Regional Consultation on Facilitating Innovative Action on Disability-inclusive and Gender-responsive Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia and the Pacific

5 and 6 May 2022
10:00 to 13:00 hours
(GMT+7, Virtual)
Bangkok, Thailand
Session 3: Impacts of COVID-19 on DiDRR: Challenges and opportunities for inclusive response to natural and biological hazards through DiDRR

Thursday, May 5, 2022

Presentation topic: Challenges and opportunities: Intersection of COVID-19 and DiDRR

Presenter’s Name: Nazmul Bari, Director, Centre for Disability in Development (CDD)
Impact and Challenges: Implementation of DiDRR during COVID-19

• Not prepared = Understanding the context (and adapting).
• Immediate shift in priority = Towards Health
• DRR actors’ attention & time diverted to COVID-19 response actions
• Dealing with multiple hazards – C-19 (on-going), Cyclone, Floods
• Limited knowledge and capacity on ‘how to’?
• Limited resource materials, capacity development opportunities
• Accessibility – Information, technology, C-19 services
Impact and Challenges: Implementation of DiDRR during COVID-19

- COVID-19 related restrictions & protocols limited community based DiDRR actions.
- Lack of disability disaggregated data, information on persons with disabilities
- Impact on and engagement of women with disabilities
- Coping capacity impacted = Individual and Institutional
- Mental Health
Opportunities and ways forward: Implementation of DiDRR during COVID-19

- Capacity exchange and strengthening for all concerned actors
- Understanding risks, needs and planning is specific to the needs of different disability groups, including women and girls with disabilities
- Disability Disaggregated Data
- Mindset
- Budget and allocations
- Networking & Coordination
- Participation, contributions and leadership of persons with disabilities
- Accessibility – Information, communications, technology, built structures....
Opportunities and way forward: Implementation of DiDRR during COVID-19

• Crisis Modifiers – Ensuring scopes within development projects to respond in quick time for humanitarian assistance
• Utilize available resources on C-19, lessons learnt from demonstrated practices
• Build Back Better
• DiDRR benefits all members of society.
Thank you very much