

Developing National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy & Strategic Action Plan: 2017-2030

**Update on Progress
Management Committee Meeting
6 April, 2017
NEOC, MOHA**

Objective

Formulate National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy and Strategic Plan of Action: 2017-2030 in line with Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

- * taking into account lessons learned & gaps identified through the implementation of NSDRM 2009*
- * lessons learned from 2015 earthquakes & other recent disasters*
- * initiatives on Climate Change Adaptation & Sustainable Development Goals*

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction: 2015-2030

Scope and purpose

The present framework will apply to the risk of small-scale and large-scale, frequent and infrequent, sudden and slow-onset disasters, caused by natural or manmade hazards as well as related environmental, technological and biological hazards and risks. It aims to guide the multi-hazard management of disaster risk in development at all levels as well as within and across all sectors.

Expected outcome

The substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries

Goal

Prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery, and thus strengthen resilience

Targets

Substantially reduce global disaster mortality by 2030, aiming to lower average per 100,000 global mortality between 2020-2030 compared to 2005-2015

Substantially reduce the number of affected people globally by 2030, aiming to lower the average global figure per 100,000 between 2020-2030 compared to 2005-2015

Reduce direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP) by 2030

Substantially reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services, among them health and educational facilities, including through developing their resilience by 2030

Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020

Substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation of this framework by 2030

Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to people by 2030

Priorities for Action

There is a need for focused action within and across sectors by States at local, national, regional and global levels in the following four priority areas.

Priority 1
Understanding disaster risk

Priority 2
Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk

Priority 3
Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience

Priority 4
Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and to «Build Back Better» in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction

Key Principles

- * **Disaster risk reduction focus**
- * **Based on actionable understanding of risk**
- * **Integrated within development sectors**
- * **Multi-hazard management of disaster risk approach**
- * **Requires the government, private sector and all-of-society engagement & partnership**

Along with other guiding Principles as outlined by the Sendai Framework



Methodology

Task 1:

Review of legal and regulatory frameworks on DRR and Climate Change in Nepal

Task 2:

Assessment of DRR sector in Nepal

Task 3:

Review of international frameworks on DRR & Climate Change

Task 4:

Organize and facilitate consultations

Identification of priorities and activities

Task 5: Preparation of

- i. Disaster Risk Reduction Policy
- ii. Strategic Action Plan 2017-2030

Management for the preparation of National Policy & Strategic Action Plan

- * Overall process is led by the Government of Nepal (GON). Other relevant agencies and professionals provide support to the GON.
- * The Working Committee (WC) formed to support and guide the process is led by Head of Disaster Management Division, MoHA. The WC comprises of representatives from;
 - Government- OPMCM, NPC, MOHA, MOFALD, MOUD, MOH, MOPE
 - Non- government-Donor, UNRCO, UNDP, NRCS, DPNet, AINTDGM, Private sector/FNCCI
- * Thematic Working Groups (TWGs): Six thematic working groups have been formed. Lead and Co-lead from government and other relevant organizations as TWG members.

Resources and Technical Support

Resources

- * UNDP for Technical support and national level consultations
- * AINTDGM for thematic and sub-national level consultations

Technical Support

- * Practical Action Consulting (PAC) - Principal technical support provider
- * Thematic Coordinator - Support MoHA and the team to prepare the document in required government policy format for approval process
- * Thematic Experts - Facilitate thematic working group to produce the thematic report

Consultation Process

- * National, regional and district level consultations including one-to-one consultations with:
 - Government : OPMCM, NPC, key Ministries and Departments
 - UN Agencies and Development partners
 - Civil Society organizations: DpNet, AINTDGM, NGOs/INGOs including NRCS
 - Federations/ Networks/ Alliances/Academia/Private sector
- * Thematic Working Groups (TWGs) for 6 key themes
- * Sharing of meeting minutes, presentations and updates using National DRM Portal <http://drrportal.gov.np/>
- * Process of obtaining feedback and comments using the National DRM Portal

Why Thematic Working Groups (TWGs)?

- * Focus on **risk reduction**
- * To reflect on the **sectoral needs** for reducing risk – such as sectoral needs:
 - * risk assessment and information
 - * sectoral investments
 - * sectoral policies, guidelines and tools
 - * sectoral risk transfer mechanisms
 - * Sectoral needs for response, recovery and build-back-better
- * Build on **experiences from members** of the TWGs
- * To collectively work as a team in helping to **achieve** the **national outcome, goals and targets**
- * To come up with strategic activities for each theme

Thematic Working Groups (TWGs)

- 1. Productive:** Agriculture, Food security and livelihood
Ministry of Agriculture Development (lead), Ministry of Industry (co-lead)
- 2. Social:** Education, Health, Nutrition, Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene
Ministry of Education (lead), Ministry of Health (co-lead)
- 3. Infrastructure:** Urban, Transportation, Irrigation, Infrastructure, Housing, Natural and Cultural Heritage
Ministry of Urban Development (lead), Ministry of Irrigation and Ministry of Culture, Tourism, & Civil Aviation (co-lead)
- 4. Environment and Natural Resources:** Land use, Energy, Forest & Soil Conservation and Climate/weather
Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (lead), Ministry of Forest & Soil Conservation and Ministry of Population & Environment (co-leads)
- 5. Cross-cutting:** Gender issues, Social Inclusion, Governance, Disability, Children, Senior Citizen
National Planning Commission (lead), Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (co-lead)
- 6. Preparedness, Response, Recovery and Communication**
Ministry of Home Affairs (lead), Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (co-lead)

Expected Outcome from Consultations

- * **Stocktaking on DRR/DRM issues**
- * **Priority actions for improvement of DRR in Nepal**
- * **Identification of policies corresponding to identified priority actions**
- * **Priority strategic activities (short, medium, long terms)**
- * **Targets**
- * **Financing**
- * **Implementation mechanism**
- * **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Proposed TOC National DRR Policy

- * **Background**
- * **Disaster Risk Reduction Policy**
 - * **Vision**
 - * **Mission**
 - * **Objectives**
 - * **Guiding Principles**
 - * **Policies**
- * **Implementation and Follow Up**
- * **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Proposed TOC DRR Strategic Action Plan

- * **List of Acronyms and Abbreviations**
- * **Acknowledgement**
- * **Executive Summary**
- * **Disaster Risk Management in Nepal**
- * **Approach of the Disaster Risk Reduction Process**
- * **Legal and Regulatory Framework**
- * **Strategic Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction**
 - * **Priority Actions**
 - * **Strategic Activities**
 - * **Targets**
- * **Implementation Mechanism**
- * **Financial Arrangement**
- * **Review and Revision**

National Sharing

* Mr. Krishna Bdr. Raut, MOHA presented progress on formulation of National DRR Policy and Strategic Action Plan

* **Key recommendations :**

- ▶ Emphasize investments on risk reduction
- ▶ Mainstream DRR in sectoral plans and policies – prepare sectoral risk screening methods and guidelines to address disaster risk
- ▶ Prepare Risk Sensitive Land Use Assessment and formulate policy to implement
- ▶ Promote research on DRR
- ▶ Build on the experiences of preparedness for response – build capacities of local response teams
- ▶ Ensure accountability in relief and rescue
- ▶ Use of information technologies for risk assessment, communication, preparedness and risk reduction. Knowledge sharing of best practices from countries with advanced experiences in managing risk and in responding to disaster events
- ▶ EWSs should be strengthened to deliver sectoral impact based warning. Scale up EWS in other flood plains
- ▶ Women are viewed as passive recipients, they should be treated as active participants of DRR process
- ▶ Promulgate the proposed Disaster Management Act

One-to-one consultations

Completed one-to-one consultations:

- * Ministry of Population and Environment
- * Department of Soil Conservation and Watershed Management
- * Department of Forests
- * Department of Health Services
- * Department of Urban Development and Building Construction
- * Department of Water Induced Disaster Management
- * Department of Hydrology and Meteorology
- * Department of Mines and Geology
- * Alternative Energy Promotion Centre
- * Tribhuvan University, Institute of Crisis Management
- * Mercy Corps
- * Action Aid Nepal

Lessons from the implementation of the NSDRM, 2009

- **NSDRM's vision of a disaster-resilient Nepal as called in the Hyogo Framework of Action (HFA) is widely accepted and supported**
- **It helped gain impressive attention on DRM across national and local levels - among ministries, departments, I/NGOs, civil society**
- **It established mainstreaming DRR into regular development process**
 - **Key ministries and departments have focal person or team for DRM**
 - **District governments have prepared district disaster management plans**
 - **Tools and approaches – e.g. risk screening and process to design and implement based on levels of risk, risk assessment– are yet to be developed**
- **Yet to establish institutional mechanism for Disaster Risk Management**

Key lessons from recent signature disaster events

Such as the 2015 earthquakes; 2008 floods in Kosi River and Far-Western Region; 2014 floods in Karnali and Babai, Jure landslide, bird flu etc.

- * Investments in risk reduction such as retrofitting of school buildings and new constructions based on improved building code provides strong evidence to invest in DRR
- * Absence of actionable risk information – and mechanism to communicate risk
- * Training and building capacity -at all levels- has shown huge benefits (e.g. masons, communities, local authorities, NGOs, civil society, departments, ministries)
- * Health sector – hand washing, sanitation, response to bird flu –are good examples
- * Flood early warning systems have helped save lives and to some extent property

Key lessons from recent signature disaster events (contd.)

- * Investments in overall DRM is grossly inadequate, more so, in risk reduction
- * Requires establishing coordination within and among relevant sectoral agencies –through Standard Operating Procedures
- * Response following the 2015 earthquakes has shown encouraging lessons –e.g. investments in LSAR, community based response, prepositioning of equipment & tools
- * Need of risk transfer instruments is high: e.g. insurance, social protection
- * The damage and loss of small, distributed disasters such as landslides and floods in small rivers – if aggregated together – are huge, but hardly get attention from national and international agencies

Consultation Workshops

Sub-National Consultation

Place	Date	Status
Nepalgunj	10 March 2017	Completed
Pokhara	22 March 2017	Completed
Biratnagar		to be organised
Kathmandu		to be organised

District Consultation

Place	Date	Status
Dolakha	1 March 2017	Completed
Kailali	9 March 2017	Completed
Panchthar	17 March 2017	Completed
Nawalparasi	20 March 2017	Completed
Gorkha	21 March 2017	Completed
Jumla	10 April 2017	to be organised
Saptari	13 April 2017	to be organised

Highlights of Consultation Workshops

- * Good representation of key Government officials and Disaster Management Practitioners
- * Good representation of women, children and disabled people in all district and regional consultations
- * Key inputs obtained for policy and strategic action plan
- * Lessons learned for subsequent consultations



Approach

A. Opening Session

B. Technical Session

- * **National Legal and regulatory frameworks on DRR in Nepal**
(Presented by MOHA representative)
- * **DRR issues in sectoral and local level development process**
(Presented by MOFALD/NPC representative)
- * **Lessons & practice on DRR, strength, challenge and opportunities**
(Presented by DpNet or respective support organisations)
- * **Developing National DRR Policy and Strategic Action Plan 2017-2030**
(Presented jointly by UNDP and PAC Nepal's representatives)

C. Group Exercise

- * **4 groups divided according to 4 Priority Actions of Sendai Framework**
- * **Guiding questions provided for each group for brainstorming**
(Facilitated by PAC Nepal's representatives and Dr. Narayan Thapa, Consultant UNDP)



Group Exercise

- * **Group 1: Understanding Disaster Risk for Decision Making**
- * **Group 2: Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk**
- * **Group 3: Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience**
- * **Group 4: Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to 'Build Back Better' in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction**

Guiding Questions for Group 1: Understanding Disaster Risk for Decision Making

- * Does your organization assess hazard/vulnerability/risks? How often do you update risk assessment?
- * Does your organization use risk assessments for identifying a project or in implementing a project?
- * How is risk information shared within and outside of the organization? What could be the potential mechanism to share risk information?
- * Recommend the strategic activities and implementation mechanism for risk assessment, sharing and application in decision making in your district/region.

Guiding Questions for Group 2: Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk

- * Do you have sector-specific policies/plans and guidelines for disaster risk reduction in your sector?
- * Do you have institutional set up for DRR in your sector?
- * What are the roles of your organization in disaster risk governance?
- * How do you see the roles of NGOs/CBOs in disaster risk governance?
- * Recommend the strategic activities and implementation mechanism to strengthen disaster risk governance in your district/region.

Guiding Questions for Group 3: Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience

- * How are DRM activities financed in your organisation? What percentage of your organization's budget is allocated for DRR?
- * Are there investments by the communities in DRR?
- * Is there partnership between the Government sector, the private Sector and the cooperatives in funding DRR activities?
- * What might be the potential source of funds for DRR?
- * Recommend the strategic activities and implementation mechanism on investment/financing of DRR in your district/region.

Guiding Questions for Group 4: Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to 'Build Back Better' in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction

- * Do you have disaster preparedness and response plans, programs and guidelines in your organization?
- * Do you have necessary equipment and trained personnel for search and rescue in your organization?
- * What type of the recovery/reconstruction works are carried out by your organization ?
- * How do you ascertain effective and meaningful participation of women, children, elderly, people with disability and marginal communities in disaster risk reduction and management?
- * Recommend the strategic activities and implementation mechanism in your district/region for enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to 'Build Back Better' in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

Group Presentation Format

Strategic Activity	Expected outcome	Time Frame	Responsible Organization



Initial Findings Group 1: Understanding Disaster Risk for Decision Making

- * Clear consensus on the need of local level risk information based on levels of risk – for key hazards – for all urban and rural municipalities targeting:
 - i. land use and private homes
 - ii. Schools, health facilities
 - iii. Government and public buildings
 - iii. Local infrastructures
- * Existing practice of carrying out hazards, vulnerability and capacity assessment – often as standalone exercise – is inadequate in prioritizing investments
- * A clear communication and dissemination strategy and process needed to share these risk information. Knowledge on Disaster Risks; and Management for wider level sharing & Use.
- * Capacities to carry out risk assessments, interpreting and periodically updating them needs to be built at local levels
- * Incorporate understanding of risk at school curriculum
- * Make use of technologies such as mobile apps, websites, sms, radio and TV for disseminating risk information, disaster risk mapping (hazards and exposure), disaster information center and in establishing early warning system

Initial Findings Group 2: Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk

- * Promulgate comprehensive DRR Act, policy and institutions.
- * Put in place implementation mechanism for risk sensitive land use plan with incentives and penalties
- * Revision of building code and strong enforcement mechanism at local levels
- * Prepare Strategic Action Plan for national and local levels.
- * Prepare sectoral disaster risk policies, guidelines (e.g. risk screening tools) and manuals
- * Establish and build capacities of dedicated DRR and management team or focal point in each development organization.
- * Formulate and establish coordination system for synergy –for (i) risk assessment, (ii) risk reduction, (iii) financing for DRM, (iv) response and recovery
- * Prepare LDRMPs – based on risk assessment for – all Rural and Urban Municipalities
- * All schools need to formulate Disaster Risk Management Committees
- * Ensure representation of women, children, disabled, elderly and other vulnerable groups at all DRM mechanisms
- * Establish mechanism to review, monitor and audit disaster risk management investments and make them public (including national and local preparedness and response funds)
- * Prepare guidelines for community contribution and mobilization for DRR.

Initial Findings Group 3: Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience

- * Suggestion on allocating at least 5 percent of sector wise-budget for disaster risk reduction
- * All future construction work including houses need to be resilient from disaster and climate change risks
- * Retrofitting or reconstruction of critical infrastructures such as schools, health facilities, government and public infrastructures should be a priority
- * Relocation of settlements from high risk areas to low risk areas
- * Make arrangements for disaster risk insurance for all assets at risk (including livestock)
- * Investment for integrating housing development and resettlement
- * Engage Private sector to identify and implement areas of joint DRR investments
- * DRR Basket fund system, one door policy, Community fund for DRR.
- * Investment priority for communities at high risk

Initial Findings Group 4: Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to 'Build Back Better' in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction

- * Equipment and trainings for search, rescue and response needs to provided based on risk levels at each rural and urban municipalities
- * Promote indigenous knowledge dissemination system
- * At least 15 open spaces should be designated in all urban areas
- * Community based awareness activities should be conducted in disaster prone areas on possible damage, risk reduction measures using risk information
- * Establish Standard Operation Procedures for the functioning of national, regional and local EOCs
- * Investments in ware house, stockpiling based on the risk levels in the area
- * Establish early warning systems for floods and landslides
- * Formation and building capacities of local disaster response and SAR teams
- * Community Task team on search and rescue; enhance capacity
- * Establish systems for awards and penalties for following building code or flouting it - awards to communities for innovative DRR works

Some Observations on Consultation Workshops

- * Excellent participation from key Government Officials
- * Excellent participation and feedback from NGOs
- * Excellent representation of disabled, women, children and elderly
- * Excellent logistics and management in Pokhara, Nawalparasi, Nepalgunj and Kailali
- * Consultations in the earthquake affected districts (e.g. Dolakha, Gorkha) tended to be more focused on emergency response and recovery mechanisms
- * Consultations in the flood affected districts more focused on EWS
- * Group work has been participative and effective – lessons from the first consultation in Dolakha were used to revise for subsequent consultations



Progress Summary

- * Inception Report with revised methodology and work Plan submitted
- * National Sharing held at National DRR Platform Meeting , 3 Feb 2017
- * One-to-one consultations held with key organizations
- * Draft TOC for the DRR Policy and Strategic Action Plan submitted
- * Six Thematic Working Groups formed and National Thematic Coordinator and Thematic Facilitators selected
- * TOR for TWGs, National Thematic Coordinator and Thematic Facilitators prepared
- * Two Background working papers prepared
- * Consultation workshops in regions and districts ongoing
- * Five out of seven district consultations and two out of four regional consultations completed
- * Remaining two district consultations at Jumla and Saptari have been planned on 10 & 13 April



Thank you for your attention!

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