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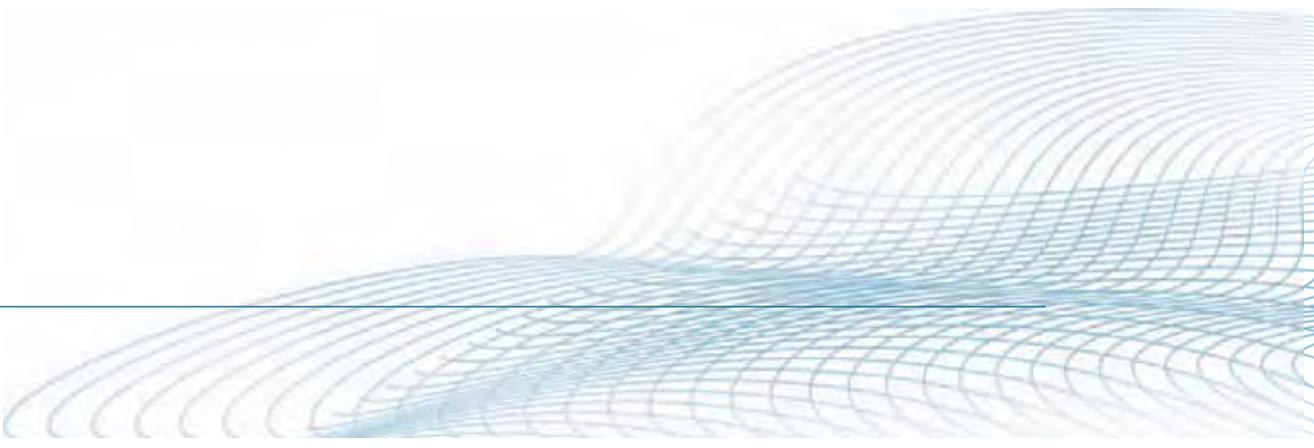
The Guide draws heavily on the field experience of FAO in developing and strengthening the institutional capacities of DRM systems in a number of Asian and Caribbean countries. Illustrations of participatory rural appraisal exercises used during field assessments of community-level DRM systems in several countries enrich the text with the experiences of many rural people who are highly vulnerable to natural hazard risk.

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ACRONYMS

ADPC	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center
AEZ	Agro-Ecological Zone
CCA	Common Country Assessment
CRED	Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters
CBDRM	Community-Based Disaster Risk Management
CBO	Community-Based Organization
CIG	Common Interest Groups
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DCP	District Contingency Plans
DFID	UK Department For International Development
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DRMC	Disaster Risk Management Cycle
DRMF	Disaster Risk Management Framework
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EWS	Early Warning Systems
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FEWSNET	Famine Early Warning System (FEWS) Network
FPMIS	Field Project Management Information System
GIEWS	Global Information and Early Warning System
HFA	Hyogo Framework for Action
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
INGO	International non-Governmental Organisations
MFIS	Micro-Financing Organisations
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NDMA	National Disaster Management Agency
NDMB	National Disaster Management Bureau
NDMC	National Disaster Management Centre
NDMO	National Disaster Management Office
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NHMS	National Hydro-Meteorological Services
NMAs	National Meteorological Agencies
NWP	Nairobi Work Programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
SDAR	Rural Institutions and Participation Services
SLAF	Sustainable Livelihoods Analytical Framework
UAS	User's Association
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change
UN/ISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
VDC	Village Development Committee
WCDR	World Conference on Disaster Reduction
WFP	World Food Programme