

Child Oriented Participatory Risk Assessment and Planning (COPRAP): a toolkit

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Organisation

The Centre for Disaster Preparedness (CDP) is a resource centre that works with non-governmental organizations, people's organizations, communities, and government agencies to enhance their capacities in disaster preparedness, mitigation, emergency response and recovery. Through training, research, advocacy, program design and evaluation, and facilitation of interactive learning on disaster management, CDP fosters the vision to build safe, disaster resilient and developed communities. This publication was developed in partnership with CDP, Buklod TAO, Center for Positive Future, and the Banaba Barangay and was funded through the Provention applied research grants programme for disaster risk reduction in South, Southeast and East Asia Rounds I and II (2003-2006).

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Abstract

During disasters, children are physically and emotionally affected: school is often suspended and children are left to “learn” on their own, their limited play areas are further reduced due to flooding or debris, and often older children are charged with providing care to younger siblings. To address the needs of children by incorporating their voice in assessments, a group of young researchers tested the tools used in the COPRAP hazard vulnerability capacity assessment (HVCA) in Barangay Banaba, San Mateo, Rizal, Philippines. The result

is a step-by-step toolkit of participatory risk assessment tools to identify the need, capacities and vulnerabilities of children aged 7-17 years and design appropriate disaster planning. Participatory tools in this publication include drawing, using clay as a model, or mapping dangers, hazards and resources in the community; identifying needs and conditions before, during and after a flood or storm; prioritizing problems and solutions; advocating to district leaders, local government units, NGOs, parents and youth; and involving adults to discuss livelihood, community organizations, establish a disaster timeline and do hazard and risk mapping.

Intended end users

The COPRAP framework and tools have been used in the CDP's disaster risk reduction work with Dagupan City in the Program for Hydro-meteorological Mitigation in Secondary Cities in Asia. It has also been used in child focused disaster risk management training International-Philippines in Southern Leyte and Child Fund Japan-Philippines Office.

The COPRAP publication does not specify the intended end user. However, this would be useful for: **Community Development Workers, Local Government, Municipal and District Governments, and NGOs.**

Geographical focus

This document was developed for Barangay Banaba, San Mateo, Rizal, Philippines, but could have global application for hazard vulnerability capacity assessments (HVCA) with children and adult community members in urban, peri-urban and rural areas. It can be used for **community, district** and city level assessments. The authors note that the COPRAP materials, procedures, and methods can be changed depending on culture, particular contexts and other factors to suit the local context.

Please note, a barangay is the Filipino equivalent to a community.

Type of Material

This publication is a **step-by-step** manual outlining 12 tools that can be used for participatory risk assessments with the community including tools for children aged 7-17 years and adults. The objective, material, and step-by-step procedure for each of the 12 tools is outlined as well as the overall objectives and helpful pointers in conducting a participatory assessment with children.

Language

This manual is written in English and Tagalog.

Scale of assessment

The focus of the assessment is on the **community** level in an urban setting although could also be useful in a rural or peri-urban setting.

Type of assessment

The COPRAP publication largely follows a **Hazard Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (HVCA)** and **Participatory Disaster Risk Assessment (PDRA)** methodology using participatory

learning and action (PLA) techniques. The objective is to assess the risks, strengths and weaknesses of children and the community and to plan based on the results of the participatory assessment.

Analytical methods

The name of the tool presented in the publication is indicated below; the analytical method according to the ProVention CRA Toolkit is included in parentheses in bold.

General Assessment methods include:

- ◆ Safe and Dangerous Place; Dangerous Things (**Hazard Analysis**)
- ◆ Understanding Livelihoods in our Place (**Livelihood Analysis**)
- ◆ Make Me a Picture Of...; My Need Before, During And After The Typhoon And Flood (**Needs Assessment**)
- ◆ **Participatory Learning and Action (PLA)**
- ◆ The Organizations In Our Place (**Social and Institutional Networking Analysis**)

Tools

The publication describes in detail the sequence of steps required to successfully carry out participatory community level HVCA.

The participatory tools include:

- ◆ **Community Mapping**
- ◆ **Hazard and Resource Mapping**
- ◆ **Hazard Mapping**
- ◆ Suggested Solutions - brainstorming on solutions to problems
- ◆ Suggestions To Those In Authority- advocacy to parents, leadership, barangay, community, NGO or fellow youth or children.
- ◆ Disaster **Timeline**
- ◆ Top 5 problems- when there is a flood and when there is none
- ◆ The Organizations In Our Place (**Venn Diagram**)

Notes on methods

- ◆ The researchers who designed the study emphasised that children play an important role before, during and after a disaster
- ◆ As part of the activities to move from assessment to action planning, a tool included in the publication is “Suggestions to those in authority” and guides the user on youth advocacy

Case studies / practical examples

This publication does not contain case studies but does provide practical pointers, objectives, and procedures to use the HVCA tools with children. There is page of photographs depicting the “risk reduction solutions and actions as a result of COPRAP”. Examples include developing swimming skills in children and doing drills, and tarpaulins displaying disaster risk messages for the community.

Resource people

For more information, contact Mayfourth Delica Luneta, Senior Program Officer and Community Based Disaster Risk Manager (CBDRM) trainer and consultant with Centre for Disaster Preparedness (CDP) at: fiftyfourthluneta@yahoo.com or the CDP at cdp@info.com.ph.

Author of guidance note

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