The Philippine Red Cross (PRC) has long years of experience implementing disaster risk reduction in the country way back 1995 with the implementation of the Integrated Community Based Disaster Preparedness Planning (ICDPP) in Benguet, Palawan, Southern Leyte, Surigao del Norte, and Payatas, Quezon City funded by the Danish Red Cross. This program has made the PRC to be proactive in community development projects through the ICDPP. As auxiliary to the government, PRC adopted the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010 also known as Republic Act 10121, a law institutionalizing Disaster Risk Reduction and Management to promote safer, adaptive, and disaster resilient Filipino communities towards sustainable development. PRC is one of the member agencies of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), and is represented in the regional, provincial, and municipal/city Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (DRRMC), and barangay DRRM Committee.

PRC Disaster Management

The Disaster Management Services (DMS) is one of the major service delivery programs of the PRC. Its main activities focus on the three phases of disaster management (pre, during, post). DMS is implementing four major programs such as disaster risk reduction, preparedness, response, and rehabilitation and recovery. Some of the activities undertaken are training, relief management, emergency shelter, livelihood for disaster recovery, cash transfer programming, and shelter in recovery program (shelter repair assistance and core shelter).
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION and MANAGEMENT (DRRM)

What is the Philippine Red Cross doing? Through the Red Cross 143 program, recruitment of volunteers happens in the community such as barangays, schools, and workplaces. The main activities in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management are capacity building and equipping.

COMMUNITY BASED DISASTER RISK REDUCTION is a process of disaster risk reduction and management in which at-risk communities are actively engaged in the identification, analysis, treatment, monitoring, and evaluation of disaster risks in order to reduce their vulnerabilities and enhance their capacities, and where the people are at the heart of decision-making and implementation of disaster risk reduction and management activities.

PROGRAMS
- COMMUNITY BASED DISASTER RISK REDUCTION MANAGEMENT (CBDRRM)
- SCHOOL BASED DISASTER RISK REDUCTION MANAGEMENT (SBDRRM)
- DISASTER RISK REDUCTION MANAGEMENT in WORKPLACES

REHABILITATION AND RECOVERY
Disaster Risk Reduction as inclusion to the disaster recovery program for the immediate repair or reestablishment of essential services and building resilient communities.

- Restoration of repairable public utilities, promoting safety awareness on housing and shelter repair, and provision of livelihood assistance.

COMPONENTS OF DRRM

RISK KNOWLEDGE
Activities focused on understanding the community’s existing hazards and risks, vulnerabilities, and capacity to face a disaster situation. Studying trends of past disaster events to develop possible scenarios of future disasters.

- Tools: Baseline and Endline Data, Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA), Early Warning System (EWS) Assessment, and Hazard and Risks Mapping

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS FOR RESPONSE
The activities focus on building the capacity of the community to take actions prior to, during, and after a disaster. This involves recruitment and training of Red Cross 143 volunteers, training, developing a DRRM Plan, contingency planning, equipping, simulation exercise/drill, and public awareness and dissemination.

EARLY WARNING AND EARLY ACTIONS
This activity is not a stand-alone component of the DRRM. It is usually included in the Risk Knowledge (to identify appropriate Early Warning System design and procedures), and Disaster Preparedness (to establish the EWS and testing through the simulation exercise/drill).

- EWS Factors: Alert and Lead Time, Monitoring and Warning, Dissemination and Communication, and Response

RISK MITIGATION
This component deals with the physical risk reduction affecting the community to either prevent or mitigate the impact of the hazards using either structural or non-structural measures.

Always first. Always ready. Always there.