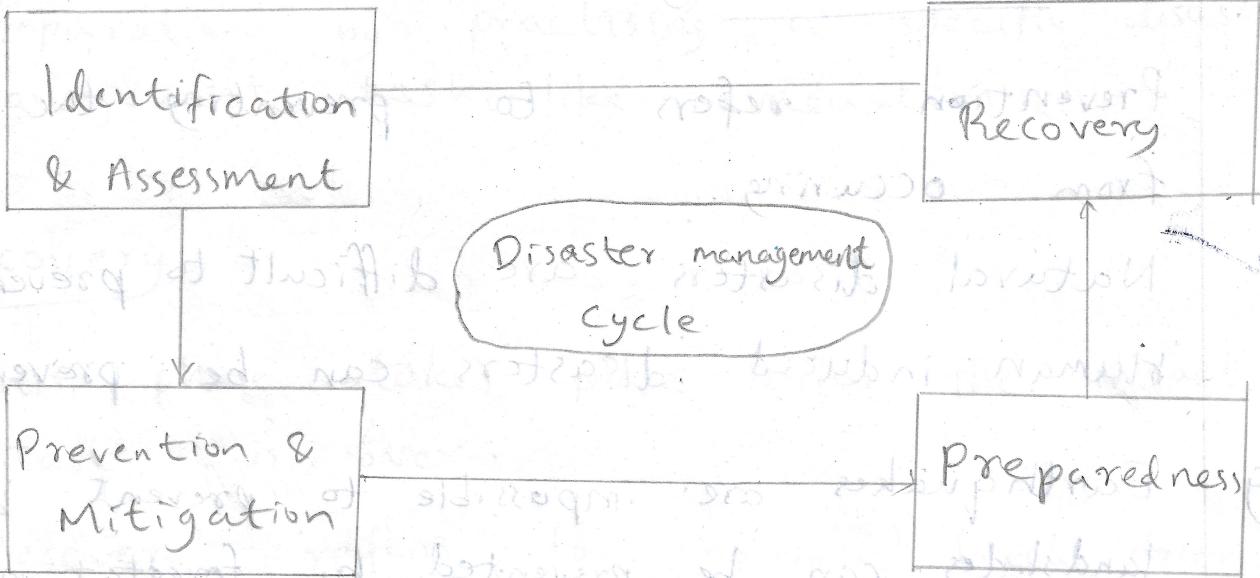


Part B

5



Disaster Assessment

This is the first phase in any disaster management cycle.

Already occurred disasters are identified for a region and the probability of future disasters are calculated.

Disaster may be natural or human induced.

The frequency, probability and consequence of each disaster is assessed.

The resources available, capacity and vulnerability of the community prone to the disaster is also assessed.

Hazard assessment, vulnerability assessment & capacity assessment.

Prevention & Mitigation

Prevention refers to preventing the disaster from occurring.

Natural disasters are difficult to prevent.

Human induced disasters can be prevented.

eg Earthquakes are impossible to prevent but landslides can be prevented by forestation.

Mitigation refers to reducing the impact of the disaster.

Disasters can be mitigated by capacity building. Increase social, physical, economic and attitudinal capacity.

Preparedness

The community prone to disaster must be prepared for it.

Target oriented preparedness:

Vulnerable sections of the community like senior citizens and children are prepared for disaster.

Disaster oriented preparedness:

Preparation to face a specific disaster like floods or disease outbreak.

Task oriented preparedness:

Preparation by practising a specific disaster management task like evacuation.

Recovery

This phase takes place after the impact of disaster is over.

Recovery refers to bouncing back from the disaster and resuming normal life.

It includes physical recovery, economic recovery, counselling, etc.

8

Communication is very crucial in

Disaster Risk Reduction.

Disaster Risk Reduction involves prevention, mitigation & preparedness.

Communication refers to sharing of information in verbal, pictorial or any other form.

Steps in Disaster Communication:

- Develop communication intent
- Create the message to be communicated.
- Encode the message.
- Transmission of signal.
- Reception of signal.
- Decoding the message.
- Interpretation of the message.

Communication is key to informing the community of the disaster hence preparing them for the disaster.

Broadcasting of messages is done to warn the people of incoming disasters.

Constant sirens are also played to make them aware of catastrophic disasters.

Improvement in communication technology helps bring innovative ways to communicate information about disasters.

Inefficiency of communication can be due to:

• Misinterpretation of messages.

• Language barriers.

• Destruction of communication infrastructure.

• Error in transmission of signals.

Disaster risk can be reduced by:

• Communicating probability of risk to community, introducing preparedness measures, informing mitigation measures, increasing capacity by communication & counselling, early warning systems to evacuate the people, etc.

Part A

A well developed early warning system can greatly help in disaster risk reduction.

Early warning system refers to a system to communicate or warn a community of incoming disasters.

Hence it helps in timely evacuation of the people. It may include broadcast messages, sirens, etc.

Effective early warning systems also inform the people of the steps to take to mitigate the disaster. It informs them of supply centres, safe spots & evacuation routes.

e.g. Early warning system to inform people of floods can help them be prepared. They can hence evacuate, collect resources or supplies will save their property, etc.

Hence Early warning system is important for disaster risk reduction.

2 Primary objectives of disaster response efforts:

~~Preparedness~~ Reduce death & protect human lives.

This is the main objective of disaster response efforts.

Many people may be affected by the disaster. They need immediate saving and evacuation. Counselling is also provided.

eg During 2018 floods, the military were quickly sent to save human lives and provide them with supplies.

Recover properties & reduce economic impact.

Private and public organizations may be affected by the disaster.

It can be physical damage to infrastructure or economic damage.

Recovering property is crucial in resuming normal livelihood.

3

Participatory stakeholder engagement can increase the effectiveness of disaster risk management.

Stakeholders refers to stakeholders in a part of the community or any organization in the region where there is risk of a disaster.

The stakeholders may or may not be directly responsible to ~~the~~ increasing the disaster risk.

They can engage in disaster risk management by working with the community or disaster risk management body. They can provide information about their activity which may contribute to risks.

They can also helping developing and implementing disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness measures.

4

Capacity refers to amount by which we can withstand or handle the disaster or hazard. Hence reduce the risk.

Physical capacity:

Refers to capacity of infrastructure. People's physical capacity is limited and can't be improved much.

But infrastructure capacity can be improved by building codes, barriers & retention systems, etc

Mental capacity:

Each individual's mental capacity has to be improved to handle disasters.

They have to control anger, anxiety & depression. Counselling can help improve this.

Social capacity:

The ability of a society or community to withstand a disaster.

Economic capacity:

The economy must not crumble due to a disaster. Funds must be reserved to handle disasters.