



TOOL #13

COUNTER DISASTER PLAN TEMPLATE / OUTLINE

A Counter Disaster Plan or a community-level contingency plan helps to consolidate the community's efforts to prepare for coming hazards (both natural and man-made). The plan provides guidelines for operation and clarifies roles and responsibilities before, during and after disasters happen. A Counter Disaster Plan links preparedness, mitigation and rehabilitation efforts with development initiatives of a People's Organization or Disaster Preparedness Committee in the short- and long- term.

Based on the results of the Hazard, Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment, the PO/DPC formulates a Counter Disaster Plan. This plan contains the following elements:

- Identification of pre, during and post disaster community requirements to address vulnerabilities
- Identification of available resources and capacities the community can build on or has to mobilize from outside (boats, vehicles, communication equipment, evacuation site, volunteers, etc.)
- The organizational structure of the people's organization/grassroots disaster response organization/disaster preparedness committee
- Roles and responsibilities of the PO leaders and committees
- Policies, decision-making mechanisms and operational guidelines
- Warning system
- Evacuation and evacuation center management plan
- Mitigation measures like reinforcement of houses, improving drainage, additional maintenance on footbridges, or crop diversification can be included in the counter disaster plan.

The Counter Disaster Plan also contains the following particularities or annexes:

- Timetable of activities to implement the plan or schedules to conduct drills to test the efficiency and effectiveness of the plan.
- Master-list of community members (names, family composition, age, gender)
- List of volunteer teams
- HVCA summary and hazard map
- Directory of key-people, NGOs, local officials, church groups that can be contacted
- Organizational structure and functions and responsibilities of all committee.