRR is the insurance policy for development.
- DRR can minimise, reduce or eliminate loss of development gains due to disasters.
- Integrated DRR can safeguard our long term development.
- Rerouting of scarce development funds once disaster strikes (international development aid - e.g. Haiti).
- Every US\$1 invested in DRR saves US\$8 in disaster response and recovery.



Benefits of DRR in sustainable development

- Direct community involvement and ownership (so called CBDRR - CBNRM?).
- Considering DRR in project cycle management does not cost more.
- Challenge traditional “thinking” of development.
- Broadens the development “picture”.
- Creates a common “aggressor” which all sectors can understand.
- Gets people talking!



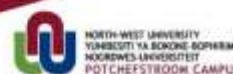
DRR and TFCAs

- TFCAs as micro-cosmos and contained “units”.
- Complex disaster risk profile due to its nature and geographical extent.
- Who takes ownership of disaster risk?
- Outside impacts on TFCAs.
- Impact of TFCAs on the outside.
- Economic, social, environmental, physical and political impacts of disasters on TFCAs.



Key questions to be asked

- To what extent does TFCAs reduce the possibility of disasters occurring?
 - Vulnerability reduction
 - Resilience and capacity building
 - Enhancing livelihoods
- To what extent does TFCAs increase the possibility of disasters?
 - Poor planning and understanding?
 - Poor management?
 - Lack of leadership and ownership?



So what should we do?

- DRR must become an inherent part of the management of TFCAs.
- The disaster risk profiles of TFCAs must inform its management and future planning.
- DRR is a new lens through which we need to view our reality.
- Should become a constant focus of all disciplines and sectors.
- All stand to gain, but all stand to lose as well.





Thank You

