



## COMMUNITY-LED-URBAN RESILIENCE A PEER-TO-PEER LEARNING EVENT



(Lower right): Community stakeholders from Malay, Aklan, Philippines gathered physically to join the virtual learning event  
(Left): Participants of the virtual learning event

# Empowering TA 9329 Community Stakeholders through Learning Exchange

### Exploring Community-Led Urban Resilience

Eight (8) pilot communities taking part in **ADB TA 9329** in Bangladesh, Pakistan, and the Philippines recently came together to learn from each other's experience in implementing their respective resilience-building community-led projects (CLP). More than 100 participants attended the 1st peer-to-peer learning event, comprised of community members, civil society organizations, government representatives, ADB Staff and UCCRTF financing partners.

The learning event enabled the community stakeholders to talk more about the collaboration between the grassroots community and the local government in addressing shocks and stresses and how it develops the mutual contribution in building CLP ownership through active participation in decision-making processes. It was also shared that communities have developed a replicable model of the community-led approach which reflects better living condition of vulnerable communities and initiates the identification of adaptive strategies. Panel discussions were also conducted to explore 2 big questions on community-led urban resilience.

#### Day 1: What are we learning about building effective community-led resilience in urban settings/secondary cities?

##### Key takeaways:

- Resilience in the community-level is measured and interpreted in different levels. Engaging individual households in resilience measurement must also be translated in a way that's relevant to the communities.
- Implementing CLPs provide effective response to climate risks and vulnerabilities. The Napaan Multi-Purpose Evacuation Center, newly-constructed CLP in Malay, Aklan, Philippines has been very helpful in securing the lives of 200 vulnerable families in the community as it was used in the pre-emptive evacuation during typhoon Rai.
- The CLP also builds social capital within the communities. Natural disasters can even lead vulnerable groups to start over and greatly affect their living

condition. Climate proofing is significant in designing resilience projects to anticipate future climate change scenarios. Linking the CLP with bigger ADB loan projects initiates co-learning in implementing resilience projects. The CLP in Abbottabad, Pakistan complements the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Cities Improvement Project (KPCIP) and opens an opportunity in scaling up the initiative on solid waste management. The CLP's key learnings on working with communities will benefit the KPCIP implementation particularly in strengthening community ownership.



John It-Itan, farmer and member of the La Trinidad, Benguet community stakeholder group shared his experience in implementing the flood mitigation CLP through a video.

Watch the full video [here](#).

*"I am very much honored to be a part of this community-led project. This has never happened in my life. For this, I had a very good impression of my family too. My husband has started to see me in a different good way. I am very much grateful to ADB, UCCRTF, Oxfam, and CODEC."*  
Rube Akter, community member from Patuakhali, Bangladesh



Vice Mayor Alfredo Coro II of Del Carmen, Surigao del Norte, Philippines shared the experience of the community during the onslaught of typhoon Rai

### Event Details

**Community-Led Urban Resilience: A Peer-to-Peer Learning Event**  
TA 9329 1st Regional Peer-to-Peer Learning Event  
15-16 February 2022 | 12:00 – 02:00PM | via Zoom

#### Day 1

Moderator: Ma. Victoria Antonio, Knowledge Management and Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist, UCCRTF

#### Speakers:

- Jaya Singh Verma, Policy Advisor, Indo-Pacific Regional Team, Foreign, Commonwelath & Development Office (FCDO)
- Hon. Floribar Bautista, Acting Mayor, Malay, Aklan
- Mehreen Hosain, Measurement Consultant, Daira Ltd
- Kiyoshi Nakamitsu, Principal Urban Development Specialist, Central and West Asia Department (CWRD), ADB

#### Day 2

Moderator: Dr. Aditya Bahadur, Principal Researcher, Human Settlements, International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)

#### Speakers:

- Dr. Mary Racelis, Trustee, Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement (PRRM)
- Marina Best, Senior Social Development Specialist (Civil Society and Participation), Sustainable Development and Climate Change (SDCC), ADB
- Mumtaz Tanoli, Community Resilience Officer in Abbottabad, Omar Asghar Khan Development Foundation (OAKDF)
- Ennamul Mazid Khan Siddique, Acting Country Director, Oxfam Bangladesh
- Manoj Sharma, Chief, Urban Sector Group (USG), SDCC, ADB





Community stakeholders in Del Carmen, Surigao del Norte, Philippines convenes for the peer-to-peer learning event despite the current rehabilitation of Siargao Island brought by typhoon Rai

**Day 2: What should effective community-led initiatives look like and what are we learning about effective community-leadership/ participation in the context of ADB and other donor initiatives?**

**Key takeaways:**

- Community-led urban resilience is linked to the discussion of power relations and how paying attention on the process of involving and organizing communities is critical in developing resilience projects.
- Co-knowledge generation strengthens partnership with communities. The people need to have the knowledge to strengthen genuine engagement and drive in sustainability of the CLPs.
- Access is crucial in community-led resilience. Capturing community voice is very important in this process to ensure accountability and convergence.
- Increased community engagement in the project life cycle can drive sustainability. Organizations have different levels of working which limits the range of possibilities in implementing CLs.
- There is a need to explicitly focus on poor and vulnerable communities for resilience investments to work. This also entails generating localized knowledge to enhance climate change awareness and must position communities at the center of planning and implementation.
- When an enabling space is given to people, opportunities for community-led resilience opens up because it's about ownership and identity.
- The community's civic accountability is a cultural transformation and entails behavioral change. The CLPs is a good starting point in enabling communities to be informed and embrace the process of resilience building.



Representative from the women sector in Pakistan participated in the learning event and shared the benefits of implementing the CLP in empowering communities

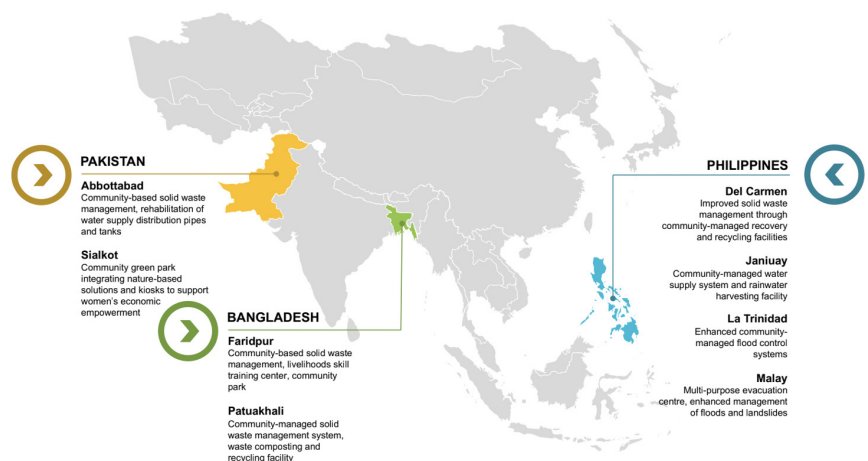


Community stakeholders in Faridpur, Bangladesh during the learning event

“Financing needs to be flexible, it should meet the community’s needs, and should be coupled with technical assistance to build knowledge and capacities.”  
Manoj Sharma, ADB

“Since climate change is the major concern of donors, it’s important for communities to learn what that means in terms of their own situations. What do they already do that are in effect climate risk actions without perhaps them formulating it that way. How do they think these actions can be expanded and even communicated to other similar communities? Discuss with them ways in which they can become involved.”  
Mary Racelis, PRRM and Day 2 Panelist

“We would love to hear more about how women and girls, and the most marginalized are being brought into the central role to discuss, agree, and involve them in this climate resilience discussions...This workshop is really important to understand the lessons on what’s working at the community-level.”  
Jaya Singh Verma, FCDO



TA 9329 CLPs in Bangladesh, Pakistan, and the Philippines

**View full session recordings [here](#)**

Oxfam is implementing [ADB-RETA 9329](#) Promoting Urban Climate Change Resilience in Selected Asian Cities Subproject 3 (SP3): Pilot and Project Development Activities. The goal of the project is to contribute to climate change resilience by empowering vulnerable communities through community-led initiatives. The project is implemented with local partners in 8 pilot communities in Bangladesh, Pakistan, and the Philippines.

**Further Information**

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This Event Snapshot is published under [TA 9329](#): Promoting Urban Climate Change Resilience in Selected Asian Cities (UCCRTF Subproject 3)

**UCCRTF Financing Partners**

