STRIDE – LOCALISING EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

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STRIDE
Localising emergency preparedness and response through partnerships

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Setting the scene

- **Strategic Focus Area**
  “Reducing the impact of conflicts and natural disaster national disasters”

- **Learning from previous emergency interventions**

- **Commitment to Localisation**
IRW International Presence on Localisation

Localising the response of organization: Role of Religious based organization

Sri Lanka

As Local as Possible; as International as Necessary”: the role of HR in enabling the localisation of aid

Finland
IRW International Presence on Localisation

Learning event on local partnership and capacity humanitarian strengthening
Thailand
STRIDE: Strengthening Response Capacity and Institutional Development for Excellence

**Result:** Enhanced organisational capacity of local partners in emergency preparedness and response in priority non-presence countries

**Countries:** Cambodia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines

**Local Organisations:** BATAS Foundation, Social Pastoral Action Center of Daet (SPACFI), Hualngo Land Development Organisation (HLDO), Swanyee Development Foundation (SDF), Northeastern Rural Development (NRD), Tekdeysovanphum Organisation (TDSP)
STRIDE: Areas of work

Enhanced Preparedness at Country & Regional level

Comprehensive capacity Strengthening initiatives

Organizational development of local partners

Linkages with regional bodies and institutions
Process of engaging Local partners

**STEP 01**
Development of STRIDE Localisation Framework

**STEP 02**
Identification of Priority NGOs in focused countries

**STEP 03**
Submission of Expression of interest by Local NGOs

**STEP 04**
Finalisation of Partner NGOs based on the set criteria

**STEP 05**
Self Assessment of Preparedness Capacity by Partner NGOs

**STEP 06**
Capacity Strengthening Approach based on Preparedness Assessment

**STEP 07**
Partnership Agreement and Grant Release

**STEP 08**
Monitoring and Learning

**STEP 09**
Regional Learning Event on Localisation of Preparedness & Response
STRIDE localisation Framework aims to enable organisations

- Identify the capacities needed to deliver effective and quality disaster response of small disasters and eventually enabling for successful scale up.

- Prioritise areas for organisational development from the lens of Emergency Response preparedness capacity.

- Flexible funding to allow partners to pivot and change dependent on the changing context/need.

- Understand strengths and areas of improvement for humanitarian programme management, and ability to get recognition and legitimacy in disaster management (DM) system.

- Review the progress of humanitarian capacity development initiatives.

- Provide partners opportunities for networking.
STRIDE: A unique approach

Except for one organisation, local organisations said first time they had experienced such investment in partnerships and whole-of-organisation capacity strengthening:

- Flexibility, adaptability, individuality
- Multifaceted approach to capacity strengthening
- Nature of partnerships and relationships
- Partner selection
- Recognising gaps at all level
STRIDE lessons: Successes

Overall feedback on STRIDE was positive:

- Selection of small to medium sized local NGOs beneficial for both local organisations and Islamic Relief
- Flexible, organizational capacity-strengthening valued
- Internal governance of the project through steering committee and working groups effective
- STRIDE had a multiplier effect beyond its initial objectives
- Networking event gave opportunity to learn and extend networks for local organisations
STRIDE lessons: Challenges

Challenges for Islamic Relief:

- Challenging recruitment and stretched human resources for Islamic Relief
- Timing issues and delays
- Roles and responsibilities between HQ, regional office, country offices

Challenges for local organisations:

- Forging initial partnerships
- Need for greater orientation and communication
- Difficulties finding skilled staff and consultants
- Late transfers of funds
- Short project timeline
STRIDE: Wider learning for localisation and humanitarian action

- Expand stakeholder to CBOs, volunteers, civil society networks and local government in current locations.
- Expand STRIDE model and learning at the Global level.
- Mainstream the values, approaches and learning from STRIDE into all aspects of Islamic Relief’s humanitarian work – beyond one-off project.
- Develop partnerships with international organizations to support localisation at wider level.
- Make partnership and capacity strengthening central to all job profiles in humanitarian division.
- Mold toward collaborative approach with multi organizations for cross learning, mutual effectiveness and efficiency.