



THE CLIMATE & SOCIETY GAME

People's different vulnerabilities to climate change and their different abilities to be change-makers

The scenario

Krishna Nagar is a low-income neighbourhood in an Indian coastal city. Climate change has brought sea level rise and more frequent high waves, and with it, coastal flooding. It has also brought heavier rain, which bursts the banks of the river running through the city and washes dirty water into the streets. Floods have forced people to evacuate several times. Deaths from malaria have increased.

Infrastructure and urban services are straining to support people and animals.

Something must be done to make the residents' lives more bearable!

That's where you come in.

Put yourself in character to have a conversation about what makes you vulnerable to climate and what makes you able to contribute to solutions.





Round One

The consultation process

The Disaster Management Officer tried to hold a meeting to consult with residents of Krishna Nagar the situation and she also wanted to gather ideas for reducing people's exposure and vulnerability. But hardly anyone came to the meeting! So now she is knocking on people's doors to find out their opinions.

Round Two

The adaptation and resilience plans

It's one year later and the Disaster Management Officer has finished her climate vulnerability and risk assessment. She has drawn up plans for making Krishna Nagar more climate-resilient. The proposals include:

- Set up a disaster risk reduction (DRR) volunteer network involving members from Women's Self Help Groups, Resident Welfare Associations, local police, the municipality, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), communities etc. to provide flood relief gear, water purification kits and other health and safety measures and help the most vulnerable.
- Set up an Information Centre involving local technical universities and the regional meteorological service. This will provide climate and hydrology projections for the region in the coming years, and so help people to better anticipate flood risks. It will develop a flood risk map for the city.
- Organise a savings and loan scheme with more participation by women.
- Install a breakwater combined with 'green infrastructure' (restored mangroves), to reduce coastal flooding.
- Partner with community radio stations, mobile phone operators etc. for more effective roll-out of seasonal weather and climate information in the community, together with information on shelters, escape routes, health and safety.
- Strengthen local housing departments' understanding and enforcement of land use plans and flood risk reduction measures.

In round two, all the residents gather to hear the plans. They respond, according to each person's concerns and abilities.

