



Recovery Framework for Ladakh Flood Relief and Rehabilitation

Looking at the experiences in the past, including recovery processes after major disasters such as the Orissa Super cyclone, Gujarat Earthquake, South Asian Tsunami and Kashmir Earthquake, the following principles are highlighted as a common framework for adoption by all concerned agencies responding to the Ladakh flood situation.

SHELTER

1. Emphasis to be given on OWNER DRIVEN RECONSTRUCTION, as opposed to donor driven
2. Only local materials that have a low ecological and carbon footprint should be promoted
3. Construction techniques should be local and not dependent on alien skills and equipment
4. Efforts should be made for provision of CORE SHELTERS that are permanent. They can be incrementally built upon in the future.
5. Pre-fabricated and temporary solutions should be avoided to the maximum extent possible. A temporary solution is detrimental for a permanent one. A pre-fab alien solution does not conform to environmental and cultural context.
6. A patronizing approach of 'Adopting' villages and communities should not be allowed. No single agency has the mandate or capacity to meet all needs in a community in an appropriate manner.
7. Shelter construction must ensure Disaster Risk Reduction principles in view of the multi-hazard context of Ladakh

WATER-SANITATION

1. Sanitation interventions should adopt the traditional Ladakhi dry compost toilet system
2. Emphasis should be on restoration of traditional water sources, rather than importing elaborate water purification systems
3. Surveillance and avoidance of water-borne diseases should be focussed upon in view of their two week gestation period for their outbreak

HEALTH

1. Persons rendered with disabilities should be ensured access to relief distribution
2. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, whether with visible symptoms or not, must be addressed
3. Counseling and group activities at community and school levels are locally more appropriate than childlines and helplines



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4. Maternal and child care, assisted births, effects of trauma on breastfeeding should be given due attention
5. Adoption of orphaned children by external agencies and individuals should be strongly opposed

LIVELIHOODS

1. Immediate attention is needed to save standing crop. Given the urgency, temporary solutions are more feasible than permanent repairs
2. Distribution of agricultural inputs such as hybrid seeds, fertilizers and alien implements should be completely avoided
3. Cash For Work programs should be in accordance to local environmental and cultural context, and should be no more than two months in duration to avoid dependence

EDUCATION

1. Immediate attention should be given to restart classes or to initiate child friendly spaces for learning. Alien material such as plastic furniture and alien learning aids etc. should not be dumped.
2. Child protection concerns should be addressed.

FOOD AND NUTRITION

1. The government has assured adequate stocks and supply of food through the winter, and has advised against distribution of food aid

INCLUSION

1. Inclusion of socially marginalized groups, migrant laborers from outside Ladakh and Tibetans in exile must be ensured in relief and rehabilitation processes.

COORDINATION

1. Inter-agency coordination mechanism has been established through a control room at LEDEG. The control room will serve as a secretariat for the Coordination Committee. Agencies are strongly encouraged to share all information on assessments and current as well as proposed activities, and participate in unified response.
2. As a matter of principle, all of us can maximize the impact and reach of our efforts



Unified Response Strategy

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through coordination, collaboration and consensus

3. Through the coordination mechanism we should collectively evolve and establish robust systems of accountability to our primary stakeholders

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