



The Report of Disaster Reduction Program for Community Policing Committees.



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THE ASIA FOUNDATION - GAFSO

Summary

The Disaster Reduction Program for Community Policing Committee was organized by GAFSO with the support of THE ASIA FOUNDATION & SAMMANTHURAI POLICE, to give an awareness on disasters that possible to happen in the area and how they could manage the circumstances through precautions what they have to do to protect themselves and village to make sure the security of the village. It was a great opportunity to the participants to get knowledge and improve the skills for living a harmless life in emergency times. It was facilitated by experienced and professional people who came from disaster management center and the Director of GAFSO. The program was conducted at KM/KM/ Sanmuha Maha Vidyalyaya, Karaitivu on 12th November 2016 as a one day program [08:30 – 16:30]. it consisted of 4 sessions that were capacitating in different topics. Those were on What is disaster? and Type of disasters, how to manage themselves from the various of disasters, healthiest food for healthies life and Road accidents and First aid activities.

The program was attended by 60 participants of 6 Civil security committee from Karaitivu-10, 12, Ninthavur-02, Malayadikkiramam-02, Block J west and Weeramunai-04.

Mr. Mohamed Wahir, the coordinator of Disaster Management Centre, District secretariat, Ampara , Mr. Mohamed Feros, the Disaster Management Officer, Divisional secretariat, Sammanthurai & Mr. AJ. Kamil Imdad, Project Director from GAFSO participated as facilitators of the program and conducted the sessions.

Background

Community Policing committees have been created in the village level to enhance community safety, security and post-conflict stability through raise up the community level interventions on promoting community police interaction and find solutions for problems related to safety and security of the people in the village. This is a component of cordial atmosphere that take part between civil group of community and Sri Lanka Police under the community policing program. civil security groups have been created by selected community leaders, professionals, government officials and people who represent CBOs.

GAFSO has facilitated several programs to these group of people that empower and enhance knowledge and abilities to enable them to lead and perform for the purposes. In that respective, the above-mentioned program was conducted to them because it teaches several instructions on life-guard during disasters. Today the reports say that many disasters happen every minute in the worldwide [www.gdacs.org] and it leads to big casualties resulting the devastations that creates deaths, disabilities, damages of buildings and properties etc. as such, Sri Lanka has noted as a country that increased possibilities for several disasters. Even though the country had met cyclone, floods in the years of 1956 and 1978, for the last two decades, the disasters have gone to high, 2011 flood, 2004 Tsunami and increased landslides that was to disappear a village and cause to report several number of deaths in the hill country areas and sea erosion are significantly to be considered. although the nation and people have been affected often by these natural disasters. in other hand, man-made disasters have been resulting many likewise devastation that make difficult life of the people. So, it is necessary that prepare the people to enable them to face and perform against these disasters in order to ensure safety and security of life.

Opening of the session

Mr. Nijananth, the field coordinator of GAFSO inaugurated the program with religious ritual and delivered a speech welcoming all those participants. He also introduced the resource persons who have come from disaster management Centre of District office and DS office. And then he invited the Project director of GAFSO Mr. A.J. Kamil Imdad to deliver introductory speech to the audience.



The session of introductory speech

He delivered his speech that emphasizing the objective and expectation of today's program to the participants that gives valuable information and knowledge that is focused in wide level by the scholars who involved in Master degree and PHD programs. such a great subject is found that is necessary to all people to be aware to have a safe and security in the life during the disaster that we happen in unexpected times. He gave an introduction about the participants who represent the 6 civil security committees from different villages and these groups were created under the community policing program of The Asia Foundation that was started a 6 years ago. He then detailed the programs conducted to the communities till now under the project.

Finally, he wrapped up his session with a request for the participant that emphasize their present in the whole day program. Also he has given necessary inputs time to time during the programme to keep the programme on track with the objective of village safety & security through community policing.

The session of demonstration on Disaster management.

Mr. Wahir, the Assistant coordinator of disaster management Centre, district office, Ampara chaired the session and demonstrated on disaster management. He said that this is a large subject that cannot be analyze and understand in one day program. However, we can try to get some awareness on disasters that we have to be vigilant and prepare ourselves against them to secure us during those times. He pointed out on some disasters what have affected the country in past that were causes to be brought many damages in our life and economy.

- ❖ The disaster management center was formed according to the act of no 03 of 2005 parliament amendment that was made in Sri Lanka Parliament after the Tsunami. A ministry was created for the purpose and activities related to the disaster was planned and assigned to be carried out through it.
- ❖ District wise and DS wise cluster offices for disaster management have been situated to provide services for the people that coordinate and manage the situations during that unexpectedly bring affects in the people's life.
- ❖ An early warning alarm system has been fixed in Karaitivu Army camp to give alert the people during disasters happen in the area.
- ❖ He highlighted the functions of disaster management center.
 - I. Information management
 - II. Reduction of disasters
 - III. Precaution activities/ early warning
 - IV. Pre-and Post-disaster management activities
- ❖ He explained in detailed on what is disaster, disaster is a situation that a hazard reaches a vulnerable people or place. So, precaution and preparedness will protect our life and properties.
- ❖ Multimedia presentation took place in detail on disasters that happen naturally and man-made activities. he gave many scenery information on each disaster. he also pointed out some disasters that would be possible to happen in Sri Lanka. Those are, Tsunami, Landslides and land erosion, cyclones, floods, drought, lightning, Earthquake, Industrial accidents, Road accidents, air pollution, Deforestation and war.
- ❖ He emphasized the importance of awareness on disasters and management.
- ❖ Lightning is a disaster that occur normally in this area that consume 48/ 56 life of people yearly in island wide.
- ❖ 0 % knowledge about Lightning is among the people including educated people even though literate rate of it is 92 %.
- ❖ He pointed out the chances for attack of lightning and how to be safe when its happen that people engage in daily life activities.
- ❖ He gave the contact number of Disaster Management Centre 117 and EOC 077 39579 00.

The Session on being preparedness for facing disasters

Mr. Mohamed Feros, the disaster management officer demonstrated on preparedness against disasters that are expected to happen in the Ampara area. He pointed out some disasters what have most probabilities to happen in this area and how to manage those situations.

- ❖ Drought is a disaster that is most common to this country as well as affect Ampara districts. Thus, agriculture activities are affected, people and animal have Water scarcity problem.
- ❖ He analyzed also about flood, cyclones, lightning and fire that possible to happen often in our area and the preparedness what we have to be ready to face that emergency situation and secure the most valuable documents and things from the devastations.



The session on health food and life of health

Mr. Mohamed Feros, the disaster management officer at divisional secretariat office, Sammanthurai got the floor to demonstrate the people on “**Healthy food and healthy life**”. He started the session with the information that remind the people on the essential elements to life of human such as water, air and food. He said it is a man-made disaster that the situations changed in to that we are unable to have heathiest food in our daily life today. In the world of money making, fast life and careless of our activities, we are unfortunately trapped to have poisoned foods and opponent that bring disease and kill our life in early age. So, it is necessary that we should be careful and take attention on eating health food.

- ❖ He presented one by one in multimedia scenery presentation. As first he explained in detail about type of foods and associate foods what we consume by prepare for our daily meals.
- ❖ He also detailed explanation on type of nutrition that is important to our body such as Carbohydrate, Protein, Lipid, vitamins and minerals and what nutrition exist in which food that we have to add in our daily meals.
- ❖ He also pointed out the diseases that generate in our body because of shortages of those nutrition.
- ❖ He explained in details the human activities that are carried out to produce unhealthy, illegal and poisoned foods in the technical world.
- ❖ 2700 KJ calorie food should be consumed daily by a man and likewise 2300 KJ by woman to maintain the balance of nutrition of the body.
- ❖ All the activities were stopped for lunch that followed the demonstration on health food to health of life.



The awareness session of Road accidents and affects.

Mr. Mohamed Feros demonstrated about Road accidents that has increased in our area and how the poor people are affected because of negligence of irresponsibility of drivers and how can we safe guard from such disaster.

- ❖ He explained in detail through presentation of video clips and photos about road accidents and said that as a result of the accidents, several affects are reflected in the community.
- ❖ He pointed out on direct and indirect reasons for happening road accidents.
- ❖ Many poor people who are travelling and walking on the road obeyed road laws are affected by negligence of parents, drivers, youths and unskilled people in driving.
- ❖ Many road accidents lead to create a disabled community that suffer from poverty, begging etc.

The remedial session about first aid

The session was to present about the objective of first aid and steps of the actions that engages in the process. Mr. Mohamed Feros demonstrated in detail by multimedia presentation.

- ❖ He explained what is first aid and outlined the objectives of the first aid.
- ❖ He also pointed out the characters of a first aider that is emphasized to a well-trained person has to possess.
- ❖ He explained about some circumstances that would be needed emergency assistance such as snake bit, injuries, nose bleeding, sprain and fracture and burn.
- ❖ He also did some practical session on how to act in the field during emergency.
- ❖ It was a fruitful session that enhance the knowledge of the participants to enable them to be aware and perform while meet the incidents.



Recognitions of the programs

The facilitators provided enough time and space to the participants to be comprehensive on each topic till they understand by questioning on and answering. It was taken place at end of each session that after the facilitators presented the contents of the topics.

Feedback of the program

The program is viewed as timing of the decision that is conducted in the area because it is a rain falling season of monsoon. Organizers of the program equipped the facilitators with the suitable hall arrangement that gives a conducive environment and Multimedia projector to present technically the aspects of the sessions. Facilitators submitted the information and knowledge via their professional way and experiences. It was observed that the participants respected the call of the director of project of GAFSO that should participate till the last session of the program and thereby supported to successfully conduct the program.

Over all feedback of the program is that would be a fruitful opportunity to the participants to work in the village to make sure the security of the community is ensured.

Participant Details.

1. Project Coordinator - GAFSO.
2. Field Coordinator - GAFSO.
3. Two polices from Sammanturai police Station.
4. Two resource person from DMC
5. Four GS.
6. Ten participant from 6 Community Policing Committees.

Thank you,

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