



# Views from the Frontline: Developing Community Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction

East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia

Location:  
Indonesia

Partners:  
Perkumpulan  
Relawan CIS Timor

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Mihalina Naben, Family Welfare Programme Group Leader from Oelbiteno Village and member of the Farmer Group - Photo credit : Willy Fangidae / Perkumpulan Relawan CIS Timor

**Mihalina Naben is the wife of the village head of Oelbiteno. As the wife of the village head, she has the responsibility to chair the Family Welfare Programme Group. This group aims to empower and strengthen the capacity of women to be actively involved in the development processes of her village.**

**Long periods of drought and typhoons are the major risks that threaten the livelihood of the community**

Living in Oelbiteno has its challenges as long periods of drought and typhoons are major risks that threaten the livelihood of the community. In 2019, Oelbiteno village participated in a programme called *Views from the Frontline*. This is a global survey, conducted by the Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction (GNDR), aiming at collecting data of local risks, and local risk reduction plans.

[Views from the Frontline \(VLF\) 2019](#) provides a bottom-up perspective on progress made towards implementation of the UNISDR's Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. The Sendai Framework is an international agreement, signed by many governments, aiming at increased investments in disaster preparedness and disaster risk reduction. Through the GNDR surveys conducted in villages all over the world, local baselines are developed, and local monitoring processes are set up. This ensures that implementation of the Sendai framework is also being monitored locally, as well as (inter)nationally, in countries that have signed the agreement.

Through participation in the survey GNDR aims to increase awareness and to strengthen accountability of governments and inter-governmental bodies for a people-centred approach. The process is led by local actors, building their capacity to monitor and utilise local risk information.



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Woman village PKK member watering the vegetables  
Photo credits: CARE Indonesia/ Rezky S. Yusuf



Women group participation during the *Views from the Frontline* discussion.

Partners for Resilience (PfR) Indonesia focuses to support in increasing the community resilience particularly in Oelbiteno village, East Nusa Tenggara, and *Views from the Frontline* survey provides the local perspectives on risk and resilience by the communities and identify actions towards building their resilience. PfR Indonesia supports to conduct the survey to establish the local-level baselines and generate local risk information to inform policy and local plans. PfR Indonesia also facilitates Integration of Integrated Risk Management into village development plan and budget.

For the survey of *Views from the Frontline* - 51 community members of Oelbiteno village, including the village administration, were interviewed. From the survey, the predominant risks in Oelbiteno identified were typhoons (31%), drought (25%), landslide (20%), disease (9%), crop damage, changing rainfall pattern, forest fire, and high tide (15%). The survey also indicated a barrier, which prevents the community to respond in an effective and efficient manner when hazards strike. This is mainly because of a lack of capacity, limited information access, geographical situation and low government engagement.

Based on the outcomes of the survey, PfR facilitated the development of a community action plan. After sharing the main results of the survey, discussions with the villagers were held to explore required actions from the community to prevent and adapt to the identified risks.

The Community Action Plan encompassed planning such as:

- Climate adaptive agriculture
- Introduced village and custom regulation to preserve water catchment areas
- Capacity strengthening of community based organisations: 13 farmers groups
- Development of an Emergency Response Team
- Additional provision of biogas as energy alternative
- Relocation to safe zones to avoid landslides
- Improving the housing construction
- Road reconstruction

The villagers faced in recent years longer periods of drought which reshaped the perspective of the community on farming. For Mihalina personally, and the village farmer group she belongs to, this was a trigger to start working on climate adaptive agriculture.

With support from Partners for Resilience, Ms. Mihalina and her friends have been introduced to climate proof initiatives such as drip irrigation, horticultural methods, and measures to prevent soil erosion. This way, the crops can better withstand future periods of drought. So, the next period of drought will have less impact on the crops, and therefore on people's livelihoods.

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