

## Participatory Capacities and Vulnerabilities Assessment: Finding the link between disasters and development

*Honorio B. de Dios*

Oxfam Great Britain

### Organisation

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### Bibliographical details

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### Abstract

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This publication explains Participatory Capacity and Vulnerability Assessment (PCVA) as a conceptual framework, describes how to effectively conduct a PCVA, and presents experiences and lessons regarding people and disasters which were obtained through the use of PCVA.

### Intended end users

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The PCVA method is designed for both **disaster risk management field practitioners** and **community development workers**

### Geographical focus

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This publication was developed in the **Philippines** and therefore examples and case studies utilize scenarios from the Philippines. It is applicable for use all over the world however.

## Type of Material

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This is a **comprehensive manual** providing a detailed overview of the PCVA methodology.

- ◆ Part I discusses the two main frameworks used in the PCVA: the CVA tool of analysis and Participatory Rural/Urban Appraisal framework and principles. It presents the theoretical basis of the PCVA and how the two frameworks were applied to PCVA researches.
- ◆ Part II gives an overview of how a PCVA research is organized.
- ◆ Part III contains insights and lessons obtained from organizing and conducting PCVAs, which hopefully would help others in their use of the PCVA.
- ◆ Part IV presents the results of the PCVA review conducted by Oxfam in 2001.

The manual provides some of the CVCA tools and methods but does not go into step-by-step detail of how to utilize each tool.

## Language

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The publication is in English.

## Scale of assessment

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The scale of assessment is focused at the **community**-level.

## Type of assessment

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Participatory Capacity and Vulnerability Assessment (PCVA), combined with Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) approaches are the basis of the manual in order to ensure that not just a checklist of factors to be considered, but that communities and other stakeholders have the opportunity to participate in the assessment process.

## Analytical methods

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The two primary method presented in the manual are **Participatory Capacity and Vulnerability Assessment (PCVA)** and **Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA)**.

## Tools

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*Participatory Tools include:*

- ◆ CVA matrix
- ◆ Gender desegregation matrix
- ◆ Resource mapping
- ◆ **Community mapping**
- ◆ **Hazard mapping**
- ◆ **Transect walk**
- ◆ Matrix ranking/scoring
- ◆ **Wealth ranking**
- ◆ **Venn diagrams**
- ◆ Community visioning
- ◆ **Seasonal calendar**
- ◆ **Timeline**

- ◆ **Focus group interviews**
- ◆ Role playing
- ◆ Household interviews

## **Notes on methods**

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- ◆ The manual provides a comprehensive overview of the PCVA framework however lacks the practical elements and guidelines in order to actually undertake the methods and tools that are suggested.
- ◆ Although some of the methods and tools are described and include examples, they are not described comprehensively enough for someone to utilize.
- ◆ Provides historical development of PCVA and provides useful tips for conducting the assessments.

## **Case studies / Practical examples**

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The publication contains several practical examples illustrating how PCVA has been applied in different regions in the Philippines. In Annex a summary of key research findings is given of a series of PCVAs carried out in the Philippines over the period 1998-2002.

## **Resource people**

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Lourdes Lasap, Oxfam UK, email : [LLasap@Oxfam.org.uk](mailto:LLasap@Oxfam.org.uk)

## **Author of guidance note**

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Kristy Evans was commissioned by the Disaster Mitigation for Sustainable Livelihoods Programme (DiMP) at the University of Cape Town.

Contact: [cra@ifrc.org](mailto:cra@ifrc.org)