

# Institutionalizing Roles and Resources for Grassroots Women's Groups in Disaster Risk Reduction and Risk Governance: An Evidence Based Priority



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**HUAIROU COMMISSION**  
*Women, Homes & Community*

## Roles Grassroots Groups have played from relief to recovery

- Grassroots Women's Groups, Organized Before or After Disasters Strike, Have an Unmatched Track Record in Generating Social, Financial & Political Capital to Support Their Families and Communities to Rebuild and Recover
- Based on experience in India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Philippines, Japan, Turkey, Peru, Chile, Ecuador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Jamaica, and Haiti, we have seen tens of thousands of grassroots women's community based organizations lead the following:



## Roles Grassroots Groups Have Played in Urban and Rural Contexts

- Rescuing Survivors; Organizing Temporary Shelter; Providing Essential Services (Food provision; Child Care, Psycho Social Support)
- Distributing Monies for Basic Needs (from Collective Savings, as Govt. Appointed Social Protection Fund Distributors);
- Monitoring Aid for Corruption and Accountability
- Leading Settlement Enumeration & Liaising with Govt. to Determine Eligibility for Temp. & Permanent Housing ; Identifying & Negotiating for Resettlement Lands; Active in Land Use Planning



## Roles Grassroots Groups Have Played in Urban and Rural Contexts

- Formal Roles in Distributing Information on Entitlements and Organizing Households to Access Them
- Negotiating for Housing Models That Reflect Diverse Needs
- Mobilizing Financial & Voluntary Contributions to Restore Housing and Community Infrastructure; ; Training Women Leaders to Publicly Monitor Construction and Building Code Compliance
- Representing Grassroots Women's Groups in Eco. Development, Livelihood Programming;
- **Post Recovery:** Establishing & Operating On-Going Social Service Programs & Community Centers; ***Active in Settlement Development, Community Decision Making Processes, Leading Small & Collective Enterprises.***



# **Institutionalizing Inclusive Approaches by Formalizing Public Roles for Grassroots Women's Organizations in DRM & DRR**

An Evidence Based Approach, Drawing from Lessons Learned Prioritizes the Following:

- Formalizing urban and rural poor grassroots women's organization as key stakeholders (through formal agreements and active partnerships)
- Dedicating financing and technical support to strengthen and bring community women's effort to scale
- Insuring women's access to productive assets & sustainable livelihoods at scale
- Enforcing policies to secure tenure before disaster strikes





