Understanding the trade-offs between development and disaster risk: a typology

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TDDR – Transforming the relationship between development and disaster risk reduction
The limits of DRR

Context: learning from HFA; SFDRR recognition that *inequitable and unsustainable development drives risk*

**TDDR** has identified three key gaps in DRR research, practice and policy:

1. A failure to adequately understand the complexity of vulnerability creation;
2. A failure to be scale-appropriate and apply what is known to the scale at which change is required; and
3. A fixation on the goal of “reducing” risk rather than understanding trade-offs that underpin decision-making processes at all levels.
Trade-offs

- Choice between two desired objectives
- One choice inhibits the other from taking place

- To examine the decision making processes related to development and disaster risk
- To examine the decisions made in the processes as „trade-offs“
- To identify spaces for intervention
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<tr>
<th>Trade-off type</th>
<th>Critical questions in the analysis of trade-offs</th>
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| **Power** | • Who is and is not involved in the decision-making process? Which criteria are used to select actors for involvement? What is the appropriate level and extent of involvement? How are elite capture and marginalization avoided?  
• Who decides the agenda and goals of the process? Is it tied to funding?  
• How are decision-makers held accountable?  
• What are the costs of and resources necessary for inclusion? |
| **Equity** | • How is equity defined in practice?  
• Who benefits and who is harmed by a given decision? Are the potential losers involved in the decision-making process?  
• How can vulnerable and marginalized people be included in the process?  
• Have indirect impacts of decisions been identified and addressed in the decision-making process?  
• What are the resources needed to analyse impacts? |
| **Temporal** | • What is the appropriate time-frame for which risks, costs and benefits should be considered?  
• What is the appropriate case-specific discount rate, and how does the discount rate affect the outcome of the decision?  
• What are the long-term impacts of decisions?  
• How are decision-makers held accountable for the long-term impacts of their choices? |
| **Risk** | • What are the context, uncertainties, and known and unknown risks related to the decision?  
• How are risks prioritized by those needing to act in order to decrease disaster risk?  
• What assumptions are made in technical assessments of risks? Do they reflect how actual people assess risks in their own lives?  
• What level of collaborative learning with stakeholders is optimal? What resources are needed for it? |
| **Aggregation** | • How are the losses measured, and what are they measured in relation to?  
• What key indicators need to be measured alongside GDP for a balanced view of sustainable development and disaster risk reduction?  
• To what extent are social, environmental and economic aspects integrated?  
• To what extent are indirect impacts (social, environmental and economic) considered? |
Testing of the framework

- Tacloban Recovery and Rehabilitation Plan (TRRP)
  - Pilot in Tacloban, Philippines (summer, 2017), (Winter, 2017)
  - TRRP:
    - ST recovery/development plan that mainstreams DRR and CCA. (2014-2017)
    - Shortterm issues/themes: shelter, livelihood, infrastructure restoration
    - Issues covered: shelter, social services, economic, development, physical Infrastructure, environment and cross-cutting plan elements
    - UN-Habitat (coordinated all the aid post Yolanda) and led TRRP process
Methodology

1. Document review
   • Stakeholder mapping

2. Semi-structured stakeholder interviews related to critical questions (decision level trade-offs)
   • Identify impacts on development and drr (trade-offs)

3. Identify evidence of and barriers to transformation
   • Identify further opportunities for intervention
Impacts on development (+ vs. -)

- livelihood opportunities
- relocation beneficiaries
- government accountability
Impacts on disaster risk (+ vs. -)

- resilience to future hazards
- new risks for the relocated
- Vulnerability in old town
Transformational TRRP?

- Evidence of transformation
- Evidence of barriers/resistance
- Future intervention spaces
Next steps:

- Pilot: Phase 1: Planning, Phase 2: Implementation
  - Phase 1 gaps
  - Implementation focus
  - 2nd Testing: Africa (potential case - involved in the planning process)
  - Further work on the link to transformation (other framings of transformation) & intervention spaces
Thank you! Suggestions?