



FIELD READY

Search & Rescue and Disaster Risk Reduction

Problems in this sector

When a disaster strikes, the right tools and equipment can make the difference between life and death. A lot can be done by reducing risks prior to a disaster, but the results are often unpredictable due to lack of preparedness. Slow and expensive humanitarian supply chains reduce the effectiveness of response. Alternative and more innovative means of providing search, rescue and preparedness are vital.

What Field Ready is doing

Field Ready's aim is to save the lives of people before and in the immediate aftermath of a disaster. One way we do this is by providing locally made tools and equipment related to search and rescue operations as well as helping improve community resilience through disaster risk reduction (DRR) activities. Field Ready follows the Sendai Framework for informing our activities and is dedicated to enhancing mitigation techniques and principals.

In the immediate aftermath of a bombing, tools are needed to lift rubble and heavy debris such as concrete slabs which can weigh several tons. Lifting air bags are available to well-supplied search and rescue teams worldwide but at an exorbitant cost, these are prohibitively expensive for most areas affected by a disaster. Field Ready has created a means to make these locally in a way that meets international standards at a 90% reduction of market cost. This product has already been used to save people in Syria.

Other products under development are additional search and rescue tools, telecommunications and medical equipment. These include open source instructions for others to replicate these products. We facilitate trainings in problem-solving and making techniques, as well as provision of essential equipment used in local manufacturing.

Impact

Field Ready has carried out a range of activities in this sector making a significant difference for communities in areas such as Nepal and Syria. In a recent bombing, the airbag successfully saved two people, including one child with the capability to save more lives. By using our technology and approach not only is there a reduction in costs of equipment, but also an increased ability to save lives. This approach will increase resilience to future disasters by enabling more people to respond to crisis and to fill gaps in the supply chain in the early stages of a response.

