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RISK AWARD 2015 Project: Global Innovation of 'Self Assessment and Planning by the Community through Women's Participation for Disaster Risk Reduction of Vulnerable Communities'

The concept of 'Self Assessment and Planning by the Vulnerable Community' developed by Prof. Dr. Mukesh Kanaskar is adopted to develop 'Gender Sensitive Self-Assessment & Planning' tool for Disaster Risk Reduction of Vulnerable Communities. The participatory methodology and tool developed was practiced on-field with slum dwellers in 2 slums with at least 50% representation of women. This tool is utilized two fold by the slum community – firstly the community self assess their own disaster vulnerability at slum level (micro level) and secondly for undertaking exhaustive planning exercise with the slum dwellers vis-à-vis disaster risk reduction planning in the next stage of the project.

- The parameters depicted in the tool were identified through FGDs with participation of slum dwellers, with at least 50% representation of women. This tool tries to accommodate generic situation in slums of India as well as in most developing countries. However, uniqueness of each slum's vulnerability context is appreciated and was considered while administering the tool.
- The Self-Assessment framework is prepared as an enriched adoption of signal principle.
 - o The column of 'Probability of Occurrence': Decreasing intensity of red colour accompanied by decreasing size of the 'face' depicts decreasing probability. Community rates itself by ticking on the relevant 'face'.
 - The community is requested to describe this aspect from their perspective in the next column.
 - o Similar rating system is to be followed for 'Intensity of Vulnerability of Women' and 'Intensity of Vulnerability of Children'.
 - o 'Status of Preparedness': A highly satisfactory status expects a tick by the community on largest green smiley. The lesser status expects a tick by the community on either of subsequent faces. The most precarious status is the largest red face at the bottom.
 - What is extremely crucial to build ownership among the community is the discussion on this aspect. The reason/s for the rating is/are understood from the community. Moreover, the importance of preparedness is impressed upon the community along with their proactive participation for the same.
- This self-assessment is to be followed by action planning by the community.

Ilustrative Charts based on Gender Sensitive Self-Assessment and Planning exercise for Disaster Risk Assessment conducted with slum dweller women in Mahatma Gandhi Slum







