**B8.4 Creating Community Discussion – Exercise**

**Participant guide**

Tools for Creating Community Discussion[[1]](#footnote-1)

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| **Tools** | **What is it** |
| **Community map** | Community members draw a map of their community, showing geographical features and facilities that residents would turn to during a disease outbreak or other disaster. |
| **Seasonal Calendar/Event Timeline** | Community members describe changes using a simple calendar to identify periods of greatest difficulty or vulnerability. This activity can be used to create a timeline of a particular event, such as a recent outbreak or a past crisis, to uncover strengths of the community. |
| **Community Walk and Observations** | Walk through the community and observe daily practices and community resources. |
| **Household and Facility Observations** | Visit households to observe sanitation, hygiene practices, and/or care giving. Visit particular facilities to observe health services and/or first response activities. |
| **Discussion Groups** | A facilitated discussion among a group of similar people from the community (such as a group of men, women, teachers, business owners, caregivers, or healthcare providers) to better understand the knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions in relation to hygiene, disease, health-seeking behaviours, disaster preparedness, and feedback on specific emergency preparedness actions. |
| **Individual Interviews** | Ask specific questions to individuals in the community to gain a deeper understanding of local emergency preparedness and get feedback into potential community actions |
| **Storytelling** | Community members tell about a disaster or disease outbreak they experienced to examine communication and responses. This activity can also be used as a “lessons learned” discussion to talk about changes in the community and what has been learned in making the changes. |
| **Causes and Effects** | Community members draw and describe how they see the causes and effects of disease to explore perceptions of the causes, consequences and actions to prevent disease or mitigate the impact of an outbreak. |
| **Emergency Scenario** | Help community officials, leaders, and residents to identify strengths and gaps in procedures using a hypothetical scenario. |
| **Bean Ranking** | Beans or small stones are used to express relevant importance and feasibility of various solutions or actions to be taken |
| **Communication Circles** | Community members create circles to show how community groups interact, especially in times of crisis. |
| **Visions for Action** | Participants envision their community in the future as they hope it will be and identify the resources and actions that can be accomplished |

**Exercise:**

1. Identify response related activities where the RRT needs to engage with communities.
2. Identify the appropriate tools to use for creating community discussion (see table below).

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| **Tools for Creating Community Discussion** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Activities** | **Community map** | **Seasonal Calendar/**  **Event Timeline** | **Community Walk and Observa-tions** | **Household and Facility Observa-tions** | **Discussion Groups** | **Individual Interviews** | **Story telling** | **Causes and Effects** | **Emergency Scenario** | **Bean Ranking** | **Communication circles** | **Visions for Action** |
| **1.** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **2.** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **3.** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **4.** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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1. Source: Bringing the community together to plan for Disease Outbreaks and other Emergencies: A step-by-step guide for community leaders. AI.COMM project. http://www.globalhealthcommunication.org/tool\_docs/94/bringing\_the\_community\_together....pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-1)