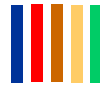


## Invitation for Collaboration

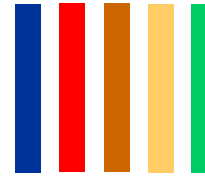
We seek active engagement with networks of Civil Society Organisations, knowledge centres, private sector parties, governmental and international institutions, to contribute to the development of common approaches.



## Contact

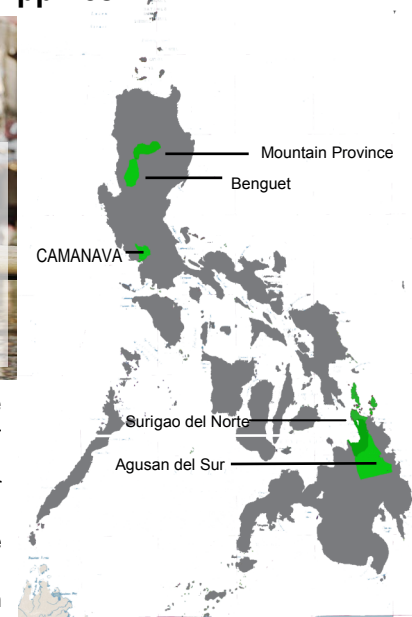
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Partners for Resilience Philippines



# A new partnership for resilience

## Partners for Resilience in the Philippines



The Philippines is one of the worst affected countries in the world in terms of: climate induced disaster risk and environmental degradation.

- It ranks 3rd among 173 countries in terms of disaster risk and natural hazard.
- It ranks 10th among 193 countries on the climate change vulnerability index.
- It ranks as the 9th worst environmental performer on the proportional environmental impact index.

## Our Approach

Multiple humanitarian, development and environmental organizations have joined forces as 'Partners for Resilience' (PfR) with the aim of reducing the impact of natural hazards on vulnerable communities. The partners strongly believe in the central role of resilience as the way to effectively deal with development in disaster-prone areas and affected ecosystems.



The Netherlands + Red Cross





## Background

Globally, the number of disasters, man-made and natural, has been increasing almost exponentially over the last 20 years. The intensity and the unpredictability of hazards leading to disasters if combined with vulnerability, has been negatively related to climate change and the degradation of ecosystems. Through the loss of lives, assets and production, hazards and disasters have a negative impact on livelihoods and economic growth. It is a well-established fact that poor people are disproportionately affected. Disasters wipe away gains in poverty reduction that took much time, energy and resources to achieve and threaten the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

***"It's time to get our acts together!  
Ease the effects of climate change now through  
early prevention and action."***  
*Richard Gordon  
Chairman, Philippine Red Cross*



Creating ownership within the community makes sure that small scale mitigation are relevant and sustainable (Photo by CARE NL)



## Aims & Strategies

The PfR will work with people in the countryside: in the Mountain Province, Benguet, Agusan del Sur and Surigao del Norte. Also, we will work with urban slum-dwellers in the CAMANAVA area. Both will take place in areas of disaster risk and environmental degradation aggravated by climate change. The experience shared by the PfR members (several have worked together in the field before) made a large array of interventions feasible. The programme focuses on three key areas:

### 1. **Strengthening community resilience.**

Work at local level will be carried out in close collaboration with communities and encompass disaster preparedness and early warning, livelihood security, preventing environmental degradation, poverty reduction, and the protection of water resources.

### 2. **Empowering civil society**

The PfR aim to increase the capacities of civil society organizations (CSO) working on reducing disaster risk and strengthen cooperation between government knowledge centres and non-governmental actors, essential if community resilience is to be reinforced. The work will include: risk analysis; risk-reduction plans; early warning across a range of timescales; support to communities and civil society.

### 3. **Policy dialogue.**

The PfR will seek to create a policy context more conducive to DRR and CCA at the local, national and international level to make communities, landscapes and institutions more resilient.

### **In short**

In concrete terms, the PfR will work with communities to determine the main disaster risks they face, in partnership with different actors.



## Our Reason for Being

Worldwide, we aim to reduce the impact of natural hazards on vulnerable communities. We will help more than 400,000 vulnerable community members to strengthen their resilience to deal with increased disaster risk, effects of climate change and environmental degradation. Thereto, we will cooperate with local civil society, authorities, governments and other stakeholders.

## Innovation

Innovation is one of the core values of the alliance. The combination of capacities of three worldwide well-connected organisations (Red Cross/Red Crescent, Caritas, and CARE) with technical and research knowledge, extended experiences in policy dialogue and advocacy of Wetlands International and the Red Cross/ Red Cross Climate Centre, stands for an integral and ground-breaking approach to address Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Ecosystem Management and Restoration (EMR).

## Global Scope

In Asia we are working in the Philippines, Indonesia and India. In Africa, we will work in Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali and Uganda, and in Central America in Guatemala and Nicaragua. All of these are countries prone to disasters related to climate change, environmental degradation and/or geological factors (such as earthquakes). Furthermore, the country-based activities will be supplemented by a global strategy to disseminate experiences.



Local early warning systems will be linked to academic knowledge, in order to prepare communities for potential disasters. (Photos by Philippine Red Cross)



## Partners for Resilience

Five Netherlands-based organizations (CARE, Cordaid, Wetlands International, Netherlands Red Cross, RC Climate Centre) have embarked on a five year program in nine developing countries, among which: the Philippines.

The alliance is one of the first initiatives at this scale that aims to integrate community based ecological, humanitarian and development approaches to address the increased risks of hazards, climate change and environmental degradation.