PASSA

Participatory Approach to Safe Shelter Awareness

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What is the PASSA tool?

• A **participatory tool** for DRR related to Shelter Safety, pre or post disaster.

• Variation of the Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (**PHAST**)  

• **The aim** of PASSA is to develop local capacity to reduce shelter-related risk by raising awareness and developing skills in joint analysis, learning and decision-making at community level

• **An assessment tool**, process, and method for prioritising the needs of the community through identifying the key issues concerning shelter
PASSA - Process

• Develop their awareness of shelter safety issues
• Identify hazards and vulnerabilities
• Recognise and analyses causes of shelter vulnerability
• Identify and prioritise potential strategies to improve safety
• Make a plan to put those strategies into place based on capacity
• Monitor and evaluate the progress

- Lack of infrastructure, public space, services, use of poor construction materials.
- 750 families on 495 plots
- 49% of housing completely destroyed
- 38% Structurally safe
- 13% repairable
PARTICIPATION
PASSA – Activities

- 1- Historical profile (and every day problems)
- 2- Community Mapping and Community visits
- 3- Impact and frequency of Hazards
- 4- Safe and Unsafe Shelter
- 5 -Options for Solutions
- 6 -Planning for Change
- 7- Problem Box
- 8- Monitoring Plan
PASSA – Process

1. PREPARATION of PASSA materials
2. TRAINING national staff & volunteers on PASSA
3. PLAN how to roll out activities
4. INTRODUCE process and aims of PASSA to the community
5. SELECTION of passa group by community
6. ACTIVITIIES start in the community
7. ADAPTATION of activities to context
8. REPORTING of activities to community
9. ACTION PLANS drawn up in draft
10. PRESENTATION to the Committee and Community
Community meeting to explain PASSA
A local artist produces sets of drawings that are based on the community building practices and habitat, these drawings are adapted to the needs identified by the PASSA group and used through all the PASSA process.
PASSA – The Group

The PASSA group has between 30-40 persons that are part of the community, formed with a mix of people from different backgrounds, age, gender, education, income level, occupation, owners and renters, etc that widely represents the community.
The historical profile helps to understand the different events that have caused any impact on the community and highlights its vulnerabilities.
### Activity 1 – Historical profile (EVERYDAY problems)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problems faced</th>
<th>Vulnerabilities</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poor quality roofs</td>
<td>Rain/ Strong winds/ Hurricane (leaks in Roof)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of drainage/sewage stagnant water</td>
<td>Diseases malaria/typhoid/cholera/diarrhoea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debris/Abandoned unstable houses</td>
<td>Poor access and deposit of waste in abandoned houses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of health center nor</td>
<td>No first Aid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackout/power cuts and insecurity- no reliable electricity , light</td>
<td>Use of insecure electrical connections that can cause fires / lack of lightning at night is a security threat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lack of leisure</td>
<td>Frustrated and stressed population (bored children)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lack of latrines</td>
<td>Human waste is disposed of in black plastic bags that are left out in the open; health risk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drinking water supply</td>
<td>Unreliable water from CANMEP, and wasting of water due to pipe damage on the streets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Restricted access</td>
<td>Challenges fast and effective evacuation in the event of fire or earthquake</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tents</td>
<td>Subject to winds / fire/ direct transmission of heat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Activity 2 - Community Mapping and Community Visits

IT HAS TO BE FUN,
THEY HAVE TO LEARN!
Results - Problems identified and prioritised

A - Weak infrastructure and flooding
B - Public health, water, sanitation/waste management issues
C - Safe access routes, public space and personal safety
D - Housing reconstruction needs

The above compounding safe SHELTER issues...
Action Plans

A - Canal, drainage
B - Latrines, shared
C - Market Place
D - Safe access routes, public space and public lighting
E - Housing reconstruction

(All with community participation)
Outcomes

1. A mobilised community and boosted moral
2. A programme that responded to people’s self determined needs
3. Community led / contracted projects
4. PASSA adapted for an urban context....for future events

ALSO....

It promoted a high level of engagement
Identification of priorities and solutions at community level - appropriate approach
The process empowered and gave voice to members
The community started to understand that actions have an impact on others
Risks to health and safety are also caused by everyday practices
Challenges

To full participation from community:

- High expectations, concrete results
- Speed of the process, pressure to finish
- Not used to participatory approaches
- Passivity
- Poor community spirit from some
- Mentality around aid dependency
- Rumours
Overcoming Challenges

To full participation from community:

• Strong facilitation
• Continuous mobilisation
• Anecdotes, explanations
• Quick impact projects
• Open House
• Different methods of communication
Open House

• All the work, action plans and mapping were presented in an exhibition

• This offered an official opportunity for the PASSA members to share their work in detail with family and friends and the wider community
Challenges - Limitations

- At programmatic level...
  - Timing - Not used in first year (blessing in disguise?)
  - Budget allocation flexibility necessary
  - Participatory tools are only the first step
  - Explanation to community requires time
  - Limitations of drawing toolkit
  - Further training is needed for technical solutions
  - Avoid gaps in delivery to avoid frustrations
  - Parallel activities
Community Contracts: Canal and drainage (health)
Community Volunteers: Access and public space
Benefits - wider impact

Improving public space, paving, pride…
Community Contracts: Public amenities, latrines, lighting
Community Contracts: Market
Benefits - wider impact

Training on site, salaries and capacity building
Thank you