

Recognition for community Maps in Tamil Nadu & Andhra Pradesh

NOTABLE QUOTES

We are facing difficulty in locating the low lying areas and resources within the other villages but it is easy for us to locate all these in CBDRR program villages because of wall paintings “

Mr.Harinath,

Mandal Revenue Officer on his visit to a CBDRR village

“We would appreciate it if the Indian Red Cross can assist us in duplicating this concept in other villages”

Mrs. Naga

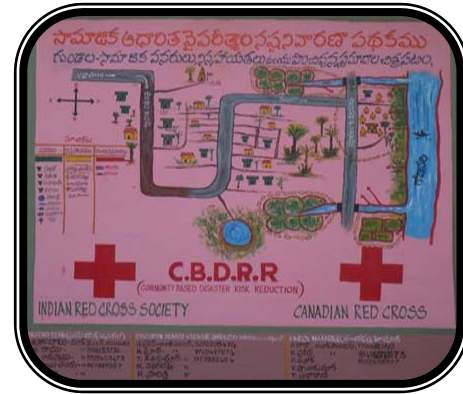
Lakshammamma,

Dy.Thasildhar



When, Additional Joint Collector Mr.B. Nageswara Rao & Mandal Revenue Officer Mrs.P.Padmavathi visited Barripeta Village in Vizianagaram district of Andhra Pradesh on 27th Nov 2013 to supervise the evacuation process for Cyclone ‘Leher’, they could not help but praise the Community Map put up as a wall painting under the IRCS CBDRR program. “With the support of this map even any outsider can easily understand the village vulnerabilities, hazards and recourses”, was what they felt.

Similar was the case in West Godavari district where during the government led evacuations for cyclone ‘Helen’ on 21st November 2013 in Vemuladevi East Village, Mr.Nagarjuna Sagar, Zilla Parishad CEO called upon the District Field Officer at midnight to congratulate her on the relevance of these community maps. He made it a point to mention that the Map really helped them in easily locating the low lying areas for quick evacuations.



Community map or vulnerability and hazard map is an important component of the Community based disaster risk reduction activities being implemented in the village communities of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu post Tsunami through the Indian Red Cross Society with support from the Canadian Red Cross.



All community maps are prepared by the community members themselves right from the basic designing and painting it on the wall. With information from members of the community and relying on precedence from past disasters, clear indication is given about low lying and vulnerable areas, evacuation routes and vulnerable population that are prone to the calamity.

During the evacuations for the cyclone Leher & Helen, in November 2013, the NDRF (National Disaster Response Force) teams operated under the guidance of the CBDRR & District Disaster Response Team members. The Community Contingency Plans and the Community Maps became the main source for evacuation process.

Community Maps allow for improved communication about risks and what is threatened. They are visual presentations and help in better understanding of the risks and vulnerabilities. They are most useful for potential responders to decide on mitigating measures to prevent or reduce loss of life, injury and environmental consequences before a disaster occurs. Community Maps find purpose in all phases of disaster management: Prevention, mitigation, preparedness, operations, relief, recovery and lessons learned.

