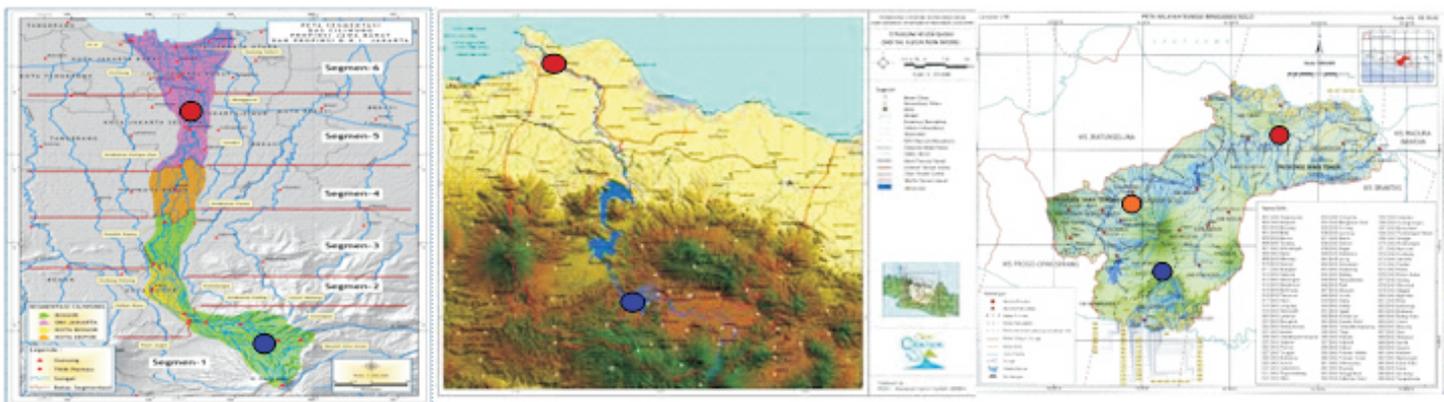


Community Flood Resilience Program, Partnership for Innovation and Solution.



Making community safer from floods is another key initiative PMI has been taking since beginning 2014. The flood is one of the frequently occurring disasters in Indonesia. Indonesia has several rivers and tributaries that sometimes cause flooding in many parts of the country. The scale of flood problem both in urban and rural areas is big hence there is a need for wider collaboration and cooperation among the government, nongovernment agencies and private sectors as well to address this massive and complex issue of floods and ensuring safety of the vulnerable communities. Recognising this very fact, Palang Merah Indonesia (PMI) has initiated a Flood Resilience Zurich (FRZ) project in partnership with Zurich Insurance and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in 21 communities along 3 river basins: Ciliwung, Citarum and Bengawan Solo.

This initiative is in fact a part of the multi country project of the Zurich flood resilience alliance, and currently four

countries: Indonesia, Mexico, Nepal and Peru are implementing this initiative. The global initiative is developed around four shared objectives i.e. 1) enhance community flood resilience at scale, 2) enhance effectiveness of disaster risk reduction solutions, 3) develop, promote knowledge & expertise, and 4) influence policy makers and donors on disaster risk reduction policies.

The uniqueness of this project/initiative is the partnership with the private sector to deliver more focussed and innovative solutions and tools to reduce the risk of floods in rural / semi-urban communities. It takes an integrated approach by linking upstream communities with the downstream communities. Though upstream communities are not affected by the flood directly, they are contributing a lot to the floods downstream through their various acts such as deforestation, disposing garbage into the river, encroachment of river area, unplanned settlement, etc. These acts are increasing soil erosion,

sedimentation and reducing river flow area resulting in more flooding in communities downstream. Also it is understood that there has to be a plan and preparedness across the entire river in order to reduce the risk of damage by the floods so a river based contingency plan will be developed covering all communities from upstream to downstream.

The CFR project is trying to follow the standard program planning process so as to develop mitigation programs based on evidences and realistic analysis. It follows a good trail of assessments for example first starting with risk mapping of the target area, then baseline survey, vulnerability & capacity assessment (VCA) and risk grading.

These assessments and exercises are complimented by secondary data, various community consultations and focus group discussions. While risk mapping is done utilising various tools and online applications such as JOSM, QGIS and InaSafe, the baseline survey is using the mobile based application called ODK (Open Data Kit) that enables to conduct survey using androids in a quicker and efficient way.

It is a departure from the conventional paper based survey



that takes long time in survey, data entry and analysis. Similarly a resilience measurement tool is being developed by the Global Flood Alliance's working group. The project approaches the issue of community resilience in a holistic way by addressing all weaker elements of the community resilience. A community is assumed to be composed of five key capitals that collectively build a community's overall resilience to a disaster.

The CFR project is implemented in a fully decentralised way with PMI districts managing the project by themselves. Otherwise it would have been difficult to manage project simultaneously in 21 communities across 7 districts and 4 provinces. It has created a strong institutional basis and community led delivery system through its community volunteers. The project obviously relies heavily on the SIBAT (Community based action team) recruited and trained by the PMI. As SIBATs come from the same community this institution strengthens the sustainability and continuity of activities even after the completion of the project. Being a member of the community, it will be easier for a SIBAT to understand and identify community problems, behaviours, culture and practices hence can mobilise the community and facilitate the project well.

The FRZ project puts strong emphasis on the capacity building and preparedness at the community level so that communities are informed, aware, organised and able to take preventive and corrective actions both before and after the disasters. Despite doing some mitigation activities based on community needs and risk analysis, the FR project will also develop some innovative tools, modules and ideas to help communities reduce flood risks. Some of those activities could be developing rainfall prediction, developing flood early warning system, flood modelling and mapping, river based studies, assessment of adaptive capacity of flood resilience in river basins, etc. A community radio will be set up in some districts that can be effective in disseminating flood early warnings in vulnerable communities. These FM stations will be linked so that both upstream and downstream communities can get early warning at the same time. Though each station will cover around 45 km area it can reach larger areas through internet streaming.

The CFR project is working closely with relevant government agencies and other stakeholders. Several rounds of meetings and information sharing events have taken place with BNPB, 3 offices of governors and the ministry of information and communications. Where relevant, activities will be carried out jointly with like-minded agencies. For instance, the river based contingency plan will be developed jointly with BPBD and other agencies in the province so that there is one plan for one river that is endorsed by all relevant organisations.

The project is working closely with global partners and project



countries. There is a regular call between Mexico, Zurich, Geneva and Indonesia. Efforts are made to harmonise the process and approaches as far as possible. Learnings are shared among partners and countries. Partnership and collaborations is extended beyond the project partners. While project is working with international partners such as IIASA, Wharton school, some local pioneer academic institutes such as Bandung institute of Technology, Agriculture Institute of Bogor, etc. are also working partners in the country.

The CFR project well guided by the senior management of all three partners. A regular senior management meeting takes place in Jakarta where policy issues are discussed. The technical committee consisting of program managers from each partner meets every month to plan, review and agree on the

activities and implementation strategy for the project. There is a working group at the district level to oversee the project implementation.