

Red Cross Society in Country X

Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment

Community: Community A

May 2006

Foreword:

The contents of this VCA are based on the real-life experiences of a national society. In order to protect the community, identifiers that name the community and country have been removed.

Introduction:

The following information developed by the Red Cross Society in Country X (XRCS) is the result of volunteers and staff conducting a Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA) “Learning by Doing¹” exercise promoted by the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. The information below represents the collection of data gathered directly from the community in different phases using different techniques.

The participation of the community in providing data, validating it and improving the quality of the information gathered was significant. The consultation to the communities was possible through different methods, such as focus groups with elderly, women, young adults, children and males. Participatory assessment tools were utilized as part of the activities with the communities and triangulation techniques were developed to verify the data collected.

The VCA implemented by the XRCS concentrated on four small community villages in the Northern Highlands area of the country and aimed to offer to the national society the opportunity to better understand community needs and, jointly with the communities, identify potential solutions based on existing capacities and skills.

The VCA took place in a country that according to the “Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper” of the government: “The poor constitute about 66% of the population, of which 37% are extremely poor-living below the food poverty threshold. About 67% of the poor live in rural areas of which 39% are extremely poor”.

In recent history, Country X has been severely affected by the border conflict with its neighboring country. This is compounded by the worst ever drought after independence, the poor rainfall in the past years which has affected crop production, challenges to improve health and nutrition conditions, and access to education, potable water, and sanitation.

¹ ‘Learning-by-Doing’ differs from traditional VCA methodology in that the processes of learning, action and reflection are integrated and foster transformative learning. Both successful training and the implementation of an actual VCA are carried out at the same time thereby achieving two outcomes: (1) RC/RC National Society staff and volunteers become competent in VCA and, (2) a real-time VCA is carried out, leading to project development and action in the community.

Direct Observation:

Village A is a small village located near the capital of Country X. Like many other communities, this small village is severely affected by deforestation, poor rainfall and severe drought compounded by poverty. These conditions have increased due to war with the neighboring country. After a period of seven years of peace, these two countries experienced two more years of war, which have had a serious impact on the countries economies, natural resources and access to basic needs.

To reach Village A takes approximately 30 minutes along the road that connects the capital city with the region. The village is located 4 kilometers from the main road in a roadway that could be described as rocky, hilly and dusty. It takes approximately 7 minutes by car to reach the hillside of Village A from the highway.

According to the community leaders, the population of Village A is about 205 families, which totals approximately 930 family members. The populations is distributed as follows:

From 1 to 5 years old = 180 persons	Female 510
From 6 to 15 years old = 230 persons	Male 410
From 16 to 50 years old = 350 persons	
From 51 above years old = 150 persons	

Approximately 95% of the community members live depend on farming. The shortage of rain is notorious in the farming areas, affecting the conditions of the dry land, access to water and the impact on community members' capacities to deal with their basic needs. The villagers' capacity to organize and gather to implement community activities for the benefit of them all seems to be one of the main strengths. Different planned celebrations and community activities allow them to improve existing capacities every year. Additionally, the local administration authority normally promotes a monthly meeting with community leaders.

The type of infrastructure of the houses varies from household-to-household. Most of the houses are made of mud-bricks, stones, dry woods, dry grass and soil. The roofs are made of wood, mud and dry grass. The type of construction is traditional for the region. A few other houses, or so called "modern houses", are made of bricks and roofs cover with corrugate materials.

The houses are built with no basic underground foundation and have different types of roof materials: 1. zinc sheets, 2. wood covered with dry grass. Those houses with laminated zinc roofs lack of roof straps to resist heavy winds. Household have also utilized stones on top of the roof, to avoid them flying away. The 205 houses lack adequate floor conditions or basin structure to manage garbage.

The nearest electricity facility is about four kilometers from the village and the only access to electricity within Village A is at the Church that uses a power generator.

The village has poor sanitation infrastructure. There are also poor health conditions due to the accumulation of garbage, the significant amount of dust, the lack of access to water from near sources and defecation in open areas.

Women walk every day to the nearest water sources located 7 kilometers away from the village. This takes them approximately two hours to walk with the support of donkeys to carry jerry cans with capacities of 50 liters of water. While the women bring water to their home on regular basis, the men work on the farm and small children take care of the even smaller children.

Health access is not available at the community; the nearest health centre is located two hours walking distance. Due to the poor road access, the means of transportation in the case of health emergencies is by using donkeys or bicycles. The lack of access to health is a problem that is well known by the community members. Pregnant women receive support from a traditionally trained birth attendant.

Village A, as in many other similar cases, gives special importance to those traditions that have been handed down from generation-to-generation. The most well known of these is the spiritual belief with regards to the use of the holy water to cure people affected by health problems and most specially to cure paralysis health problems. The holy water is located approximately 4 km from the village in a narrow river that normally flows between the months of September to November.

The only church in the village is located on one of the three surrounding hillsides. The church is an impressive structure made of rocks and has the capacity to host to a significant number of people every Sunday. The structure of the church in relation to the poor infrastructure of the surrounding houses is plain to the attention of any visitor.

Village A has a primary school with the capacity to host 300 students. The community members, with the support of the local authorities, constructed the school in 1983. Approximately 130 young adults of the village walk for about one hour each way to a neighboring village to access to the only secondary school.

The village lacks a community kindergarten which results in a number of young children wandering around the village with younger children on their back.

There are different level of capacities within the village however social interaction and levels of organization are high. Elementary schools, smokeless stoves, water harvesting system techniques and practices, domestical animals (in this kind of villages, domestic animals include cattle, donkeys, goats, sheep, dogs, hens and cats), containers used to store pond water, natural vegetation and huge amount of rocky areas.

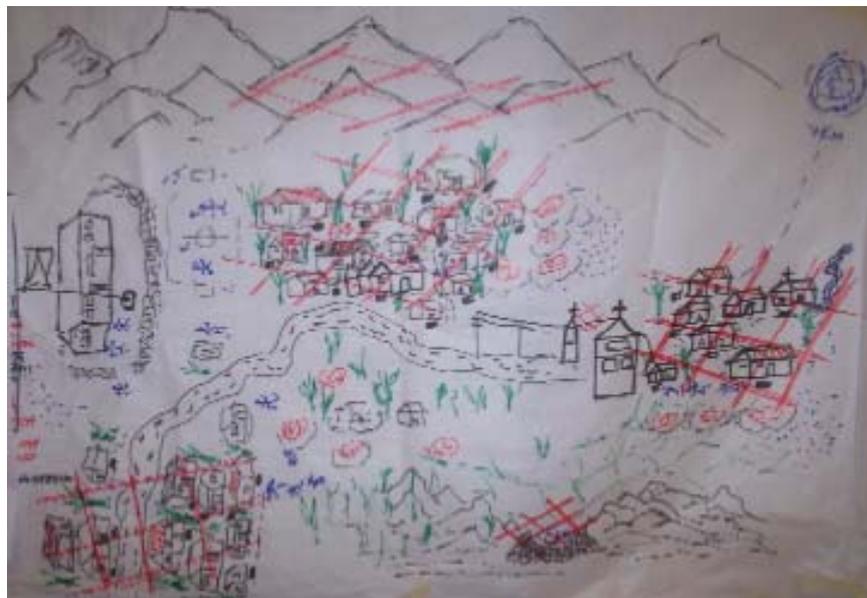
Traditional farming in this village faces critical problems because of a shortage of water and the lack of methods to store water to irrigate farm plots during seasons with low rainfall. In spite of the above, the community has developed farming capacities for food security and maintains access to traditional food such as bread made of maize or wheat and other kind of foods and cooking practices.

Villagers normally go to the markets on Saturdays to buy products that they do have not the capacity to produce. It takes approximately two hours to reach the market and during market days, it is the opportunity for the villagers, mainly women, to sell some of the products or livestock that they produced. Their main means of transportation from the village to the market and vice-versa are the donkeys and in some cases bicycle.

Mapping



The **spatial map** reflects the main components of Village A. On left hand side of the map is the school and on the right hand side is the church. These are the biggest buildings in the community. The houses are located on the hill, while the farm land is in the valley. The well is mainly used for animals; it's located at the bottom right hand side of the map. The drinking water (top right of the map) is located 7 km away.

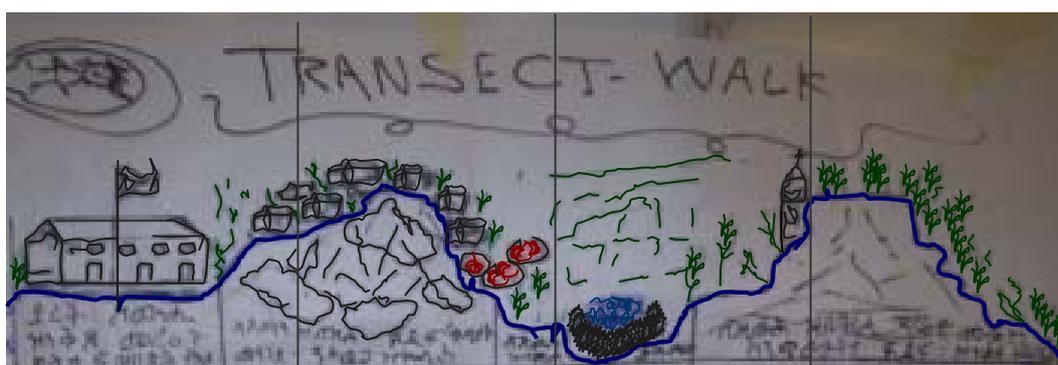


The **vulnerability / risk map** reflects different challenges for the community. On the upper side of the map, the hills are eroded, rocky, and nearly bare of trees. Fifty years ago, this land had a significantly high number of trees, though it is recognized by the community elders that it also had high levels of erosion. Most of the houses on the hillside are too close to each other and there is high accumulation of garbage. The well shows evidence of poor sanitation conditions.



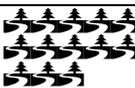
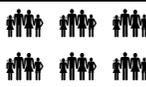
The **capacities and resource** map reflect different levels of livelihood and facilities that allows this community to deal with their daily needs. In most of the cases, many of their capacities are located where their vulnerabilities / risk are. The school, the church and the capacity of the community members to gather themselves (living close to each other) are good assets for the community. When they need to gather for particular reasons the church bell serves as their means of communication.

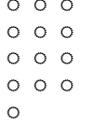
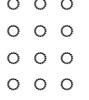
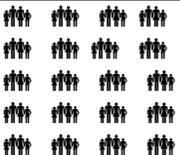
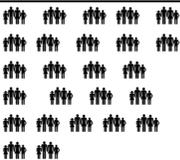
Transect walk



Type of ground and land condition	Dry and rocky land	Full of stones, hilly road. Exposure to accidents	Poor land, full of rocks	Full of rocks and dry land. Hilly land and dry grass
Livelihood	Teaching and learning. Students participation. Water reservoir and harvesting. Dry grass. Small Agricultural area.	Cactus, eucalyptus trees, cattle, dry grass, small backyard agriculture. Donkey, sheep, goats and dogs.	Terracing land. Agricultural activities. Traditional houses. Dry grass collection. Pond for cattle.	Donkey, sheep, goats, poultry. 7 km from water source. Cactus, dry grass
Level of local organization	School	None	Farmers	Church
Main hazards and risk	Injuries to students if they fall. Poor environmental sanitation that leads to accidents among children	Eroded land, Increased risk of falling for humans and animals	Unsafe water for animals Eroded land	Eroded land Increased risk of falling for humans and animals
Conditions that increase vulnerability	Lack of family latrines Hilly and rocky land. Non-strapped corrugated roofs at the school	Dry, rocky and hilly land topography	Lack of plants Unprotected well Contaminated water increase health hazards	Shortage of water Lack of trees
Capacities	Elementary school. Harvesting systems and water reservoir Parents teacher association. Teacher house	Cactus, eucalyptus tree to build houses. Dry grass	Well Pond Agriculture practices	Church infrastructure Electrical generator and line service. Cactus field.
Beliefs and values	Parents interest in children education	Agricultural land and terracing	Agricultural techniques. Well for animal drinking. Well serves to all the community livestock needs.	Religious beliefs
Natural environment	Rocky & dry land	Cactus, eucalyptus tree and dry grass. Sloppy land	Eroded land and agricultural terracing practices	Lack of trees versus land. Distance water source (7 km).

Historical visualization:

													
	Trees	People	Houses	Damp	School	Church	Holy damp	Sheep	Cattle	Goat	Donkey	Hen	Dog/cat
1920													
1930													
1940													
1950													
1960													
1970													

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1980					$\Delta\Pi$		\equiv						
1990							\equiv						
2000							\equiv						
2006							\equiv						

Historical Chart:

According to the elderly of the community, from 1910 to 1960, the number of trees in the community has continuously decreased. From 1960 to 1990, it was reported a significant high devastation of trees which happened as result of different historical events and needs: 1.Regular dry seasons, 2. Drought and deforestation by the communities for firewood and wood to build houses.

The highest deforestation occurred (according to the villagers) during the period of the war against the neighboring country, where trees were cut to be use for trenches along the border. This practice was common country-wide and has affected Country X and not only to Village A. It is important to mention that according to the community the incorporation of forestation practices started to improve in the 90's and have helped to increase the number of trees as a result of a government of Country X regulations to ban the cut of trees and their commitment towards reforestation. The government has made great efforts to maintain the rain-forest reserve, located approximately at 60 kilometers from Village A, in the best possible condition.

In the case of Village A, the need to conserve the few existing trees in the surroundings of the village is well understood by community members. The community agreed to a code of conduct for the conservation of the trees and villagers have commonly agreed to penalize those persons within the community that cut trees.

In order to increase the reforestation program, the government introduced summer student campaign in different parts of the country. Village A is not an exception to this program and it has implemented some reforestation practices. However, one observes that it is necessary to significantly increase tree planting and care.

The housing infrastructure in Village A has increased in approximately 86 years (household presence in the community) from approximately 10 houses to 205 houses. The relation between the increasing number of houses constructed has little impact on the reduction of the farming areas. The community is located on a hillside, and the farmland is in the valley. The increased number of houses has reduced the availability of structural materials such as rock and wood, as well as trees over the past decades. Newer houses have stopped using wood materials as a source for construction.

Examining the population growth over the last 86 years, family sizes have increased such that currently each household has an average of 7 family members. Out of 930 people that live in Village A, approximately 600 to 700 hundred of them are in a productive labor age, which according to their traditional way of living, includes the work of young adults and children, in addition to children schooling activities.

According to the information gathered, the trend of the population growth, based on the number of young women on age for pregnancy living at the community and the current average of family members from each household, their could be significant chances of a significant grow of the population which could affect the already poverty conditions they live at and the probabilities to affect the small farming areas which could be use for housing.

According to the information gathered from the focus group with the females, each household brings 3 jerry cans of water per day which means approximately 60 liters of water per family this

means that the community consume approximately 12,300 liters of water per day which means approximately 8,57 liters of water per person per day. On special occasions (weddings, seasonal celebrations, etc) the community members (mainly female) organized themselves to bring more water to meet the specific needs. In this way, the daily household water consume will not be affected by those special occasions.

Over 95% of the population depends on traditional farming and the remaining 5% works in different labor activities outside the village such as collection and sale of stones or construction. The topography of the village and the location of the housing make this community densely populated. Since the population is growing and the access to health facilities and other services are non-existent, the community has requested the government to authorize the increase of housing near the main road.

An earth dam was constructed in 1962 to support 54 household farmers and their livestock. Today the dam is only used for livestock not for drinking water due to the poor sanitation of the dam. The earth dam is located in valley and the household tradition is to defecate in an open area. During the rainy season, the rainwater washes all the feces and contaminates into the dam. The lack of awareness of the use latrines compounds poor sanitation and health problems. Only two households out of 205 have latrines.

The school systems functions from September to June, during the months of July and August there are high levels of precipitation.

The church bell has become one of the main means of communication to mobilize the community members and gathered them for social events, and occasionally, any type of emergency. The community has developed three different types of bells to gather the population. During Sunday mass, the religious leaders provide different relevant information for the villagers. There is a common saying at the community level: "Do what the priest tells you to do, but do not do what the priest practices".

The holy water was discovered more than 100 years ago and has been a tradition from generation to generation. The community does not use this water to drink due to their beliefs, and those of surrounding villages, that this water contains holy powers. This belief accompanies their belief that the water cannot be boiled for drinking purposes. According to the elderly, this water is not use for drinking purposes due to the topographic location, salinity of the water and the water level that is very low. In extremely difficult drought conditions they use this water from drinking.

The livestock that the community has are: donkeys, cattle, goats, sheep, dogs, cats, and hens. The number of donkeys has increased over time because this animal is the only means of transportation to fetch water and carry food and non-food materials such as for market day. According to the information from the communities, each household has between 2-3 donkeys. In those cases that they have more, they sell them for an additional income for the family.

The number of sheep, cattle and goats being sold in the market has decreased due to deforestation, drought, and aridity of the land. Nevertheless, the community maintains a reasonable level of goats to meet their basic needs.

The population of poultry farming has increased over the years as one of the main source of livelihood and diet. Additionally, after independence, the governments of Country X encouraged villagers to increase the household management of poultry. This increased focus on poultry has

further contributed to the reduction in the number of sheep and goats. The poultry farming has suffered from seasonal epidemics that have affected the hens; however, the communities have developed coping strategies to recover quickly.

Seasonal Calendar:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rain			x	x	X	XX	XX	XX	x			
Farming / Ploughing	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Cactus							X	X	X			
Weeding							X	X	X			
Seeding time												
Harvesting										X	X	X
Dry season	X	X	x	x						X	X	X
Terracing		X	X	X								
Public Ceremonies	X		X	X	X	X			X			X
School Year	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X
High Income												X
Low Income								X	X			
Cough & Cold	X											
Malaria					X				X			
Diarrhea		X	X	X	X	X						
Injuries - Accidents	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Road Rehabilitation										X	X	X
Cleaning the Well		X										

XX = high season. X= regular. x = very low

Vertical analysis of information from the seasonal calendar shows different seasonal events concern community members positively or negatively. Most of the analysis regarding the seasonal map ended with relevant information regarding community livelihood.

According to the information gathered, the months with high number of events at the community level are from March to June, September and December. The months with least number of events are July and August (which coincided with the heavy rainy season). The rest of the months have medium average of events.

January is the peak period for social events such as weddings. The main reason for this is due to the end of harvesting and access to income increases. It also is the beginning of schooling activities after holiday season. During this time of the year, due to the dry season, it was reported that coughing or cold and other respiratory track infection are common in the community.

February is characterized as the month of community social mobilization for two main activities: terracing to protect from erosion, conserve the soil and underground water; and the cleaning of the well for livestock drinking water. **March** is characterized as the month when the community starts farming activities.

The months of **March, April, May** and **June** are the months with highest diarrhea cases, according to the communities this is due to the access to water becomes lower and the sanitation conditions becoming worse.

June, July and **August** are characterized by the heavy rainy seasons and the need for weeding.

The months of **August** and **September** are mainly affected by low income generation and were the access to food reduces and the diet changes by consuming more vegetables and cactus fruit as a supplementary food. September is the start of the school year and the highest season for Malaria.

October characterize by two main activities: harvesting and cleaning of the road that connects the village to the main road. In both cases these activities take place until **November**.

December is the highest month of income due to the harvesting and selling of products. This explains why January has become one of the months when people get married.

During the whole year the community is exposed to different kind of human and animal injuries due to the conditions of the road and pathways.

Water harvest:

During the dry season, communities should better prepare for the rainwater harvesting, which was evidently one of the less visible activities within the community.

We found that very few households practice rainwater-harvesting. Households that do practice this activity are mainly those that own “modern houses.” According to the villagers, modern houses are those that use corrugated iron roof sheets, and there are very few in the community. Traditional houses (majority – approximately 85%) with roofs made of soil and dry grass and wood do not practice water harvesting.

In terms of farming, there is no evidence of rainwater harvesting even though this could help with irrigation and divert water to different locations. There is no evidence of a communal water harvesting system apart from the school and the church. The school utilizes the water to maintain some level of basic water access for the students and the church uses the water for church activities.

Dry season:

There are no irrigated farms in the highlands and only one irrigated farm in the lowlands.

Low income:

The community depends 95% on farming and there is no evidence of micro-credit programs. Women in the community have expressed interest in developing programs. There are two well-known organizations working on micro-finance: Agency for Cooperation Research and Development (ACCORD) and Saving Micro-Credit Program (SMCP).

Malaria:

The community has reported regular cases of malaria and is well aware of the problem. However, people do not use mosquito nets mainly due to financial constraints and the fact that the average family has seven members. Nevertheless, the community is conscious about some basic procedures to reduce the possibilities of malaria cases.

Historical profile:

The following chart does not represent the full historical picture of the main events and significant moments that this community experienced. It instead offers a general idea of how community values have developed over the years.

Year	Description
130 years ago	Constructing church and rehabilitating the village.
1904	The person who has lived in the village from the longest period
1962	Earth dam was constructed
1070's	Measles caused the death of 10 children
1977	The first enemies tanks surrender Youth association formed
1980	National Union of Women (NUW) formed before independence.
1983	Construction of school with the help of the government, villagers, and Parent Teacher Association
1990	Great famine time when people ate roots of plants
1991	The church was rebuilt with the support of the villagers.
1992	National Union of Women (NUW) was intervened in the village after independence. National union of youth and students (NUYS) formed.
1999	Fire broke out and one house in the village was totally destroyed.

Focus group with women

Some people consume four jerry cans of water per day while others report consuming two, depending on the capacity of the household. On special occasions, they consume 10 -15 jerry cans mainly for the washing of cloths.

The community has the knowledge of how to use the family latrine, but they do not have the resources to build family latrines, so they defecate in open fields.

The common hazards that affect the village are intestinal diseases. The water is not potable. The women fetch water one time per day and some of them twice a day.

The common activities of the children are fetching water, going to school, looking after the cattle, collecting wood and going to the farm with their parents.

In case of emergency, they do not have any type of plan. They are aware of the need to increase sanitation practices and reduce the occurrence of malaria.

The women rehabilitate the road every six months with the men. They also clean the well and they manage erosion by terracing every year.

The community has approximately 150 female-headed houses who make their living by farming. Those with little capacity for farming normally rent their land to members of the community and make their living from the rent.

Focus group with male young adults

There are only two family latrines out of 205 households. Generally community members defecate in open fields. The use of latrines is not well understood by the villagers; hence no other traditional latrines have been constructed.

Fetching water is also one of the activities that young adults do particularly in the case when household females are not able to fetch water. The well is located seven kilometers from the village; donkeys are the main source of transport.

Some of the main health problems that male adults mentioned that they are vulnerable to are diarrhea, malaria, eye infection, skin infections and respiratory track infections. Accidents are common in the village due to drowning, fire, and falls on the steep, rocky slopes.

The social network is considered to be high and functional, which enable the villagers to organize themselves and find some practical solutions to the problems they face. In case of emergencies they make all possible efforts to reduce the impact of it through solidarity practices.

Several terracing or tree planting activities have been undertaken since independence, following government reforestation program and recognized needs.

Young adults access information on HIV/AIDS through youth association and mass media. They know where they can get condoms, they are aware of how the disease is transmitted and what they should do it to prevent it.

Focus group with male adults and elderly

Elderly and male adults mentioned that is a tradition from this community to use open fields for their physiological needs. They also understand that one option could it be the use of latrines but their financial constraints make them establish priorities.

They considered that the main needs of the villagers are:

- a. Water supply
- b. Health and first aid
- c. Kindergarten facilities
- d. Means of transportation

During the war with the neighboring country, the elderly choose to live in a hilly area in order to protect themselves from the enemies. They also chose to live on the hillside to reduce the incidence of malaria.

Forest cover has increased after the independence of Country X. The community signed a collective agreement that bans the cutting of trees. Those who not follow the agreement are financially punished and the community uses peer pressure to ensure that such punishment takes place.

The holy water is located in a steep slope and it is not utilized as a drinking water due to beliefs on the importance to conserve their tradition and because the volume of the water is very low and they do not want to jeopardize their traditional practices.

The road and pathway conditions (rocky, steep and irregular) has caused several injuries to the elderly and has caused injuries to the livestock.

According to the elderly, children are not well treated and many of them do not have the chance to go to the school or suspend their school program to assist with family needs (looking after domestic animals). Children also suspend their schooling because the schools do not have the space to receive all the children. The construction of additional school facilities is beyond the financial capacity of the community and the elders believe that the Ministry of Education is limited to provide professional teachers for elementary and secondary school.

They are fully aware of the challenges they are facing with regards to erosion and soil conservation. The elders suggest that one of the ways to reduce erosion is the development of terracing practices.

Focus group with children

The focus group with the children concentrated mainly on a drawing exercise. Children were requested to draw on a piece of paper things that they like in their community and on a different sheet, things that they dislike. The following are the most common answers from the children:

Things they like	Things they dislike
1. Donkeys, sheep, goats and dogs 2. The school 3. The plants	1. Snakes, monkeys, hyenas 2. Rocks and stones

Action for Transformation

The following chart reflects the main vulnerabilities identified as part of the analysis of the information gathered during the VCA activities at the community level. The actions for transformation on the column on the right are the initial ideas from the Country X Red Cross VCA practitioners.

Vulnerability	Action for transformation
1. People exposure to garbage	Sensitization and awareness campaign
	Introduction of garbage containers at household & community level and identify proper site location.
	Separation of animal dung from other waste & other solid waste from the house
	Cleaning campaign – “Clean Day”
2. Lack of garbage management	Awareness
	Training on garbage management
	Formation of waste management & sanitation committee
	Code of conduct of community garbage management.
3. Rodents attract from garbage	Increase understanding about impact of rodents on health.
	Community understanding of first aid and medical needs in case of rodent attack.
4. Lack of hygiene and sanitation practices	Awareness of sanitation
	Training
	Community commitment towards regular children hygiene practices and building family latrines.
	Demonstration and replication of family latrines.

Vulnerability	Action for transformation
5. Increase exposure to malaria.	Awareness & training Use of mosquito nets Prophylaxis Clean up campaigns & cover stagnant water Formation of community malaria agents
6. House closeness increase vulnerability to hazards.	Awareness Increase use of smokeless stoves Family and community disaster and health preparedness plan Family and community early warning system
7. Rocky and steep roads; exposure to accidents.	Clear & rehabilitate the roads Sign main roads for night vision where normally accidents are. Community agreement of the sign to be use. Contact local authorities for public phone service & mobile phone to be used in case of emergency.
8. Lack of access to automotive transportation.	Contact local authorities and/or private bus owners for market day transportation service. Development of a procedure for its use. Torch available only for emergency cases. Community agreement with village administrator and Red Cross to offer immediate needs of transportation in case of emergencies.
9. Lack of house construction foundation.	Awareness and education Assess foundation regularly and rehabilitate in case of erosion. Regular monitoring for erosion in foundation during rainy season
10. Lack of access to potable water and water sources.	Awareness on how to handling of water at household level Formation of water committee Training on water management system Construct water sources Encourage water harvesting system at household and community level Implement irrigation drainage systems
11. Exposure to unsafe sex	Awareness and education of community and youth group on HIV/AIDS and other sexual transmitted infections. Form HIV / AIDS school club Involve church priest, community leaders and other influential people.
12. Livestock shelters in the same area of household houses	Awareness and education on the potential health risk. Create partition walls between the access to the houses and the access to the animal's shelters. Daily cleaning of the animals shelter Request to the village administrator for regular immunization activities for livestock and training to learn how to monitor.
13. Lack of roof straps in corrugate roofs	Awareness Education Clean roofs from unsafe stones and top paste it with cement and u roof straps Common agreement of how to keep corrugated roofs safe.
14. Increase soil degradation	Awareness and education Crop rotation & irrigation techniques for the rainy season Water pond located on strategical farming areas to be use during the dry season. Tree and cactus planning campaign

Vulnerability	Action for transformation
15. High level of deforested land	Awareness and education
	Agree on rules and regulations
	Each family to plant at least 5 trees every year and take care of them.
16. Very distant health facilities.	Formation of village health committee
	Train community health workers (First aid and malaria health agents)
	Community commitment on hygiene practices
	Village health committee to ensure regular vaccination.
17. Children in pre school ages lack of access to education and practice regular unsafe activities.	Community leaders request the priest to allow the use of the church during weekdays.
	Rehabilitate current pre-school and develop some measures to keep it clean and functional.
	Request Ministry of Education to train mothers on pre-schooling care program.
18. Lack of micro finance practices and accessibility.	Community willingness to diversify income generation activities.
	Community request NGOs to support micro finance projects.
19. Practice of female circumcision	Agree to organize a meeting with influential community leaders, parents, religious leaders about female circumcision consequences.

As a result of the consultation process with the communities, the group of VCA facilitators discussed the above vulnerabilities and actions for transformation with representatives from the community from different groups: Community leaders, Females Groups, Young Adults.

As a result of this process, the following priorities and actions for transformation were agreed with the members of the community as the areas where they will start doing immediate action.

Community priorities

Vulnerability	Action for transformation	Prevention	CIA	Preparedness	CIA	Mitigation	CIA
1. Lack of access to potable water and water sources.	Awareness on how to handling of water at house hold level		C				
	Formation of water committee				C		
	Training on water management system				I		
	Construct water source						C/I
	Encourage water harvesting system at house hold and community level				C		C
2. Very distant health facilities.	Formation of village health committee				I		
	Train community health workers (First aid and malaria health agents) & open first aid post				I		
	Community commitment on hygiene practices.				C		
	Village health committee to ensure regular vaccination.				C		
3. Children in pre school ages lack of access to education and practice regular unsafe activities.	Community leaders request the priest to allow the use of the church during weekday.				C		
	Rehabilitate current pre-school and develop some measures to keep it clean and functional.						C
	Request Ministry of Education to train mothers on pre-schooling care program.				C		
4. Lack of hygiene and sanitation practices	Awareness of sanitation		I				
	Training				I		
	Community commitment towards regular children hygiene practices and building family latrines.		C				C
	Demonstration and Replication of family latrines.				I		I
5. Exposure to unsafe sex	Awareness and education of community and youth group on HIV/AIDS and other sexual transmitted infections.		I				
	Form HIV/AIDS school club				C		
	Involve church priest, community leaders and other influential people.		I				

They have tried several exercise to increase the access to water without success, still they are trying. They are willing to contribute with their labor.

Results of the working groups

The next steps are to facilitate with the community group a similar exercise reflecting the reality of their community and record the outcomes on the following chart.

Action ONE	Can be solved immediately? Short – Medium -Long			Requires financing?	Can we find the resources ourselves? How?	Technical support?
	Yes	No	S M L			
Awareness on how to handling of water at house hold level						
Formation of water committee						
Training on water management system						
Construct water source						
Encourage water harvesting system at house hold and community level						
Action TWO	Can be solved immediately? Short – Medium -Long			Requires financing?	Can we find the resources ourselves? How?	Technical support?
	Yes	No	S M L			
Formation of village health committee.						
Train community health workers (First aid and malaria health agents) & open first aid post						
Community commitment on hygiene practices.						
Village health committee to ensure regular vaccination.						
Action THREE	Can be solved immediately? Short – Medium -Long			Requires financing?	Can we find the resources ourselves? How?	Technical support?
	Yes	No	S M L			
Community leaders request the priest to allow the use of the church during weekdays.						
Rehabilitate current pre school and develop some measures to keep it clean and functional.						
Request Ministry of Education to train mothers on pre schooling care program.						
Action FOUR	Can be solved immediately? Short – Medium -Long			Requires financing?	Can we find the resources ourselves? How?	Technical support?
	Yes	No	S M L			
Awareness of sanitation						
Training						
Community commitment towards regular children hygiene practices and building family latrines.						
Demonstration and Replication of family latrines.						
Action FIVE	Can be solved immediately? Short – Medium -Long			Requires financing?	Can we find the resources ourselves? How?	Technical support?
	Yes	No	S M L			
Awareness and education of community and youth group on HIV/AIDS and other sexual transmitted disease.						
Form HIV / AIDS school club						
Involve church priest, community leaders and other influential people.						
Awareness and education of community and youth group on HIV/AIDS and other sexual transmitted disease.						