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SEEDS Asia Projects

Project in the Maldives

Building Resilience to Tsunamis in the Indian Ocean, the Maldives (UNISDR/ADRRN Project "Selamat")

Strengthening Resilience through establishment of Community Resource Centre

Background:

In the Maldives, where population is spread over many small islands, communication technology has developed well so that access to the Internet is easy by both wireless and dial-up through the country. However, house owners who often work outside their own residential island to seek careers or to fish on ship for a long period, mobile phone is very important to communicate with their family living separately. Increasing number of mobile phone users to get necessary information may accelerate the further development of data networks for mobile phones which resulting in the effective usage of digital information.

How Maldivian people use telecommunication systems?

Most households have TV and lots of people have their mobile phones. It's been possible to access the Internet through the mobiles due to growing wireless systems.

On the other hand, personal computer use has not been popular regardless that the government has introduced communication technology with efforts. This is because the lack of facilities where people can browse web sites or send e-mails, which prevent them from realizing their interest in utilizing computers to collect information and communicate with others by e-mail.

Our approach and methodology: Community Resource Centre (CRC)

The purpose of CRC establishment is to provide vast range of information after appropriate arrangement with communities in need for specific information. This requires skilled staff who can manage telecommunication facilities effectively and seek for communication systems on disaster preparedness, disaster mitigation and disaster risk management in order to make the linkages of various information sources, leading to stable communication system in daily life as well as in emergency.

Training for a centre manager is planned to catch latest information needs from communities as local situations change so that the centre conduct regular research. This project can enable women who have not acted positively in the society because of their cultural background to access and utilize information.

Sub-projects

There are 4 components for the Selamat project in the Maldives other than Disaster Risk Reduction planning and training

- [Coastal Bioshield](#)
- [Nutritional Home Kitchen Gardens](#)
- [Community Resource Centre](#)
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