

## Livelihoods Centre

knowledge **creation** | knowledge **sharing** | knowledge **networking**

## Centro de Medios de Vida

**creando** conocimiento | **compartiendo** conocimiento | **intercambiando** conocimiento

## Centre de Moyens de Vie

**créer** du savoir | **échanger** le savoir | **diffuser** le savoir

## مركز سبل كسب الرزق

خلق المعارف | تقاسم المعارف | تبادل المعارف





# Awareness Session

## IFRC Livelihoods Resource Centre

27/04/2015, Samarang: AHA centres DM leaders of tomorrow.



# Why Livelihoods?

Sustainable livelihoods **increase the resilience** of the people and the communities, reducing their vulnerability to disasters, food insecurity and poverty while contributing to their **empowerment, personal dignity** and **safer and more resilient communities**. A livelihood is also a determinant factor in healthy and safe living and the promotion of social inclusion.

Livelihoods support also links directly with the aims of the **Millennium Development Goals**. The first MDG aims to reduce poverty and hunger. Livelihoods enable vulnerable communities to access basic services and needs.

## STRATEGIC AIMS 2020

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disasters and crises
2. Enable healthy and safe living
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.



WHAT WE DO



*includes livelihoods in its Global Goals, and also as one of the five Strategic Objectives*  
*"Elimination of poverty and the driving forward of economic and social progress for all, with increased food production, enhanced rural development and sustainable livelihoods"*



## Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection

EU Humanitarian Aid continues to focus on **building the resilience of populations** to better withstand the effects of shocks and stress

*RC/RC Movement Strategic Aims include Livelihoods Objective 1: "Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disasters and crises"*



**OXFAM**

*OXFAM's Right-Based AIMS: "the right to a sustainable livelihood"*



## Why Livelihoods?



### STRATEGIC AIMS 2020

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disasters and crises
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# WHAT WE DO

- ▶ **STRATEGY 2020 OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION:** Livelihood support links directly with the aims of Strategy 2020, particularly the first aim – “save lives, **protect livelihoods**, and strengthen recovery from disasters and crises” but encompasses them all.

Livelihoods is one of the main components to **create RESILIENCE** within a Community or a Household.



## *Session objectives*

- 1. Understanding what livelihoods are.**
  - Identify the livelihoods' **assets and resources**
  - Have a **shared understanding of livelihood concepts**, associated terminology and frameworks
- 2. Understand the overview of the Sustainable Livelihood Framework (SLF).**
- 3. Know why and when provide support to livelihoods.**
  - Understand that livelihood programmes can be implemented as part of **relief, recovery and developmental programming aims**.
- 4. Classify different livelihoods programmes into 5 commonly used categories.**
- 5. Provide materials and references on Livelihoods**



## What are Livelihoods?

**Livelihoods** are ‘*the means of making a living*’. They are the means for human beings to **construct a living and subsist**. It is the way in which individuals satisfy their daily needs such as food, shelter, clothing, education and health, amongst other needs.



**Livelihoods** comprise three essential aspects that lead individuals to generate income and secure their subsistence:

- 1- the **capabilities** they have acquired
- 2- the **assets** they possess and have access to
- 3- the **activities** they carry out.

## *Livelihoods Groups:*

Are *groups of households* within a community or geographic zone that *share similar assets and capacities* through which they gain their means of living. These groups of people are differentiated by the main activity they carry out and the use of their resources to make a living.



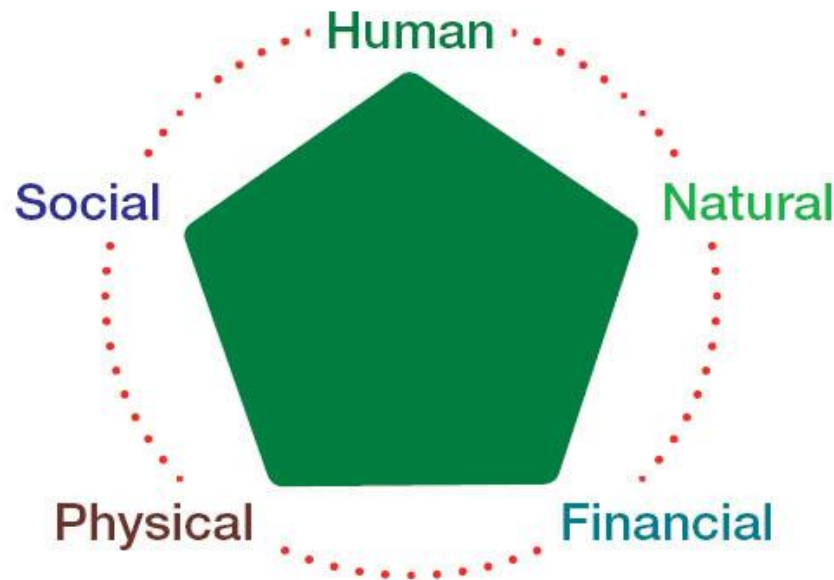
## *Exercise 1 - What is their livelihood?*





# Assets and Resources

## The Livelihoods ASSET PENTAGON



### Human

Education, training, qualifications, skills, being capable to work

### Natural

Land, water supply, forest resources, fishing resources, wild plants, fruit trees

### Financial

Savings (including jewellery if relevant), access to credit, debts, pension, remittance, salary

### Physical

Tools, equipment, roads, transport, electricity, sewage, water wells, livestock, fertilizer, seeds

### Social

Participation in community groups, connections with kin elsewhere, religious linkages, membership of political parties

Source: Adapted from VCA Toolbox, IFRC (2009)

Pg.17 box 3 - IFRC guidelines for livelihoods programming



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# Livelihoods Strategies

## Examples of key Programming Aims and Activities under each Asset Group

### Social Assets

- Try to build cohesive community, including poorest
- Social mobilization to develop community institutions, mediation systems

### Human Assets

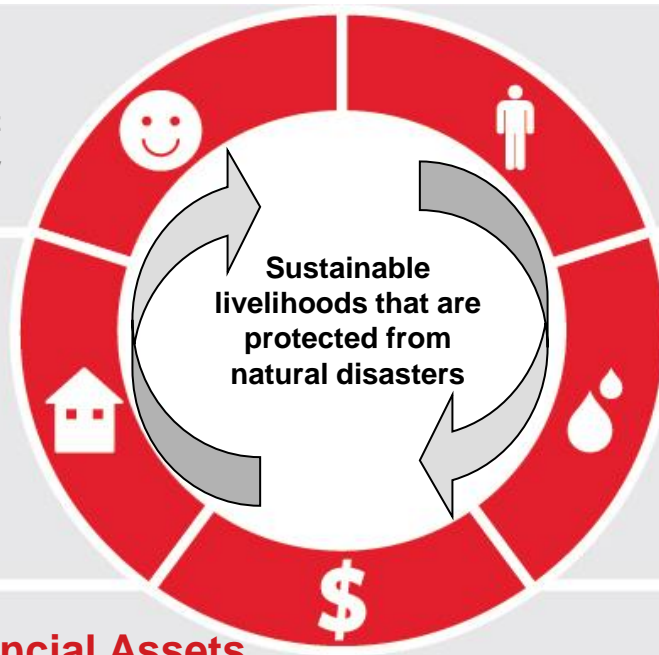
- Provide skills and technical training
- Increase access to healthcare and education

### Physical Assets

- Improving access to markets, improved infrastructure, clean water
- Provide tools and equipment for livelihoods

### Natural Assets

- Grants to improve soil and water resources for agriculture
- Environmental security, and development of resources



### Financial Assets

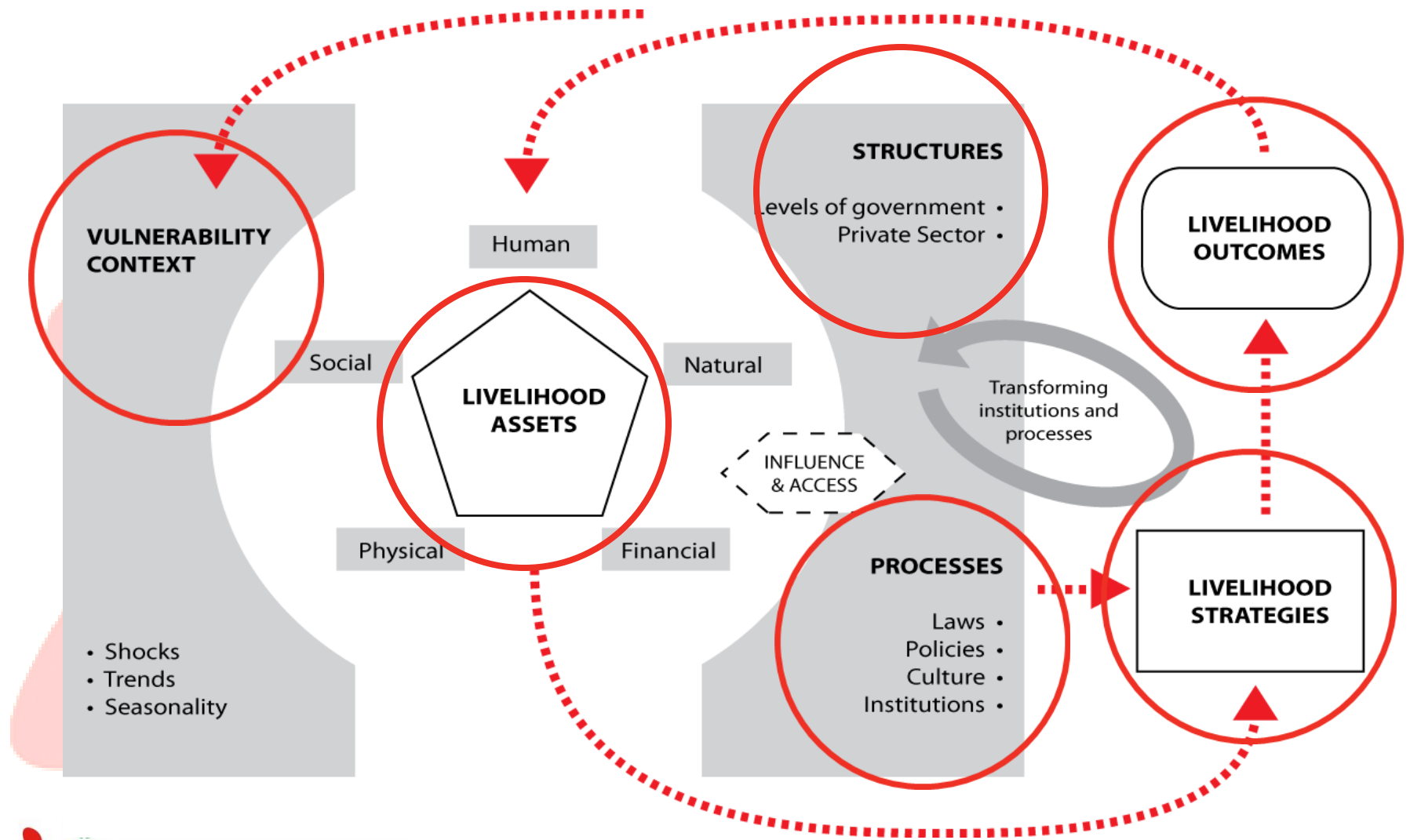
- Grants for livelihoods, debt reduction for poorest, helping set up savings groups and access to credit
- Low interest rates, facilitating access to banks

## ***Livelihood outcomes***

*What do people attempt to attain with their livelihoods? What goals do they pursue?*



# The Sustainable Livelihood Framework



## Coping Strategies

These are strategies that individuals carry out when confronted by a difficult situation (i.e. natural disasters, armed conflict, political instability, public economic and social measures amongst others).

These consist in *adjusting activities*, assuming *new roles and responsibilities*, exploring *alternatives to acquisition*, the use and sale of their *assets*, and *adapting to change*.

**Gender** profiles are important for a full picture of how individuals, households and communities cope in difficult times.



## *Why provide livelihoods support?*

In order to facilitate to vulnerable individuals and communities in need, *alternatives of means of living*, *development of personal capabilities* and *access to opportunities*.

By ensuring that vulnerable households have sustainable means of living, their incomes, their self esteem, their possession of assets and their social participation will increase significantly over time.

Livelihoods support generates a positive impact in the *empowerment* of individuals, making it possible to make them leaders of their own development.



## *When is it appropriate to provide livelihoods support?*

### Relief /early recovery

In a wide range of disaster and conflict contexts, including sudden onset, slow-onset or chronic situations, as well as complex emergencies.

At different stages of people's lives *following a disaster or conflict*.

### Recovery

In *recovery programmes* to move beyond basic relief and support people to return to normal.

### Development

As people go through the stages of recovery, *developmental programmes* can continue to support vulnerable households even further, beyond recovery.

The **enabling environment for livelihoods** is important in all of these stages, particularly in developmental contexts.



## Livelihoods Programming – Appropriateness

Appropriate overall programming aims				
	CATEGORIES	STAGES OF RESPONSE		
	Type of livelihoods assistance	Relief Early recovery	Recovery	Development
1	Replace livelihood <b>assets</b>	✓	✓	
2	Restore livelihood <b>activities</b>	○	✓	
3	Strengthen livelihoods		○	✓
4	Diversify livelihoods		○	✓
5	Protect livelihoods	✓	✓	✓



Priority aims in most situations



Appropriate aims in some situations





## *Types of livelihoods assistance*

### **1. Replacing livelihood assets**

*(page 25 LLH Guidelines)*

**What?** Replacing or provisioning with the funds people need to have sources of income and meet immediate basic needs.

**Why?** To save lives and reduce immediate suffering

**When?** Immediately post-disaster (relief and early recovery)

**How? (examples):**

Provision of labour opportunities in labour-intensive cash for-work schemes for activities such as debris clearing.

Unconditional cash grant to meet basic needs.



## *Types of livelihoods assistance*



## *Types of livelihoods assistance*

### **2. Restarting / Restoring livelihood activities**

**What?** Restarting activities disrupted by disaster or conflict

**Why?** To provide inputs and support in order for people to resume their income-generating activities

**When?** Immediately post-disaster, and beyond

**How? (examples):**

This not standardised and depends on the disaster-affected population in each context.

Specific needs of livelihood groups and the inter-relation between livelihood groups and the labour & goods market are examined.



## *Types of livelihoods assistance*



## *Types of livelihoods assistance*

### **3. Strengthening livelihoods and use of assets**

**What?** Strengthening the use of human and natural assets and resources as well as the coping strategies

**Why?** To improve livelihood outcomes especially economic security and increase resilience to future disasters or conflicts

**When?** During the early recovery phase and beyond

**How? (examples):**

Focus on providing support to improve the quality of physical assets, capacities of individuals, developing skills and techniques, by using better technology, identifying new and improved marketing Methods, market opportunities and routes



## *Types of livelihoods assistance*



## *Types of livelihoods assistance*

### **4. Diversifying livelihoods – not a recommended IFRC aim**

**What?** Building on human and natural and financial assets in a way that creates a new window of opportunity for people who belong to a specific livelihood group.

**Why?** To support poorer households to develop new livelihoods strategies and new skills.

**When?** During the recovery phases, or as development

**How? (examples):**

Providing technical & social support and inputs so that additional sustainable livelihoods activities can be pursued to allow them to achieve better livelihood outcomes.

Often these are supported through development programming.



## *Types of livelihoods assistance*





## *Types of livelihoods assistance*

### **5. Protecting Livelihoods (contributing to DRR)**

**What?** Protecting livelihood assets, activities and outcomes

**Why?** To ensure people can meet their immediate and ongoing livelihood assets and activities to meet their needs.

**When?** At all times

**How? (examples):**

By providing resource transfers in *relief* and *recovery* programming stages, in such a way that further productive and financial asset depletion is avoided at household level, and by minimising the negative use of natural, human and social assets that may be irreversible and damaging to livelihoods.

Contributing to Disaster Risk Reduction through promotion of more resilient livelihoods.

## *Types of livelihoods assistance*



## Session summary

- Livelihood means in simple words **'means of making a living'**.
- The main components of the **sustainable livelihoods framework** are:
  - Vulnerability context
  - Policies, institutions and processes
  - Livelihood outcomes or goals
  - Livelihood resources or assets
  - Livelihood strategies
- A **Household's vulnerability** is determined by its ability to cope with risks and shocks.
- People will rely on **coping strategies** in hard times.
- Livelihoods programming can be applied **at almost any stage** post conflict or disaster and in developmental settings.
- IFRC classifies livelihood programmes according to 5 categories linked to 5 different aims: **Replace; Restart; Strengthen; Diversify; Protection**
- All programmes should build on people **livelihoods-related capacities**.



## *Livelihoods guidelines, materials and other references*

- **RCRC guidelines, materials, strategies etc.:**
  - 2020 Strategy
  - IFRC livelihoods guidelines
  - Global Food Security Assessment Guidelines
  - VAC and VCA Toolbox Research reference Sheets
  - IFRC LRC: [www.livelihoodscentre.org](http://www.livelihoodscentre.org)
- **CaLP:** [www.learningcash.org](http://www.learningcash.org) and the Cash Atlas
- **Overseas Development Institute:** <http://www.odi.org/events>
- **Humanitarian Practice Network:** <http://www.odihpn.org>
- **ALNAP:** <http://www.alnap.org>
- **IASC, Gender Handbook in Humanitarian Action, Women, Girls, Boys and Men Different Needs – Equal Opportunities**
- **DFID Sustainable Livelihoods Guidance Notes**
- **FEWS NET:** [www.fews.net](http://www.fews.net)
- **EMMA (Emergency Market Mapping Assessment):** <http://emma-toolkit.org/get/>



## ***Key issues!***

- Livelihoods in all phases (emergency, recovery, development)

Livelihoods programming and support can be provided in a developmental setting as well as in a wide range of disaster and conflict contexts.

- Livelihoods can be addressed in all different types of emergencies

Including sudden onset (i.e.: earthquakes, floods, hurricanes), slow-onset or chronic situations (i.e.: drought) as well as complex emergencies where populations suffer the effects of a natural disaster event alongside conflict.



*Any questions?*





***THANK YOU!***





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[www.livelihoodscentre.org](http://www.livelihoodscentre.org)