

# Compilation of National Progress Reports on the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action:

## HFA Priority 1, core indicator 1.3:

*Community Participation and decentralisation is ensured through the delegation of authority and resources to local levels*

### Know the Risks and Take Action

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Reporting period: 2007-2009

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This document has been compiled from the national progress reports provided by 76 countries through the HFA Monitor.

Note that these extracts are provided for convenience only.  
National HFA progress reports should be considered in their entirety and can be found at:

<http://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/framework/progress/>

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# Africa

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## Algeria (in French)

### Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Description:

On peut raisonnablement classer l'Algérie au niveau 3

Les organes chargés de la mise en œuvre de la politique nationale de prévention et de gestion des catastrophes sont ceux désignés par la réglementation nationale en la matière.

Au niveau central, elle est confiée aux départements ministériels concernés.

Au niveau local, les missions de suivi et de contrôle de la mise en œuvre des programmes d'action sont confiées aux autorités locales des wilayas (départements) et communales avec l'assistance technique des services déconcentrés des ministères

### Context & Constraints:

Les dispositifs arrêtés font l'objet d'un niveau d'exécution variable mais globalement insuffisant. .Cela est dû en partie aux insuffisances qui subsistent en matière de coordination des activités. Ces insuffisances devraient être progressivement résorbées avec la promulgation et la mise en œuvres des différents textes d'application de la loi 04-20 sur la prévention des risques majeurs.

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## Angola (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

### Description:

Existe um órgão nacional, a Comissão Nacional de Protecção Civil (CNPC) para gestão de desastres e calamidades, composto por vários sectores. Contudo o domínio de coordenação ainda não é abrangente para incluir os actores não-estatais em forma de plataforma de gestão dos riscos de desastres no país.

### Context & Constraints:

Com o fim da guerra, (Seis anos de paz), a gestão de desastres no país passou merecer uma considerável atenção por parte do estado. Todavia, sendo uma abordagem nova, sua evolução requererá um engajamento em todos os níveis incluindo o envolvimento da sociedade civil.

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## Burkina Faso (in French)

### Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Description:

Les démembrements du CONASUR ont l'autorité nécessaire pour l'intégration de la RRC au niveau local. Cet engagement politique est renforcé par la décentralisation intégrale en cours dans notre pays depuis 2006.

### Context & Constraints:

Principales contraintes:

- L'insuffisance de ressources financières, humaines et matérielles . L'essentiel des ressources

proviennent pour le moment du niveau central.

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## Burundi (in French)

### Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

### Description:

- Autorités provinciales sensibilisées
- projet d'ordonnance de création des plateformes nationales soumis pour approbation
- Mise en place prochaine des comités provinciaux de gestion des catastrophes

### Context & Constraints:

- Faiblesse du budget
  - Secteur d'intervention nouveau au niveau du pays
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## Cote d'Ivoire (in French)

### Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

### Description:

La participation des communautés et la décentralisation sont assurées à travers la délégation d'autorité et de ressources au niveau local le plus souvent dans le cadre de la protection civile en cas d'aide d'urgence mais très peu dans le cadre de la prévention des risques. De plus, ces interventions en cas de catastrophes sont relativement tardives en raison de l'éloignement des structures d'intervention.

### Context & Constraints:

L'éloignement des structures d'intervention (Sapeurs Pompiers, SAMU) et l'insuffisance des moyens alloués restent des défis majeurs rencontrés par les autorités nationales dans les réponses aux catastrophes.

Pour les relever, il convient de rapprocher les structures d'intervention des communautés et de prendre en compte la prévention des risques de catastrophes dans les politiques et plans des administrations décentralisées.

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## Egypt (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Description:

Representatives of all governorates "local level", civil society, NGOs and private sector are in the NCCMDRR. At operational levels, decentralization is ensured according to the designated level of intervention based on the type and magnitude of disasters.

Crisis management bodies/entities were established in all governorates (local level), ministries, agencies and institutions. Promotion of knowledge is regularly practiced through capacity building programmes, although limited due to funding constraints.

### Context & Constraints:

The government has long practiced the top down approach to implement the national policy in some sectors. However, considering crisis management, given that decentralization at the operational level is achieved, funding will remain centralized since the authority at the local level is dependant upon the government (central). Mobilization of resources will be a challenge to ensure the community participation

and decentralization at local levels and to practice the bottom up approach.

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## Ghana (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

### Description:

An appreciable level of participation in Disaster Risk Reduction through the Disaster Volunteer Groups, Fire Volunteers who monitor bush burning as a tool for land preparation for farming. Volunteers also participate in hazard identification and monitoring/assessment and report to the relevant/lead agencies. Disaster/risk management is currently devolved to the community or sub-district level after the decentralisation and incorporated social mobilization for employment and income generation.

### Context & Constraints:

Communities/Volunteers are not educated/trained adequately to identify hazards. Communication between the communities and the District Assemblies, NADMO and lead agencies are not effective since transportation by road is considered expensive by volunteers. Officials also find it difficult to trek their assigned communities. Telephone facilities for reporting on hazards are also almost non-existent in most vulnerable rural communities of the Concept of Disaster risk in the communities that have high illiteracy rate.

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## Kenya (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Description:

But resources to the local levels has not been forthcoming.

### Context & Constraints:

No funds to involve the locals.

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## Madagascar (in French)

### Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Description:

La décentralisation est une priorité nationale. La RRC est aussi décentralisée. Des comités de RRC ont été formés et mis en place à tous les niveaux des structures décentralisées, leurs attributions sont bien définies. 177 communes les plus à risque ont élaboré leurs plans de GRC de manière concertée et participative.

Durant la dernière saison cyclonique, on a noté un début d'appropriation des bonnes pratiques et des leçons apprises par la communauté et les autorités locales.

Les médias sont aussi un allié important dans la RRC. Ils travaillent beaucoup avec le BNGRC.

### Context & Constraints:

Les structures décentralisées n'ont pas encore l'habitude de prendre des initiatives. Il est crucial de leur en donner les moyens: allouer un budget de fonctionnement, renforcer leurs capacités en matière de RRC. Il est aussi nécessaire d'établir les relations entre les habitudes culturelles, les pratiques des us et

coutumes et la RRC afin de faciliter l'appropriation des concepts de RRC par les communautés. Par ailleurs, les outils d'IEC, nécessaires pour sensibiliser les populations locales sont insuffisants.

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## Malawi (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Description:

Local assemblies in Malawi are decentralised and DoDMA works had in hand with District Assemblies in the implementation of DRR activities which are done at the community level. The principle in decentralisation empowers local communities to ensure sustainability of DRR activities. Delegation and devolution of powers are fully practised such that both implementation, monitoring of activities are executed at grassroot level by all stakeholders in DRR. Involvement and participation of communities in DRR has further been facilitated through the establishment of Civil Protection Committees at district, area and village level.

### Context & Constraints:

1. Limited resource availability. This can be addressed through:

- a) Encouraging partnership in implementation of DRR activities.
- b) Pooling of resourcing e.g the use of sector wide approaches.
- c) Involvement of all relevant stakeholders in the planning of DRR activities.

2. Lack of skilled man power

Solution: Capacity development for all personnel dealing with DRR at district, area and village level. The capacity building ought to include sensitising CPC members of their roles and responsibilities.

3. Inflating figures of affected households when reporting on the impact of disasters by some CPCs. This can be addressed through training the committee members on assessments.

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## Mauritius (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Description:

Local Authorities, Municipal and District Councils are enabled to manage risks in the event of hazards and also to provide certain community and even individual services.

At the beginning of the cyclone season, all Municipal and District Councils meet individually to review the Cyclone and Other Natural Disaster Scheme, to take note of the inadequacies of the previous cyclone season and to revisit and check the preparedness status of all partners concerned. Cleaning of drainage system, miscellaneous repair work and check of overall infrastructure and logistics are completed prior to the start of the cyclone season.

### Context & Constraints:

Though standard cyclone procedures exist, there is a need to promulgate appropriate regulations to enforce the same.

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## Mozambique (in English)

**Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

**Description:**

As an example of the decentralization effort it is worth of to cite the Law of State Local Organs, which regulates the decentralization of powers and financial resources to the district level. The Government Program indicates the districts and rural areas as the main development poles of the country. The creation of the Regional Water Authorities (known as ARA) by the National Directory of Water under the Water Law approved in 1992 and the subsequent establishment of River Basin Committees on the Limpopo, Umbeluzi, Incomati, Zambezi and Buzi Rivers are clear indications of decentralization in decision making and water management throughout the country since relevant stakeholders are thus involved in risk reduction efforts. The National Institute of Disaster Management (INGC) is also subdivided in regional areas, namely South, Centre and North. The implementation of Local Committees of Risk Management in rural and vulnerable areas at the district level is one of the recent examples of decentralization and local community involvement in disaster management.

**Context & Constraints:**

The decentralization process poses great demand on information management, logistics and financial needs. It makes a need for professional disaster managers and improved forecasting capacities. The involvement of several stakeholders in management (planning, implementation, accountability, decision make) is achieved still with lower efficacy because of difficulties in coordination and lack of continuity of actions specially in periods without disaster events.

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**Senegal** (in French)**Level of Progress achieved:**

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

**Description:**

le Sénégal a adopté sa stratégie nationale de protection sociale et de gestion des risques de catastrophe en 2005, mais la dimension RRC est faiblement intégrée, voire inexistante, dans les plans locaux de développement, ce qui rend difficile la mobilisation de ressources au niveau local.

**Context & Constraints:**

Le contexte reste fortement lié à la nouveauté du concept de RRC pour la grande majorité des élus locaux et des collectivités locales.

Des réflexions sont en cours avec le Programme National de Développement Local (PNDL) pour intégrer la RRC dans les plans locaux de développement (PLD). Parallèlement, un programme de renforcement des capacités des élus locaux est en cours.

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**Sierra Leone** (in English)**Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

**Description:**

LEVEL 4Here, substantial achievements have been attain but with some recognized limitation in capacities and resources. An appreciable number of communities in the country have been participating in disaster risk activities. This is as a result of the fact that decentralization of political power has been conducted across the board especially with the conduct of local and district council elections. Local authorities have

been empowered to develop local legislation on disaster risk reduction. Though local governments are now responsible for risk reduction activities yet resources at the disposal of council authorities is very minimal. What has been prevalent though is that Non-Governmental Organizations have been undertaking risk reduction exercises in their areas of operations as described in the mandates given to them. In some communities roles and responsibilities of members are clearly stated. Local laws also stipulate some of the penal codes that might affect inhabitants in case of a breach of some of the local laws.

**Context & Constraints:**

One big challenge faced by authorities in the implementation of local legislation in communities is ignorance. The degree of illiteracy in the country is over seventy percentage of its national population.. This is having serious impact on the way the communities perceive the whole issue of disaster risk reduction in the communities. This has slowed down the activities of council administrators in the overall implementation of the programme. Another problem faced by local council authorities in the implementation of the programme is the poor road condition. Some areas in the country are completely made inaccessible during the raining season especially as the water level in some places leads to flooding thereby making the terrain difficult for risk reduction activities to be implemented to the fullest. Finally, the unavailability of resources continue to be a huge challenge as always, Recommended solutions would include mass sensitisation, training and the availability of financial and technical resources.

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**Swaziland** (in English)

**Level of Progress achieved:**

1 - Minor progress with few signs of forward action in plans or policy

**Description:**

Community participation is being advocated through the decentralisation policy and the regional development model

**Context & Constraints:**

Decentralised implementation of DRR activities at regional and local/community level plans are underway.

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**Tanzania, United Rep of** (in English)

**Level of Progress achieved:**

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

**Description:**

Tanzania believes disaster risk management requires a cross sector approach if one is to realize maximum benefit. The impacts can be substantially reduced if individuals and communities are ready to act and are equipped with knowledge and capacities for effective disaster management. The disaster management communication system has been installed to assist in information collection and dissemination. There is on going training programme intended for all members of disaster management committees at regional and district levels (14 out of 21 regions and their districts have been trained).

In case of institutionalizing community participation in risk management, stakeholders including NGOs, Religious institutions, media and civil societies are involved in the implementation of various disaster risk activities in the country as stipulated in the disaster policy document. The private sector is very active in security and rescue operations particularly in fire disasters. Media have been quite active in disseminating information during disaster incidences.

Tanzania is among few countries implementing a One UN Joint Programme under leading agency UNICEF, aiming at strengthening the National Disaster Preparedness and Response capacities. Under this initiative, The Prime Ministers Office in collaboration with Tanzania Red Cross Society - TRCS are

managing the process of decentralizing pre-positioning relief items.

Pre-positioning of relief items is one of the activities planned for improving early action at community levels (District and Regional levels). The prime goal is to enable disaster management actors/partners to respond and act fast in providing assistance to disaster affected communities. Prime Ministers Office in collaboration with TRCS plan is therefore to maintain relief items stocks enough for 50,000 disaster victims in the following regions.

Dodoma: in Central Zone to cater for Singida, Dodoma, Manyara and Tabora regions

Mbeya: in South Highland Zone to cater for Rukwa , Ruvuma and Iringa regions

**Context & Constraints:**

Inadequate participation of communities in design and implementation of programs. Early responders not well organized, no pre-positioning of relief items and logistics / distribution plans.

Also there is a lack of sustainable enabling environment such as trained and skilled personnel, financial resources and materials to hasten the implementation of the suggested priority actions.

Government aim at improving early warning and early action on district and regional levels, through community based planning and decentralized pre positioning of relief supplies.

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## Togo (in French)

**Level of Progress achieved:**

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

**Description:**

la prévention des risques et catastrophes fait partie intégrantes d'un plan national d'organisation de secours d'urgence en cas de catastrophe communément appelé Plan ORSEC. les comités locaux qui émanent des services déconcentrés ont été formés dans ce sens. mais avec la loi sur la décentralisation votée par le parlement, la plate forme doit élargir ces comités aux communes rurales par l'intégration des risques et catastrophes dans les plans de développement local.

**Context & Constraints:**

contraintes financières

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## Zambia (in English)

**Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

**Description:**

The Disaster Management Policy comes with roles and responsibilities to the districts and communities. The District Disaster Management Committees (DDMC) have been formed, oriented to the policy and operational manual and are now implementing the contents of the two documents.

**Context & Constraints:**

Resources for conducting DRR activities at the national, provincial and district levels are very limited. At the district level, there is also a problem of human resource and thus limiting capacity for the timely execution of some of the DRR activities.

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# Americas

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## Anguilla (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Description:

Progress in relief and shelter operations at the local level

Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis successfully trained and implemented in 2008, utilised in 3 events.

Relationship with red Cross enhanced

### Context & Constraints:

All government employees have had their job descriptions modified to include support for mitigating against, responding to, recovering from and planning for disasters and emergencies.

Volunteers database developed containing over 140 volunteers who are trained in DANA, Relief and or Shelters and are placed in their communities for response and recovery.

Use of Radio Station to call in volunteers by village was very successful in Omar.

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## Argentina (in Spanish)

### Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Description:

Tanto desde la Dirección Nacional de Protección Civil como de la Comisión Cascos Blancos, se ha avanzado mucho en cuanto a la difusión de la temática, capacitación de comunidades locales y reforzamiento de las capacidades a todos los niveles. En ello también se ven involucradas otras áreas de gobierno nacionales (Autoridad Regulatoria Nuclear, Comisión Nacional de Actividades Espaciales, Bomberos, Ministerio de Planificación Federal y Desarrollo Territorial) como provinciales (Provincias de Buenos Aires, Córdoba y Santa Fe) y municipales (Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires, Rosario, Federación de Asuntos Municipales, Secretaría de Asuntos Municipales del Ministerio del Interior), entre otros, como de la misma manera desde el ámbito de la sociedad civil (Cruz Roja, Caritas, Habitat, Metropolitana, Psicólogos en Emergencias, Psicotraumas, etc.), académicos (Universidad de Buenos Aires, de Gral. Sarmiento, de Jujuy, del Salvador, etc.).

Las limitaciones de recursos impiden una mayor actividad por parte de todos ellos, pese a su declarado interés en llevar adelante programas en tal sentido.

De la misma manera, las descentralizaciones en oportunidades chocan con problemáticas de competencias, cuestiones políticas o limitaciones presupuestarias, que dificultan sus concreciones.

### Context & Constraints:

Generando conciencia se supone que permitirá facilitar la obtención de recursos.

Las limitaciones en la descentralización obedecen en oportunidades a criterios políticos que no en todas las ocasiones responden a criterios de racionalidad estratégica sino a meros planteamiento tácticos y/o de oportunidades político-partidarias.

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## **Bolivia** (in Spanish)

### **Level of Progress achieved:**

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

### **Description:**

En el contexto de las inundaciones, muchas comunidades que soportan las consecuencias de forma recurrente han tomado conciencia de la importancia en la preparación para situaciones adversas. Por tanto se ha profundizado el Programa Nacional de Capacitación Comunitaria dirigida a líderes Comunitarios.

Una experiencia interesante es el conjunto de los proyectos DIPECHO (IV y V Plan de Acción), de forma particular la realizada por el Proyecto COOPI - DIPECHO en la ciudad de El Alto, en la Provincia Murillo del Departamento de La Paz, donde se capacita a líderes comunitarios en los distritos 5 y 6 con posibilidades de replica y efectos multiplicadores en las regiones rurales del altiplano boliviano.

Además en base a la experiencia de "Gestión Interinstitucional de Riesgos" de la GTZ realizada en la cuenca baja del Río Grande en el Departamento de Santa Cruz, se estableció un proceso de interacción entre municipios que pertenecen a determinada región con las mismas características geográficas, amenazas y vulnerabilidades, de tal manera de encarar acciones en el contexto del esquema de la mancomunidad de municipios, promoviendo herramientas como los sistemas de alerta temprana y una organización ante cualquier eventualidad.

Se encuentra en pleno proceso de aplicación el proyecto piloto de RRD en el municipio de San Borja, con el apoyo del Proyecto PREDECAN.

### **Context & Constraints:**

Es necesario profundizar el programa de descentralización de la gestión del riesgo a niveles comunitarios, con la formulación y aplicación de mecanismos que permitan la aplicación en los planes de desarrollo local además de los programas de inversión y en general en los Planes de Desarrollo Municipal - PDM.

Además, se recomienda la implementación de los planes sectoriales (productivo, cuencas, vivienda, educación, otros) además de la planificación territorial y planes de uso del suelo, en el nivel local.

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## **British Virgin Islands** (in English)

### **Level of Progress achieved:**

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### **Description:**

Community Preparedness and Supply Management

deals with preparing the community for disaster/emergency situations. This is done using community involvement in disaster management, where each individual in the Territory has the opportunity to contribute to plans and decision-making. Also, working closely with other Government departments, non-government organizations, churches, businesses and agencies to ensure plans are put in place for the shelter, welfare and provision of relief for persons in the Territory during a disaster.

The Virgin Islands (UK) have been divided into zones for the efficient and effective management of the various communities. Each zone is managed by a designated Zone Coordinator and run by a Zonal Committee and the overall objective is to reduce or minimize the loss of life and property in the zone from all hazards. The Zone Coordinator and his/her Committee are responsible for the assessment of the zonal area, with the overall goal of evaluating community resources before the need arises. In the case of the Sister Islands this responsibility is placed on the District Officers.

Each zone is required to work closely with the DDM and should ideally assume roles and functions in all areas of disaster preparedness and response. Activities are not be restricted to hurricane preparedness alone; they are encourage to develop procedures for other disaster situations or emergency conditions that may affect the Territory or their particular Zone.

**Context & Constraints:**

The inadequate level of preparedness among the private sector is a concern. Preparedness throughout the business community is still largely hurricane focused. The Virgin Islands (UK) is exposed to numerous other hazards that can interrupt business operations and change the economic landscape for our business community. This calls for greater encouragement of the business community to integrate Business Continuity Planning and Recovery Management into daily decision making. The Virgin Islands (UK) is highly dependent on a thriving Financial Services Sector that is heavily Information and Communication Technology (ICT) driven, therefore, risk management must be well thought out and considerations for the unavailability of basic utilities addressed. For the past three years, the DDM has made efforts to urge the business community to re-think its approach to risk management. We have provided tools and opportunities for embracing Business Continuity Planning and Recovery Management; however, the business community in the Virgin Islands (UK) still has not made sufficient use of these opportunities.

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**Cayman Islands** (in English)

**Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

**Description:**

District Emergency Response Committees

Community participation is occurring in every district in the Cayman Islands with the establishment of the Cayman Islands District Emergency Response Committees (DERCs). These volunteer groups receive training in shelter management, initial damage assessment, first aid, basic search and rescue as well as fire suppression skills. The individual groups meet at least on a quarterly basis and activate in a disaster or when the Islands are threatened by a hurricane. The DERCs are expected to assist with initial response in a disaster situation and they are ideally positioned to do this because they are perhaps most keenly aware of the needs of the district and vulnerable people in their own community. They also assist with a Government funded community shuttering program, whereby Government purchases plywood boards which the DERCs then cut and install for members of the community who for reasons of age, infirmity, financial constraints or lack of family support, are unable to protect their property with their own resources.

Volunteer Agency Disaster Committee

Hazard Management Cayman Islands has strengthened its relationships and formalised arrangements with civic groups, service clubs and agencies such as the Cayman Islands Red Cross, Rotary and the Lions Club. Church groups including ADRA have also been incorporated into plans and form part of the 'human concerns' cluster of the Disaster Plan.

The Sister Islands of Cayman Brac and Little Cayman are fully in charge of their hazard management programmes, and have the authority and capacity to respond to situations on those islands immediately. The Sister Islands also have their own development plan.

**Context & Constraints:**

On the subject of decentralization of responsibilities and capacities: Some good progress is being made in this area, however a fair amount of attrition occurs in volunteer groups and district emergency response

committees. Recruiting and maintaining the commitment and interest of volunteers is an ongoing challenge.

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## Colombia (in Spanish)

### Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Description:

Existen instrumentos que permiten la participación comunitaria y una plataforma adecuada y desarrollada desde el punto de vista normativo, derivado de la Constitución Nacional para promoverla, sin embargo:(i) Se esta posicionando la gestión del riesgo en el contexto de los procesos de organización y participación comunitaria, en especial cuando se actúa en los consejos territoriales de planeación correlacionado al ordenamiento territorial.(ii) Cada vez son mejores las lecciones aprendidas en el acercamiento de las entidades a las comunidades para la toma de decisiones, se debe superar el enfoque de “visitas para encuestas”, hacia un enfoque verdaderamente participativo, un ejemplo importante son los mecanismos de presupuestos participativos.(iii)Se ha logrado desarrollar mecanismos que permitan mejorar la percepción del riesgo en la comunidades y la “negociación” de imaginarios en relación a la gestión del riesgo(iv) Se comienzan a desarrollar procesos de veeduría y control para lograr que la Gestión del riesgo se incorpore en los procesos participativos. Se mencionan dos casos: Exitosos La reubicación de San Cayetano en el Departamento de Cundinamarca muy cerca de la capital del País , aproximadamente 70 Kilómetros donde participaron todas la entidades de forma organizada- Se tenía una amplia percepción del riesgo y coincidencia en sus implicaciones entre actores externo e internos. El otro caso muy exitoso fue el de la erupción del volcán Nevado del Huila en el año 2007 donde- la percepción del riesgo entre actores tuvo consenso y los resultados fueron exitosos en los procesos de prevención y preparación para la respuesta. También se deben reconocer los resultados en el proceso de reconstrucción. Merecen atención también los procesos de participación comunitaria y descentralización a través de la delegación de autoridad y de recursos en el ámbito municipal en los sucesos que se han registrado durante el año 2008, especialmente en lo relacionado con el sismo en el oriente del Departamento de Cundinamarca y en la zona de amenaza alta del volcán Cerro Machín, especialmente en el municipio de Cajamarca situado en el Departamento de Tolima.

### Context & Constraints:

No obstante los avances logrados, es necesario mencionar la implementación de mecanismos de veeduría y control para lograr que la gestión del riesgo sea un tema que se incorpore en los procesos participativos. En el último año se puede mencionar como caso específico el informe sobre gestión de riesgo en las Entidades públicas Nacionales, regionales y municipales que es elaborado por la Contraloría General de la Republica, entidad de control y fiscalización. Se realizan esfuerzos en el posicionamiento y unificación de conceptos y metodologías que manejan las diferentes entidades en cuanto a la gestión del riesgo en las diferentes áreas de aplicación (salud, prevención de desastres, agua y saneamiento, cambio climático, preparativos escolares, comunitarios, empresariales, hospitalarios), lo que se ha venido realizando con proyectos específicos de cooperación, tales como Predecan.

\* La comunidad esta conociendo el método para poder vincularse activamente en la gestión del riesgo desde el nivel local, específicamente a causa de las últimas temporadas invernales cada vez más severas en el país y afectando a mas comunidades \* Proyectos específicos de Asistencia Técnica a Municipios acercan a una metodología definida en el contexto de la participación comunitaria hacia la gestión del riesgo; Como limitación recurrente es la poca sensibilización a la comunidad sobre el tema de gestión del riesgo que hacen las instituciones encargadas de liderar el tema, esto debido a la capacidad institucional para realizarla como los escasos recursos para implementar la misma.

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## Costa Rica (in Spanish)

**Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

**Description:**

“Se vela por la participación comunitaria y la descentralización a través de la delegación de autoridad y de recursos en el ámbito local.”

Nivel alcanzado: 4

Se promueve la organización de comités de emergencia, en la actualidad hay una red de más de 400 comités comunales y 100 comités del ámbito municipal. El país está organizado en 9 regiones, establecidas por el Ministerio de Planificación Nacional, para las cuales en la actualidad hay 6 comités regionales de emergencia. La Ley 8488 faculta a la CNE para el uso de recursos del Fondo de Emergencias, para la atención de emergencias locales. Las municipalidades contribuyen en la identificación de las prioridades en la prevención. Las instituciones públicas asignan recursos dentro de sus presupuestos ordinarios para prevenir y atender emergencias, de acuerdo con su ámbito de responsabilidad.

**Context & Constraints:**

Desde el nivel central se asignan recursos suficientes para labores de atención de emergencia y programas destinados a prevención, en zonas territoriales específicas donde se identifican peligros inminentes, así como para la organización y la capacitación pero faltan mecanismos legales para permitir el traslado de recursos a instancias locales, de modo que se mantiene un ejercicio de la reducción del riesgo con sesgo centralista.

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**Dominican Republic** (in Spanish)**Level of Progress achieved:**

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

**Description:**

La descentralización para la reducción de riesgo a desastres está en proceso de desarrollo.

El marco legal establece un sistema descentralizado para la gestión de riesgos con comités provinciales y municipales de prevención, mitigación y respuesta

**Context & Constraints:**

Es necesario promover el fortalecimiento de las capacidades humanas y físicas locales para la reducción de riesgos a desastres

Es necesaria la descentralización de responsabilidades.

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**Ecuador** (in Spanish)**Level of Progress achieved:**

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

**Description:**

AVANCE

En la propuesta de Estrategia Nacional se cuenta con la Política 3 “Contar con capacidades comunitarias para participar en las actividades de gestión de riesgo en su territorio”.

**Context & Constraints:**

- Construir el Sistema Nacional Descentralizado de Gestión de Riesgos (SNGR), donde se designan roles, funciones y responsabilidades y se garanticen los recursos para su implementación
  - Recuperar las experiencias Exitosas y sistematizarlas como procesos de Gestión de Riesgos locales verificadas para contribuir a la designación de roles, funciones y responsabilidades en el SNGR
- 

## El Salvador (in Spanish)

### Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

### Description:

La participación comunitaria no es a nivel nacional sino iniciativa dispersas.

A nivel local las experiencias y acciones se han realizado por necesidades y urgencia propias de las comunidades y no por una iniciativa a nivel nacional

A nivel municipal se ha avanzado en la delegación de responsabilidades pero no de los recursos necesarios o suficientes.

Hay comisiones municipales para la prevención (planes de OT, ordenanzas) y atención de emergencias (Ley de protección civil) con la limitante que se encuentran en su mayor parte en proceso de formación y con recursos limitados.

Si existe un marco legal pero es muy frágil y no facilita la participación comunitaria y descentralización.

### Context & Constraints:

Que la modernización del estado haga énfasis en mecanismos de participación ciudadana y descentralización para la gestión de riesgos.

Necesidad que haya una descentralización que asigne responsabilidades, así como los recursos económicos.

Continuar con la elaboración de los planes de ODT a nivel regional y promover la implementación de dichos planes

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## Jamaica (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Description:

The national disaster management structure includes at the third tier a community disaster management framework which is intended to ultimately support the efforts at the national level. They have been functioning well and have been the recipients of several disaster related training and Capacity Building. Notwithstanding there are a pockets of communities islandwide which have not been fully trained.

### Context & Constraints:

Challenges

- The Parish structure needs strengthening so that community involvement is driven to a large extent at that level rather than at the national level.
- Resource constraints exist which sometimes affects resources deployed at the community level.
- There is still scope for greater involvement of the communities in Disaster risk management.
- Lack of incentives to promote the programme in an effort to receive wide scale acceptance.
- Socio-economic conditions of some communities act as a barrier to acceptance of DRR.

Recommendations

- In accordance with the hazard risk reduction plan, extensive focus will be directed at community participation in DRM in the organization strategic plan through expanded trainings in several areas and

ensuring a framework exists to utilize skill developed.

- A new approach to expanding community involvement has been taken where existing Community Based Organisation (CBO's) will be incorporated in the process rather than establishing a community level organisation solely for the purpose of DRM.
  - Project to improve capacity has been incorporated into strategic focus for 2009-2011. Recommendation that incentives be provided as part of programme.
  - Involvement of other social agencies in the dissemination of DRR at the community level
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## **Panama** (in Spanish)

### **Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### **Description:**

Las instituciones que conforman la Plataforma Nacional están integradas e involucradas en el proceso de reducción del riesgo; como parte de sus prioridades, buscan la participación comunitaria y la organización de proyectos que permitan la reducción de las vulnerabilidades y el fortalecimiento del tema a todos los niveles; Ejemplos:

1). Programa de Organización Comunitaria con la capacitación de 46 instructores y 14 asistentes (con sus manuales correspondientes). 2) Manuales conformados por 10 módulos así como el establecimiento de Comisiones de trabajo.3)Capacitación Comunitaria: Se capacitaron en materia de Gestión Local de Riesgos; Primeros Auxilios y Seguridad Acuática a 200 de Bocas del Toro; 60 de Coclé; 75 de Colón; 106 de Chiriquí; 60 de Herrera y 101 de Los Santos.

Comunidades Vulnerables organizadas en materia de Gestión Local de Riesgos, con sus planes de Emergencia Comunitarios, Mapas de Riesgos. Ejemplos:

1. Corregimientos de Chilibre, Las Cumbres y Juan Díaz; (Panamá); 2. Comunidad de Cutevilla (Coclé); 3. La playita (Herrera); 4. Comunidad de Caña y Flores (Los Santos); 5. Comunidad de Baco y Almendro (Chiriquí); 6. Finca 02, 03, 52, Torres, San San, Guabito, Barriada Paredes, Sinostres, Sigbube, Las delicias, Isla Colón, Sieyick, Nonyck, Valle Risco, Changuinola (Bocas del Toro); 7. Miguel de la Borda y Río Indio (Colón); 8. Cascajilloso (Veraguas).

La Caja de Seguro Social mantiene su Manual de procedimientos del DENADE del año 2000, lo que le da la atribución de funciones y responsabilidades.

El Municipio de Panamá a través de la Gerencia Social creó hace dos años la Unidad de Prevención de Desastres y Gestión Local de Riesgo (UPREDE), la cual se ha encargado de coordinación con empresas e instituciones para la organización comunitaria de Comités de Gestión Local de Riesgos.

Ejemplo: Se han capacitado y organizado 10 corregimientos en comités locales de los 21, los cuales son la meta inicial para constituir. Estos Comités, son involucrados en todo el proceso de preparación, orientación y ejecución de actividades que fortalezca el nivel comunitario.

Instituciones como Protección Civil, Cruz Roja, Cuerpo de Bomberos, mantienen personal voluntario, que como miembros de la comunidad en los momentos necesarios, participan en la formación de las mismas y en la organización de procesos de prevención, respuesta y promoción. Cabe señalar que en su mayoría el voluntariado es el respaldo principal de las instituciones de preparación y respuesta, por lo cual en su mayoría son su principal fuerza ejecutora.

### **Context & Constraints:**

Nuestras instituciones mantienen estas acciones pero si hay que incentivar la promoción y la divulgación

de la participación comunitaria en la reducción del riesgo de desastres a través de la adopción de políticas relevantes para el ámbito local, la promoción de las redes de conocimiento.

Se requiere tomar en cuenta la necesidad de organizar de forma estratégica el fortalecimiento de la gestión de los recursos voluntarios (sean económicos o de personal), de forma que los mismos permitan avances y oportunidades para todos los ámbitos de la gestión del riesgo.

Ejemplo de algunas Limitantes:

- Se requiere mayor personal para colaborar en las labores de organización comunitaria. Por lo cual debemos establecer programas y proyectos que sean auto sostenible a futuro y que a su vez, tomen en cuenta que en la realidad nuestras instituciones no pueden hacer frente a todas las comunidades porque se carece del recurso económico y del personal suficiente.
- Faltan Comunidades con Programas de Organización Comunitaria.
- No existe un programa de divulgación o promoción de los avances y retos que mantiene el país en el tema de RRD.
- Se requiere difundir planes familiares y comunales de gestión de riesgo y atención de desastres.
- Es importante que de forma institucional se fortalezca la promoción de la gestión de reducción riesgos de desastres en todos los niveles. Es decir que todas las instituciones sepan los avances de las otras.
- Las instituciones mantienen voluntariado (personal no remunerado) al que se le suplen algunas necesidades durante su actividad; pero se requiere que los mismos se han incentivados y motivados a continuar participando en esta labor, tal vez con la promoción: de becas; de futuros empleos; asistencia medica; entre otras. Esto se podría realizar mediante la organización interinstitucional.
- En algunas instituciones el trabajo comunitario no es una política establecida.

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## Peru (in Spanish)

### Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Description:

Se ha adquirido un compromiso institucional, pero los logros no son amplios ni considerables. A través de la formulación de los presupuestos participativos se involucra a la sociedad en los ámbitos regionales y locales; por otro lado, el órgano rector de GRD ha la fecha a concluido el proceso de descentralización en la mayoría de Regiones del país, las mismas que se encuentran en proceso de implementación de sus nuevas competencias.

Programa Piloto Fortalecimiento de la Capacidad Comunal en la Prevención y Atención de emergencias a nivel local, que permite incorporar la gestión del riesgo en el Presupuesto Participativo. Implementados 6 programas en zonas más vulnerables.

Convenio INDECI y "Construyendo Perú" financia proyectos de prevención de desastres, entre ellos los proyectos de Ciudades Sostenibles, en los presupuestos participativos.

### Context & Constraints:

Falta de compromiso, sensibilidad y conocimiento para la ejecución de responsabilidades frente a la RDD en los niveles local, provincial, regional y nacional.

Se requiere fortalecer las redes existentes a todo nivel para la reducción de riesgo de desastres para lo que es necesario fortalecer las capacidades locales y el nivel organizativo de las comunidades.

Las experiencias de participación comunitaria en la Reducción de Riesgo de Desastres, son poco visibles y muy dispersas, aún no son parte de las propuestas de desarrollo local.

Si bien los gobiernos regionales y locales han asumido las competencias de RRD, sus capacidades son

limitadas.

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## **Saint Lucia** (in English)

### **Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### **Description:**

The NEMO operational structure is comprised of 11 National Committees and 18 District Disaster Preparedness Committees, organized as a network from the Chairman at the head to residents at the community level. All the members of all the Committees are volunteers. The Committees have the autonomy to manage their affairs with the NEMO Secretariat supporting them primarily by providing relevant training, materials, equipment and supplies. Each of 17 of the District Committees manages a Community Satellite Warehouse in which a stock of equipment and supplies is pre-positioned in the Community for use in disaster response. In response to disasters the Committees also have the authority to procure goods and services from community businesses and contractors based on pre-signed Memoranda-of-Understanding (MOU); the Government (through NEMO) will meet the bills subsequent to the response. Additionally, supplies for use in emergency shelters have been pre-positioned in 'strong boxes' in 50 of the Schools used as Emergency Shelters. This was funded with World Bank loan funds under the Disaster Management Project-Phase 2.

### **Context & Constraints:**

The challenge for this mechanism is the level of attrition of trained individuals relative to the rate at which they get trained; thus there is the need for enhanced training for the volunteers. There is also a need to improve the stock of emergency materials, equipment and supplies pre-positioned at the community level. These can be enhanced by greater collaboration with the public and private sector. Many agencies espouse the view the DRR is the business of NEMO; to realize behavioral and attitudinal changes in the realm of Disaster Management, the understanding and appreciation of these agencies are of paramount importance.

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## **United States of America** (in English)

### **Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### **Description:**

A significant degree of the responsibility for disaster risk reduction in the United States rests at the state and local level. For example, a key component of disaster risk reduction is building codes, which are adopted and implemented at the state and local level. These building codes, which address a number of different hazards, are based on model building codes that are developed through a consensus process by non-governmental organizations such as the American Society of Civil Engineers and International Code Council. These model building codes incorporate current scientific and engineering understanding across multiple hazards, including seismic shaking intensity, wind loads, and fire characteristics, among others.

### **Context & Constraints:**

See above.

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## **Venezuela, Bolivarian Rep of** (in Spanish)

### **Level of Progress achieved:**

### 3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

**Description:**

El artículo 70 de la Constitución de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela establece los medios de participación y protagonismo del pueblo en ejercicio de su soberanía, como los consejos comunales, enmarcados en la Ley de los Consejos Comunales, la cual promueve la participación de la sociedad a través de la organización comunitaria.

En relación a la autoridad local, la institución que ejerce la rectoría en RRD es la Dirección Municipal de Protección Civil y Administración de Desastres, la cual sigue los lineamientos del Alcalde y cuenta con una asignación presupuestaria para el desarrollo de sus actividades.

Las Direcciones de Protección Civil y Administración de Desastres, a nivel estatal y municipal, han involucrado a las comunidades, en la RRD, a través del proyecto "Capacitación a las comunidades en autoprotección, prevención, mitigación y atención de eventos adversos (CAPCOMEA)" y han promovido la conformación de comité comunales de Protección Civil.

Caritas, Cruz Roja de Venezuela y CORPOVARGAS en sus programas han incorporado activamente a las comunidades organizadas, con la conformación de brigadas comunitarias para la RRD.

A través de la LOPCYMAT, se han conformado los comités de seguridad y salud laboral, donde los trabajadores participan en la Reducción de Riesgo laboral.

**Context & Constraints:**

Promover la participación de las comunidades en la identificación de amenazas, vulnerabilidades o riesgos del entorno en que interactúan, con el fin de implementar medidas que reduzcan las condiciones de riesgo de desastres.

Promover y fomentar la participación activa del Estado en la Reducción de Riesgo Laboral, a nivel público, en el ámbito nacional, estatal y municipal, a través de la conformación de los comités de seguridad y salud laboral.

Fomentar, a través del trabajo articulado entre distintos actores, la formación de multiplicadores, a nivel nacional, en materia de RRD, con el fin de mejorar la conformación de los comités comunales de Protección Civil en el país, que sean capaces de identificar zonas de riesgo y ejecutar soluciones.

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# Asia

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## Bahrain (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Description:

- Bahrain is a small Country (both Geographically and by Population). There is a very close link between Ministries, Municipalities and Communities which eliminates considerable bureaucracy experienced by larger Nations.
- There are regular community participated events relating to safety awareness and provision of safety equipment to localities organised by the Civil Defence, supported by the relevant Governorate. These events include:
  - o Visits by students to their local Fire Stations.
  - o Programmed visits to universities schools and community centres to spread fire prevention and safety awareness.
  - o Volunteers training on fire prevention and safety is conducted by NGOs.
  - o Programmed lectures to communities on hazard associated with social and religious activity.

### Context & Constraints:

- Whilst much is being done on the Fire Safety side, this does not migrate to all risk areas.
  - Inadequate resources to meet the rapidly rising population and industrial development/growth.
  - Improvements can be made through Governorates encouraging local industries/business community to support community based programs.
  - Much will be overcome, once the National Platform is identified and functional.
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## Bangladesh (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Description:

Country has made good progress in mobilising capacity of the vulnerable people including women and persons with disabilities in DRR through their active participation. Around 200 CRAs, 4000 LDRRF completed and 30000 DMC members, journalists and civil society members have received training on DRM. This resulted in various actions planned by the GoB and NGOs at community level. However, key challenge remains decentralised decision making and resource allocation. The revised SOD may most likely to unlock that potential. There are initiatives to strengthen local government system with support from development partners. GoB established a commission for strengthening local government, which has proposed a plan to incorporate DRR.

### Context & Constraints:

Overall effort to strengthening decentralised planning oppose to a historical centralised planning and decision making required further acceleration. The capacity of the local government bodies to plan DRR remains a challenge

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## Cambodia (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

**Description:**

There is much encouragement and empowerment of participation and decentralization of community, including identifying and analyzing problems, needs, decision in planning and implementing disaster risk reduction, development planning and other areas. There are also encouragement of participation from different groups, such as vulnerable groups, woman and children groups, the rich and poor, religions, development sectors and social sectors.

**Context & Constraints:**

> There many projects/ programme aiming of encouragement of participation and empowerment of community and authorities, but delegation and resources are limited. The authorities are considered as only providing the facilitation roles to the projects/programmes implementation but not the key implementers at local levels. So, while the project phased out there are some concerns of sustainability and ownership to keep momentum of projects/programmes for longer term.

> Even though, many projects or programmes are operating and implementing at community level, but the capacity of communities and authorities on disaster risk reduction are still limited at all levels, caused by inadequate initiative of establishment of sustainable mechanisms, for example, building up the core groups or group of trainer to ensure the long run of training. Besides, it is insufficient decentralizations and delegations to community and authorities to undertake the longer term projects or programmes

> The disaster management works are more active and proactive only in the coverage areas of partner agencies, but there are no move in other disaster prone area where do not have presence of disaster management partner agencies.

**Recommendations to Overcome:**

- To ensure the subsistence and comprehensive achievement of disaster management for all levels, the institutional strengthening of disaster management offices are needed.
- Capacity strengthening of institutions at all levels is required. National Disaster Management Secretariats have to play the lead roles in enhancing the capacity of sub-national levels and provide technical guidance and support in implementing the policy and legal framework on disaster management in the country.
- NCDM needs to coordinate and lead in incorporation of DRR into national development plans and strategies (i.e., CMDG, NSDP, NPRSP, rectangular strategy) as a cross-cutting development issues.
- To encourage community ownership and continuation of programmes, the partner agencies need to present clear and transparent exit strategies.

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**India** (in English)**Level of Progress achieved:**

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

**Description:**

The 73rd and 74th amendment of the Constitution is a milestone in the process of democratic decentralization in India. The Act specifies that the responsibility for taking decisions on various development activities at the grassroot level which affect people's lives directly would rest upon the elected people themselves. The Panchayati Raj Institutions /Municipal bodies have been given permanency as entities of local self governments with financial power and specific role in planning for economic development and social justice for the local area. The Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in India have developed certain critical strengths and they have been established at all three levels ie district, block and cluster of villages. In many states PRIs have been actively involved in disaster preparedness and response activities. In addition the Disaster Management Act of India specifies the functions of these local authorities and the elected representative of the district level panchayati Institution (Zilla Parishad) has been assigned

the role of Co-chairperson of the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA). It is envisaged that with more active involvement of the Panchayati Raj Institutions in disaster management there will be increased opportunity to include people's interest and ensure their participation in decision making and risk reduction planning. The act also emphasizes to involve the nongovernmental as well as community based social welfare organizations to carry out various disaster preparedness and risk reduction activities at the grassroot levels. The newly established DDMA's will prepare the District Disaster Management Plans in consultation with the above mentioned decentralized entities which derive authority from the community.

**Context & Constraints:**

At present the 11th schedule of the constitution which enlists 29 subjects for which panchayats will be responsible for planning at the local level does not include disaster management specifically. However there is tremendous scope existing at the local level to integrate disaster risk concerns into development planning through panchayats. The challenge lies in ensuring greater involvement and commitment of the state governments in delegation of power and resources to the panchayats for disaster risk reduction as it is a state subject. There is also a need to enhance the capacity of the panchayat functionaries to understand the linkages that exist between sustainable development and disaster risk reduction.

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**Indonesia (in English)**

**Level of Progress achieved:**

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

**Description:**

Regulation wise, decentralization that promises to transfer "duties and functions" from the central government to local governments has been regulated through Law No. 32 Year 2004. However, this has not been balanced with decentralization or delegation of authorities and resources, which actually is very much needed by the local authorities in order that they can perform their functions well.

Decentralization of resources to the local level has not been done in a proper way. Much of the existing resources is still pooled at the national government, so that at the local level there is only very limited capacity for risk reduction, particularly the capacity to assess the root causes of the local people's vulnerability.

The civil society in Indonesia has participated substantially in discussions related to various different aspects of disaster risk reduction, through many community-based forums. Also, many preparedness training programs have also been conducted, involving all relevant stakeholders from the grassroots level all throughout Indonesia. However, these activities tend to be not coordinated, not integrated and unsystematic.

In Indonesia areas that often implement disaster risk reduction efforts are mostly those that have experienced major disasters or areas that are prone to disasters that may bring huge impacts. Awareness of the importance of disaster risk reduction usually grows in such areas and among the stakeholders living in those areas. At the local level several DRR stakeholders, together with national-level actors, launch campaigns for awareness raising on Disaster Risk Reduction day. At the national level, many different stakeholders also engaged in a collaborative venture to commemorate this Disaster Risk Reduction day through a series of relevant activities.

**Context & Constraints:**

One of the challenges is the difficulty in obtaining data and information required by the stakeholders from the civil society and the private sector to plan and develop disaster risk reduction activities. There is no comprehensive data and information available; they are not up-to-date and there are often several versions of data coming from different sources.

The absence or lack of delegation of authority at the local level also confuses many disaster risk reduction actors in integrating their activities into local government's disaster risk reduction plans and programs. The civil society and the private sector have not understood clearly what they could contribute in the field of DRR. Meanwhile, to date the involvement of the media in disseminating information about DRR initiatives is still negligible.

To address the above challenges, effort will need to be done to coordinate the collection and processing of disaster-related data and information, so that the final result will not be confusing for the users and can be updated regularly of relevant parties. In addition to that, since data and information constitute one of the fundamental components in the planning and implementation of disaster risk reduction activities, data standardization, availability and accessibility should always be maintained. It needs to be ensured that the data and information available is user-friendly and can be used easily by the community.

As part of the effort to disseminate information on disaster risk reduction, collaboration will need to be established with the media to promote better understanding of DRR issues and encourage them to come out with creative ideas to socialize DRR issues.

Furthermore, there is a need to balance the administrative and financial decentralization (money follow function) that is supported by clear disbursement mechanism as part of the accountability measures by the Local Government. On this note, it is necessary to have a national strategy that will strengthen the participation and awareness of the public in enhancing its development in other areas, in alignment with the efforts to increase the capacity of Local Government for the provision of disaster related data and information that can be used as consideration for policy making.

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## Iran, Islamic Rep of (in English)

### **Level of Progress achieved:**

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### **Description:**

Disaster risk reduction activities through the country in the 4 disaster management cycles are over all responsibility of National Disaster Management Organization of Iran. If a disaster is classified as being of national significance, the NDMO takes control. If necessary, It can call upon other Government authorities to

provide with any required support for disaster risk management. The national structure of the NDMO is Page 5 mirrored at provincial level. The Governor General and his heads of department comprise the provincial

NDMO, which coordinate s disaster response from within the province. The main activities of the post –disaster reconstruction programs as well as the funding for them are also controlled at this level .If the magnitude if a disaster is sufficiently large, there is formal arrangement for neighboring provinces to respond to assist an affected area. As soon as a disaster is notified, the neighboring areas are obliged to respond .Each city in Iran is headed by a governor, who reports to the Governor General of the province and has a number of district – governors. The district level NDMO have a key role in managing the immediate search and rescue operation and the relief phase which follows. The governors play a key motivating role, mobilizing resources both within and from outside respective districts, as required.

### **Context & Constraints:**

The disaster management mechanism has been judged by neutral observers, including a number of international NGOs who participated in the relief operation of Bam earthquake of 26 December 2003 to be fairly effective in providing immediate relief to the victims of disasters. Credit for this satisfactory performance should go to the government's elaborate assistance system enriched by many of years of practical experience as well as to the cultural and Islamic norms that encourage assistant to the others

as a religious duty.

People participation in disaster management can usually not be considered as "organized". People provide generous donations to the immediate relief phase and are keen to provide logistic support to the operation. Nevertheless they lack the required training and their presence at the disaster field at times adds to the difficulties facing the professionals. The need to provide disaster response training to a larger number of people to assist others is obvious.

A related need is to train people to assist themselves when faced with a sudden disaster.

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## Japan (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Description:

The Basic Act on Disaster Control Measures stipulates the responsibility of municipal authorities to organize fire service organization including volunteer fire corps and to promote formation of voluntary disaster management organization. The volunteer fire corps members are public employees in special service, and paid remunerations for their work and efforts in case of disasters based on the ordinance in each municipality although the participation in the corps is basically based on volunteer spirit. Meanwhile, the voluntary disaster management organization is established voluntarily guided by a sense of solidarity in a community. In order to promote the activity of the organizations, some municipalities provide subsidy for the activities, conduct training for disaster risk management, and publish guidelines for community activities.

The national government has designated January 17th of each year as Disaster Reduction and Volunteer Day and January 15th to 21st of each year as Disaster Reduction and Volunteer Week. The designation of the day and week generates more opportunities to share information among volunteer groups and relevant entities and provide useful information to improve the environment for disaster reduction volunteer activities.

To promote a nationwide movement where individuals, families, communities, corporations and other various groups and entities participate in continuous activities and investments for mitigating disaster damage, the Central Disaster Management Council published the "Basic Framework for Promoting a Nationwide Movement for Disaster Reduction - Actions with Added Value to Security and Safety" in 2006. The framework places a particular emphasis on i) involvement of various local groups, ii) development of more attractive educational tool to understand proper knowledge on disaster reduction, iii) promotion of investment for safety in corporate sectors and households, iv) facilitating networking of various stakeholders, and v) sustainable disaster reduction activities by each individual and each sector of society. The Cabinet Office and the relevant organizations have regularly organized the events to encourage the community participation in disaster reduction activities, such as Disaster Reduction and Volunteer Meeting, Review Meeting for Volunteer Activities for Disaster Reduction, Disaster Reduction Fair, and "Community Development Forum. More than 10 such events have been conducted since 2007.

### Context & Constraints:

Change in social structure, living environment and lifestyles on a nationwide scale in recent years have led to increase of numbers of elderly people who are living alone as well as sparsely-settled areas mainly consist of aging population, which make difficult mutual support among residents including setting up community organizations. Based on the "Guidelines for Evacuation Support of People Requiring Assistance During a Disaster" in 2005 (revised in 2006), measures to provide necessary assistance to those such as the elderly and physically impaired at the time of a disaster need to be reinforced.

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## Kazakhstan (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

5 - Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels

### Description:

Activity of a local government in ES prevention and liquidation is defined by citizens themselves at a level of legal framework.

Exclusive function of executive local governments of regions and cities is organization of water-rescue services.

Population of disaster area has to act according to commands of civil defence, rules and regulations for the case of ES. Measures for large scale ES are realized in accordance with developed and approved local government plans. These plans are developed after agreements between the National Red Crescent Society of Kazakhstan and communities from the one side and a corresponding local executive body from the other side.

### Context & Constraints:

Despite the existence of national legal documents for reaction to ES at a local level there is not enough financial support to realize all plans at present.

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## Korea, Rep of (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Description:

The Korean government focuses on securing the budget for disaster mitigation activities, searching for new budget sources such as disaster fund, and inviting private capital.

Using media disaster education and campaign are broadcasted during typhoon and rainy season. Also, May 26 is designated as Disaster Prevention Day to promote community participation.

### Context & Constraints:

There are many disaster-prone areas in local government. Since the budget allocation for the improvement in the local governments is not always top priority, the mitigation activities are somewhat limited.

The Comprehensive Disaster and Safety System Task Force has been formulated in the Ministry of Public Administration and Security to find ways to secure more budget sources through inter-governmental discussions and amendment of related laws and regulations.

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## Kyrgyzstan (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

### Description:

The power of executive authority at the level of communities, rural and urban bodies that work directly with the population on disaster prevention, response and mitigation are not fully determined, and are not clearly reflected in the relevant documents determining the goals and objectives of these bodies.

The structural subdivisions of the MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic are of great importance in the activity with local population.

A number of international and non-governmental organizations and donors together with the MoES of the

Kyrgyz Republic work with communities on increasing the level of public awareness on the risks, and contributing to the capacity building of the population on disaster preparedness and participation in disaster risk reduction activities.

A successful example of development can be the fact that the national non-governmental organizations, from the National Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan and its nationwide network to small NGOs involved in rendering of specific services including their institutional role in disaster preparedness and response, actively participate in disaster risk management.

**Context & Constraints:**

Because of insufficient budget funds the structural subdivisions of the MoES of the Kyrgyz Republic operate only at the level of districts, and the activities of international and non-governmental organizations are implemented only during the project period and are of temporary character.

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## **Lao People's Democratic Republic** (in English)

**Level of Progress achieved:**

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

**Description:**

Limited resources available for disaster risk reduction is a major challenge. Thus the NDMC encourages the use of more basic, traditional and local disaster preparedness and response mechanisms especially for monitoring, early warning and actions before and during disasters in order to reduce disaster related loss of lives and livelihoods.

Local disaster management committee (PDMC, DDMC) are the main organizations responsible for disaster response, preparedness, mitigation and recovery. In times of emergencies, the local Disaster Management committee is the first actor to respond to the disaster situation with their own resources and their capabilities. However, if disasters exceed their capacity to cope, they will request assistance from the central government (NDMC). The current structure does not allow the NDMC to make rapid decisions and it relies on the NDMO to operationalize actions. Operational budgets have not been allocated to assist the PDMC and DDMC with pre-disaster pre-positioning of relief items or purchase and maintenance of rescue equipment.

The disaster risk reduction and mitigation activities are undertaken through various project cooperation and support by donors. Many of this cooperation involve the PDMC and DDMC as the main implementing partners of project activities. The communities at the project areas actively participate in assessing their conditions and needs and in data collection and analysis as a basis for project planning and implementation.

**Context & Constraints:**

Increasing cooperation with NGOs demand that the NDMO should also strengthen its capacities to identify needs in disaster risk reduction so that they can provide guidance to NGOs. Selection of target provinces, districts and communities should be more needs based and demand driven as NGOs have tendency to focus on the Mekong Area provinces. Further, the NDMO must also enhance its capacities for monitoring and coordination.

There are only few provinces that have received assistance to build their capacities for disaster management. There are still more provinces and districts that have yet to receive project assistance. In these areas, awareness and capacities for disaster management is very limited. Due to limited resources, awareness raising campaigns on disaster reduction have mainly been done at the national level and rarely at the local level.

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## Maldives (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

### Description:

Delegation of Authority incorporated in the DM Bill and upon enacting this authority could be more utilized. There still needs to be a practice and change in mindset that Disaster Management is everyone's priority. Community Participation is a fancy word used very often but has been manipulated due to less delegation of authority and adhoc availability of resources.

Historically Maldives did adopt a participatory approach in management of natural resources. Under this system of self-governance known as 'vaaru' the individual atoll's natural resources are shared between the local inhabitants of the atoll and the government. Through this system of resource management no natural resources within a natural atoll remained un-prescribed. Property rights and access rules were well established. Although this system has disintegrated, some communities still follow self-initiated management practices

### Context & Constraints:

Lack of transparency of the available resources and weak policies with regard to delegation of authority has been the constraint. This could be achieved through local capacity building and community ownership initiatives.

Policies attaching responsibilities of the community to local resources by international and national agencies would bear fruit.

Stringent measures need to be taken in case of non adherence.

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## Nepal (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Description:

The Local Self-Governance Act (1999) has given the authority and responsibility to the local government authorities (District Development Committees, Municipalities and Village Development Committees) to design and implement DRR activities at local level. However, there is no any systematic and assured mechanism of resource allocation and distribution to the local authorities from the central government.

### Context & Constraints:

Key Contextual Challenges:

Policy/ decision makers still lack updated and practical information on the importance of DRR; I/NGOs and donors still focused their DRM activities only on relief, rescue and response rather reducing impending risk of any disasters and linking disaster with development; Inadequate awareness at all levels; Limited sense of ownership and responsibilities by government institutions; Low level of technical capacity to link disaster with over all development.

Some Recommendations:

- Awareness raisings at decision/ policy making level; empirical researches on the impacts of disasters in daily life; environment and to sustain development gains; etc.;
- Developing and mainstreaming of DRR policy into local level planning;
- Technical knowledge and network development by imparting skills and resource, providing on-the job training at local development activities; and
- Establishment of Local Disaster Management Fund at District Development Committee level.

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## Pakistan (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Description:

The progress level regarding this Core Indicator may be taken as four. Legal and institutional arrangements have been made to ensure community participation and decentralization through the delegation of authority and resources to local levels. As required under the National Disaster Management Ordinance 2006/2007, and National Disaster Risk Management Framework, the District Disaster Management Authorities (DDMAs), have been established in all districts and have been empowered to deal with whole spectrum of disaster management activities at the local levels. The DDMAs are required to frame policies and plans on disaster management relevant to local needs. However, these policies and plans are required to be framed in conformity with the National and Provincial Policies and Plans.

One of the primary functions of the DDMAs is to mobilize communities at the local levels for their active participation in the disaster management activities. Under the NDRMF, community and local level programme implementation is the center piece of the Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies. Not only the impact of disaster risks is essentially local, but response to such risks is to be generated locally in first place.

The local communities, local infrastructures and local economies are directly affected by disasters. At the same time local communities and authorities are first responders to any disaster situation. While appreciating the fore stated facts, Risk Reduction Programme are being implemented at local levels for capacity development of local officials, communities, civil society organizations and other stakeholders.

Utilization of resources and energies at this level generally have lasting impacts. NDMA has launched programs in 8 districts, where in collaboration with district governments, local institutions, volunteer networks and capacities are being developed. Additionally, NDMA is working with national and international NGOs to promote community level institutions and volunteerism.

### Context & Constraints:

The Government has already taken steps for devolution/decentralization of powers and resources for disaster management at the local levels through legal and institutional arrangements. The powers and roles of the provincial and local authorities have been well defined in the Ordinance and the Framework. Yet implementation of National Policies and Strategies at the local and community levels suffer from a variety of challenges.

The foremost challenge being the resource crunch emanating from prevailing politico-economic conditions in the whole Region. The District Governments have limited capacities to generate local resources to finance development schemes, including that of disaster management. They are solely dependent on budgetary allocation/grants from the Provincial Governments. On the other hand, the Provincial Governments are themselves faced with the challenge of huge budgetary deficits and finding it hard to spare enough resources for the District Governments for implementation of development schemes in the field of disaster management.

The second major challenge is deficiency of institutional capacities and expertise at the local level to implement the Policies and Plans in letter and spirit. The local departments personnel lack requisite professional know how, skills, equipment or resources to plan or respond to the impending challenges of disaster risks with a scientific approach.

Lack of awareness among local communities and local departments about the prerequisites of newly introduced disaster management system is another challenge. By tradition, they have been dealing with disasters by using reactionary approaches with least concern about mitigation and prevention aspects of disaster management.

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## Philippines (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

### Description:

The DCCs all over the country are “uneven” in quality. Some regions and LGUs do not have a functional or viable DCC. This is partly due to the low level of recognition of the hazards and risks by the inhabitants and the politicians that govern them. Although disaster management is a devolved function to LGUs, many LGUs do not have a dedicated office to handle it. However, cities such as Olongapo and Makati as well as provinces such as Bulacan and Sarangani have opted to establish local disaster management offices.

Experience has shown that local bodies can emerge to address a need in a high risk and vulnerable area. Albay Province has shown that a local government unit can move forward in DRR. The Albay Public Safety and Emergency Office (APSEMO) evolved from the Provincial Disaster Operations Center, a response-oriented set-up funded by the Italian Cooperation for Development to cope with eruptions of Mount Mayon and annual destructive typhoons in the province. The office under the provincial government has permanent staff to undertake pre-disaster activities. The APSEMO serves as a contact point for partners like NGOs and international NGOs (INGOs) for project development and implementation support.

The NDCC has adopted Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) as a model to engage communities in DRR undertaking. The evidence for this is the crafting of the Strategic Plan for CBDRM as part of the PDRSEA Phase 4 Project supported by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) and the European Commission. In said plan, the OCD envisions to be the main driver in the promotion and resource mobilization of CBDRM in the country as well as in the integration of CBDRM into development planning.

### Context & Constraints:

While preparedness measures are undertaken by some groups in communities, there is weakness regarding linking these with the larger municipal, provincial and regional response and other post-event mechanisms. Ways and means to systematically involve volunteers and community members in contingency planning exercises and development processes should be done by the LDCCs led by the Local Chief Executives (LCEs). Roles and responsibilities must therefore be assigned to all stakeholders.

Decentralizing to the local level brings out issues which are often affected by local politics. It would be useful that options are made known to LGUs. A DRM office in LGUs entails costs and may therefore be difficult to establish in poor municipalities. Putting the right person(s) in the job creates another difficulty. Changes in the local officials (as what happens during elections when incumbents do not get re-elected) bring in new persons who are not trained or even properly oriented on disaster management, thus negating earlier training. Professional practice in the field of disaster and emergency management is yet to be established.

Projects after HFA adoption have championed community participation as part of good practice. While many NGOs possess the skills and resources to mobilize people, many LGUs do not have such capacity. Moreover, although the NDCC, recognizes the significance of CBDRM, most national agencies do not have the mandate, dedicated resources or local offices to advance CBDRM priorities.

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## Singapore (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

5 - Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels

### Description:

Exercises are regularly conducted to test the effectiveness of the multi-agency response and typically involve several hundred participants. Such exercises allow SCDF to foster closer inter-agency cooperation and co-ordination with related government agencies.

### Context & Constraints:

Strong support and co-operation are often displayed by the residents' committees.

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## Sri Lanka (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

### Description:

Provincial councils are responsible for implementation of development activities and Local Authorities are empowered to implement programme for the welfare and safeguarding the health of people, enforcing the regulations against those creating nuisances within the LA limits. Powers and responsibilities between central and local authorities are well defined.

Local authority has some powers to carry out relief and response activities but it lacks resources to meet the disaster risk reduction requirements.

The private sector, fulfilling their social responsibility, provides relief to disaster victims when there are appeals by the government for assistance.

Participation of civil societies and private sector agencies in the formulation and implementation of policies and plans are inadequate. The other stakeholders (government, INGOs & NGOs) play an active role in this exercise.

Up to some extent the affected /vulnerable populations are involved in defining need and find solutions to mitigate disaster risks. However it was noted that there more female participation in these activities.

Community training and community based preparedness activities for hazards such as tsunami, landslides and floods implemented in covering most of the disaster prone areas.

The government declared 26th December as the "National Safety Day" and arranged following public awareness activities on DRR to remind the population about the need to contribute to the disaster risk reduction to ensure disaster free Sri Lanka.

- School level essay and art competitions.
- National and district level awareness meetings.
- National competition organized to develop a logo for Disaster management Center. Logo for Disaster Management Centre was developed and accepted by the Govt.

International safety day was celebrated in several selected districts with awareness and training programmes.

Media prefer to cover disaster events when there is news value appealing to the public. Loss of human lives, property damages and relief provided are covered to large extent.

**Context & Constraints:**

The community leaders, community based organizations and NGOs working at village level mainly focused on disaster relief and emphasis on disaster risk reduction activities as whole is inadequate. Implementation of DRR activities needs to be improved

Conduct programmes to make civil societies more dynamic organizations and strengthen their capacity to negotiate with public sector agencies to implement DRR programmes.

DRR programme should be formulated and implemented in such a manner which encourages the male participation in the process.

Frequent dialog need to be conducted with local political leaders to emphasis on DRR rather than relief.

Commercial inspired initiatives to mitigate disaster risk, strengthening preparedness for emergencies are not being considered at present by the private sector.

More media coverage is required for disasters and Pre-disaster activities (Preparedness, mitigation and prevention measures) in order to educate and prepare general public in advance for disasters. Conducting regular press briefing will facilitate this process.

In Ambalanthota DS division in Southern Sri Lanka Community group was formed to cut open the sand barrier of Walawe River mouth to drain off storm wate. Local NGO provided the seed capital and pay,ent for hire of machnery is made from the interest. Committee Chaired by the Divisional Secretary and consisting of village leaders manage the funds. Some lgal coverage should be provided to ensure teh sustainability of such funds.

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## **Syrian Arab Republic** (in English)

**Level of Progress achieved:**

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

**Description:**

The adoption of decentralization at administrative levels is enhanced through the delegation of authority and resources to local levels including disaster risk reduction. The participation of the local community is also promoted through encouraging NGOs in activating its role in development, raising awareness, and volunteer resources.

As an example the Syrian Red Crescent is playing a vital role through community capacity building, and employ its resources in disaster risk reduction, and enhance the role of volunteerism.

**Context & Constraints:**

The adoption of decentralization is still at its first stage and will take time to be improved, this constraint will lead to the inability in dealing with disaster in each region separately.

This is also the case for the NGOs adopting volunteerism in dealing with disaster.

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## Tajikistan (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

### Description:

- 2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/or institutional commitment

The authority of the organs of executive power at the level of Jamoats, of town and city councils that work directly with population in the area of prevention and response to natural disasters and recovery are defined rather clearly, which is reflected in the relevant documents determining objectives and tasks of these organs.

In the work with the population the great role belongs to the units of the Committee for Emergencies and Civil Defense, the civil defense services and the local non-military formations.

A number of local and international governmental and non-governmental organizations and donor agencies collaborate with the Committee for Emergencies on the level of communities, improving the level of awareness of population of the risks, thus making significant contribution in increasing the potential of communities in preparation for natural disasters and participation in activities in reduction of risk.

One of positive examples is the increasing participation of national non-governmental organizations in disaster risk management, from the Red Crescent Society of Tajikistan, including its institutional role in the area of preparedness and response to disasters, through small NGOs that provide specific services.

### Context & Constraints:

Difficulties:

1. Although the authority of ministries, organizations and local organs of executive power in the area of prevention and response to natural disasters and recovery is defined quite clearly and supported by relevant documents, at present there are no sufficient resources for the execution of such authority.
  2. Some ministries and institutions, in pursuit of their institutional interests, are not willing to share with partners the available information required for protection of population and territories in emergency situations of natural and technological character.
  3. The Committee for Emergency Situations and Civil Defense, as the leading state organization in coordination of activities in assessment of natural and technological hazards, concluded agreements with a number of key ministries and organizations in the sphere of exchange of information; still, some ministries and organizations do not demonstrate willingness in this issue. CoES intends to resolve the issue at the level of the central government.
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## Uzbekistan (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Description:

MoES accepted a number of international projects for implementation:

The first phase of a joint MoES / UNICEF project "Risk reduction among vulnerable groups of population particularly children and women in six oblasts of Uzbekistan mostly exposed to natural disasters" has been finalized (for the period from 01 April 2007 to 30 June 2008). The primary goals of the project are:

To train populations on action planning skills before natural disasters, as well as to respond during and after natural disasters in order to reduce the damages from their consequences

To strengthen the capacity of the Population and Administrative Bodies Training Centres (MBTC) under the regional Departments of Emergency Situations (DoES) to coordinate and carry out measures for natural disaster preparedness of mahallas (communities), schools, nursery schools and medical facilities.

Project partners:

Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Uzbekistan (MoES) jointly with the Representative of the UN Children's Fund in Uzbekistan (UNICEF), with participation of ministries of Public Education (MoPE), Health, and "Mahalla" Fund implemented the project aimed at reducing the damages from natural disasters among the vulnerable groups of population, particularly women and children.

The project was carried out in 6 oblasts (Bukhara, Kashkadarya, Samarkand, Syrdarya, Fergana and Tashkent).

Presently, MoES signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Representative of UN Children's Fund in Uzbekistan (UNICEF) on implementation of the second phase of the project where 9 more oblasts of the republic will be included.

**Context & Constraints:**

Context and constraints are not indicated

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## **Viet Nam** (in English)

**Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

**Description:**

In the past years, In Viet Nam the participation and contribution of communities in DRR is huge. Viet Nam has been recognized as one of the countries that have greatest contribution of people in DRR. The activities from the central government, ministries, and local authorities to prepare and respond to natural disaster have been widely implemented by people living in high-risk areas. The "four-at-site motto" (command at site, forces at site, materials and equipment at site and logistics at site), the core principle in disaster response in Viet Nam, has been promoted and practiced annually. Local authorities and communities have actively participated in the disaster prevention, response and mitigation in their communities and localities.

Local governments have been gradually allowed to increase their autonomy to manage their local budget directly. Civil societies, NGOs, and international organizations have actively implemented CBDRM projects and programs. Through these programs the rights, responsibilities, and participations of communities in the process of projects/programs development and implementation have been strengthened. However, these projects/programs lack the systematic coordination as most of them are the pilot projects/programs and follow some certain criteria to meet the requirements of the implemented organizations and donors.

Recently, MARD collaborates with other ministries and local authorities to develop a proposal for CBDRM program to 2020, which will be implemented national wide. The proposal has been submitted to Prime Minister for approval. This proposed program emphasizes the community participation, and the devolution of authority and management.

**Context & Constraints:**

As mentioned above, due to the limited capacity of local authorities and communities, and the differences in capacities among local governments, regions as well as urban and rural areas, mountainous and flatland areas, the level of participation and effectiveness of community participation in DRR have limited results. Therefore, the genuine and effective community participation in DRR requires longer time for planning, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating the projects/programs with the real participations of all relevant stakeholders. Moreover, mobilizing the participation of vulnerable groups faces many challenges as their socio-economic conditions and capacities are limited.

CBDRM is an approach widely accepted by many stakeholders. However, it is required radical change in the perception of people and government from local to central levels as the central planning approach has been practiced long time in Viet Nam. Local governments need to share, and collaborate with local communities and vice versa local communities need to actively participate in the process of planning and implementation. It is required strong efforts to bridge the gap between policies and implementation.

Another challenge is the integration of gender, children, and vulnerable and disabled people into the DRR

action plan as this is a new issue to local communities. It is a common perception that “DRR is the responsibilities of men and government”.

**Proposed solutions:**

Human resources development and socialization should be recognized as a gradual process and priority will be given to the building of safe community and the enhancing disaster preparedness capacity of individuals through mass media and propaganda. Suitable mechanism to build a voluntary task force at villages and communes vulnerable to natural disasters and to mobilize the contribution of human resources and financial support from residents and corporations should be identified. It is also vital to provide specialized training in order to strengthen human resources to meet requirements of natural disaster prevention, response and mitigation, especially human resources in advisory and administration agencies related to disaster management, especially at central, provincial and district and commune levels.

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## **Yemen** (in English)

**Level of Progress achieved:**

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

**Description:**

As mentioned previously , MWE with YRCS are planning to start some action in this regards with support and coordination from GFDRR and IFRC. This initiative aimed to build the capacity of the local administration and enhance the mainstreaming of D CCRR community based management systems, enhance the knowledge and DRR awareness.

**Context & Constraints:**

DRR awareness is almost missing among the public , policy makers even higher level all over the country. Lacking of the financial resources, appropriate educational materials and capacity are the main constrains face the existing efforts to develop Disaster and Climate Change Risk Reduction vision at the local level. The local administrations are willing to work closely with the central government to address the DRR agenda in their authorities but there is no available resources to handle this issues.

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# Europe

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## Armenia (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Description:

The Armenian National Survey for Seismic Protection has its territorial divisions dealing with seismic hazard and risk problems at regional level. The Armenian Rescue Service has its marz branches for immediate emergency response in case of possible natural and man-made disaster.

Municipal services has the contingency and action plans aimed to minimize the negative consequences of disaster.

### Context & Constraints:

Ensure the decentralized local governance DRR systems at marz level would be integrated into national initiatives and adequately resourced, and the responsibilities would be clearly identified and shared.

Empower community-level organizations, volunteer groups and other active community members to participate in disaster reduction decision-making, planning and implementation.

Recognize the role and contribution of voluntary action to capacity building at marz and community level and provide the appropriate environment.

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## Bulgaria (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Description:

Community emergency plans with respective preventive measures and resource allocation are developed in case of disaster or accident in municipality area.

Voluntary units formed and trained by the supervision of the municipality authority could participate in the process of averting, rescuing and mitigation of the emergency (as it is pointed in the Disaster Protection law).

### Context & Constraints:

- Disposition with necessary properly trained/ educated staff and resources;
  - Increasing of a public awareness in case of disaster, voluntary help
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## Croatia (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

2 - Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

### Description:

National Protection and Rescue Directorate has taken care of protection and rescue system through its local offices and has been stressing the need for active involvement of local self-government bodies in this matter. In the transitional period, the state will continue to financially assist local capacities for disaster response.

**Context & Constraints:**

Limited budget has been obstructing desired development and the necessary preparedness levels. Also, continuous disaster response training should be conducted.

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**Czech Republic** (in English)**Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

**Description:**

Delegation of authority and resources has been defined by law.

**Context & Constraints:**

However, financial resources are not adequate in some cases.

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**France** (in French)**Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

**Description:**

- La gestion des risques fait l'objet d'une appropriation croissante des collectivités territoriales qui, en tout état de cause, demeurent le premier niveau d'intervention en cas de sinistre. Le dispositif nouvellement créé renforce la place que doivent y tenir les collectivités locales dans un contexte de décentralisation satisfait le besoin ressenti de disposer d'un levier de proximité nécessaire au rayonnement de la politique nationale et à l'adhésion de la société civile.

- L'obligation pour le maire de procéder à une information préventive sur les risques par des réunions publiques et le Document d'Information Communal sur les Risques Majeurs (DICRIM), de tenir à jour la cartographie des cavités souterraines, d'élaborer, dans certaines conditions, un Plan Communal de Sauvegarde (PCS), de constituer des réserves communales de sécurité civile, vient renforcer la panoplie nécessaire à la promotion de la conscience du risque.

- A l'international, des projets de coopération décentralisée sont menés par différentes collectivités dans des secteurs divers, notamment en matière de protection civile : programme Art Gold Caraïbes (entre Guadeloupe / Aquitaine / Bretagne / PNUD), coopération Vendée / Antananarivo, lutte contre les inondations (coopération Paris / Prague).

- Depuis 2007, l'Agence française de Développement (Afd) contribue au dispositif d'assurance contre les catastrophes naturelles dans les Caraïbes (CCRIF : Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility) permettant aux Etats souscripteurs de mutualiser leurs risques de catastrophes naturelles

**Context & Constraints:**

coordination des actions

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**Germany** (in English)**Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

**Description:**

The local level is participating in DRR on a large scale through the German understanding of subsidiarity.

Subsidiarity gives priority to communal independence over governmental action. This means that the local authorities and chapters of emergency response forces can receive assistance from above by demand, though only in the case of urgent need. This has to be considered not only in the case of disasters but also with decisions and responsibilities about construction areas, land use etc. on the local/communal level. In the case of disaster response and management, the main actors in Germany include the local fire brigades and police, "Federal Agency for Technical Relief" (THW), as well as private relief/emergency services such as the Red Cross (DRK), Malteser Germany, the Order of St. John or the Workers` Samaritan Federation Germany (ASB).

In the case of a major hazard across federal boundaries or nationwide, the superordinated authorities and organizations such as the "Federal Agency of Technical Relief" (THW: see links) support the various actors on the communal level. Constitutionally, however, DRR and preparedness/prevention are largely a local duty of communities and town districts. Their local fire brigades and emergency medical services (as well as the communal flood protection) provide the foundation of DRR in the population because of their ability to raise awareness and especially through their voluntary engagement. More than 1.2 million people work in the voluntary fire brigades, another 400,000 in the five volunteer organizations - the DRK, the ASB, the Malteser Germany, the Order of St. John and the "German Lifeguard Association" (Deutsche Lebens-Rettungs-Gesellschaft: DLRG) (see links) - and an additional 76,000 volunteers in the THW. Through the civilian service and the voluntary social year, an additional 90,000 young citizens work in a DRR-related field. Through the tradition of voluntary work in disaster relief/assistance, a culture of resilience is developed at a community-based micro level, while the different actors (including the THW) are primarily coordinated by the communal operation administration in the case of an emergency, as the fire brigades are communal and the emergency services are controlled by the district. Therefore, due to the principle of subsidiarity, the regional authorities assume responsibly in the case of larger disasters.

Due to the "European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid" (see annex) from December 2007, the AA and the German development cooperation pursue a coherent and complementary approach on all levels. This includes the creation of basic conditions and the capacity building necessary for the respective levels to meet their appropriate responsibilities in DRR, as participation is a central principle of the German development cooperation. The German development cooperation has supported decentralization in all areas for a long time, similar to DRR.

### **Context & Constraints:**

The decentralised German system requires structures of responsibility and knowledge about mechanisms, possibilities and regulations at the local level, which faces the challenge of an potentially inefficient and difficult to manage delegation of tasks and participation of the different actors in disaster and emergency management at the community level. The German federal system has been reformed for years and one of its challenges is the continued efficient use of DRR-resources after dismantling bureaucracy and changing the administrative structures.

The Federal Government, the Federal States (Laender) and the communities are attempting to develop a future organization of DRR that contains all the benefits of such a decentralized organization without simultaneously sacrificing comprehensive approaches. Due to the plurality of actors in this area, this is emphasized as the main challenge. Additionally, voluntary services have faced the unforeseen challenge of a decreasing number of new recruits in recent years due to the change in demography and mobility of the population.

The German development cooperation recognizes DRR as a mainstream issue with limitations in capacities and resources at the local level. Therefore it aims to reduce them through capacity building at a communal level.

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**Italy** (in English)

**Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

**Description:**

The Italian Civil Protection Service is based on the two pillars of decentralization and subsidiarity. Under the framework provided by the Law n. 225 of February 24th, 1992 by the Legislative Decree n. 112 of March 31st, 1998 and by the Constitutional Law n. 3 of October 18th, 2001, forecasting, preventive, emergency and recovery measures for the protection of people, goods and of the environment from the effects of disasters are a primary responsibility of the Mayor. Other authorities participate in the prevision and prevention of disasters and can be involved in emergency and recovery operations. These authorities are the Mayor responsible for coordinating the Mountain Community (if relevant), the President of the Province (assisting the Prefect for the coordination of operative activities) and finally the Governor of the Region. The central authorities are involved in all activities through the provision of guidelines and framework policies as well as of data and services. National-level emergency management and recovery operations are coordinated by the National Civil Protection Department and carried out only in case of major events that have or may have national consequences or that require the use of extraordinary means and resources.

**Context & Constraints:**

The main challenge in this field is represented by the lack, in some areas of the Country, of effective procedures for responsibility sharing and handover, causing slowdowns and delays in preventive activities. In some cases, this has also caused a rapid upscaling of the emergency when a disaster has occurred.

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**Macedonia, The former Yugoslav Rep of** (in English)**Level of Progress achieved:**

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

**Description:**

The national policy and the legal framework define the responsibilities and competences of the municipalities and the City of Skopje, as well as of the other departments and subjects, foremost in the risk assessment, needs assignment and resources planning. The Regional CMCs assist the local disaster risk assessment. The Law on local self-government prescribes the adequate level of preparedness and measures for protection and rescue of people and goods, thus delegating the responsibility to the municipalities.

CMC and RPD have established thirty-five regional centers each. The law also sets up professional units that implement the preventive and operational measures and coordinate the support for the local task forces. In that respect, the firefighting department operates on local level.

The municipalities and local public institutions are supposed to have emergency assigned resources as part of their budgets. However, the DRR budget, especially in terms of prevention, alleviation, development and preparedness is largely dispersed and insufficient.

If the local resources prove to be insufficient for adequate response to hazards, they are added upon by the national plans, because the response to hazards needs to take into account the nature and intensity of the crisis as well as the character of the crisis.

CMC and the municipalities and the City of Skopje established a cooperation network in the field of: (1) assistance by local authorities for prevention and early response to risks and hazards; (2) creation of common SOPs for information exchange, communication, and measures; (3) risk assessment; (4) establishment of risk assessment methodologies; (5) defining the capacity needs of the local level; (6)

planning the material and technical equipment necessities; (7) financial resources.

**Context & Constraints:**

The legal framework entrusts the community participation and decentralization have through delegation. However, the capacity of the local communities is a challenge for the system. Namely, the level of training needs to be improved. The equipment used by the task forces is often outdated and has to be renewed. Finally, the operational capacities have to be further developed.

CMC coordinates its actions on all administrative levels. To further this end, a municipal network is started, aimed at developing and strengthening cooperation towards effective prevention, early warning, crisis management, protection and rescue of people and goods, and mitigation on the local level. For this end, it will be necessary to bring all activities as close as possible to the people and their immediate surrounding.

In that respect, CMC examines the possibility for institutional coordination with the neighbourhoods and their councils in order to improve the hazard data dissemination and organize the first response and self-help of the citizens.

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## Montenegro (in English)

**Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

**Description:**

After the Law on Local Governance and Law on Rescue and Protection were adopted, decentralization of authority ensued, which enabled the establishment of rescue and protection services at the local level. In case of major disasters and emergency situations, the State provides the mass support to these services and financially supports local governances, especially those which are not financially strong, by purchasing special equipment and training members of these services.

**Context & Constraints:**

The main challenge related to the inadequacy of personnel in municipal services, which represented the obstacle to full implementation of European standards.

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## Norway (in English)

**Level of Progress achieved:**

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

**Description:**

The 431 municipalities in Norway are the local fundament of the national disaster risk reduction. The municipalities are responsible for the functioning of key public services and the coordination of these during emergencies (e.g. local infrastructure, health services, care for the elderly and other vulnerable populations, and information to the public). In accordance with the principles of responsibility and of proximity, the main responsibility for preventive planning and disaster management within their territorial borders lies with the municipalities. Risk- and vulnerability analysis, physical planning, emergency plans and exercises are the cornerstones of disaster risk reduction at the local level. All municipalities are required to have an operational fire- and rescue service. The municipalities are furthermore required by law to undertake civil emergency preparation within the health sector but there is today no trans-sectoral judicial obligations regulating a cross-sectoral preparedness and disaster risk reduction at the local level.

A survey carried out by the Secretariat for climate change adaptation in 2007 among Norwegian municipalities shows that there is strong concern, but lack of knowledge about climate change and climate

change adaptation, and the municipalities request information about how climate change may affect disaster risks locally.

**Context & Constraints:**

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## **Serbia** (in English)

**Level of Progress achieved:**

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

**Description:**

The Law on Local Self Government was adopted, and it defined the obligations related to disaster management and emergency situations.

**Context & Constraints:**

The response of the local self government and the local population is not on a satisfying level. There is a need of more efficient implementation of the Legal Acts which are adopted. It is also necessary to build capacities in the human resource and material sectors, and to update the plans for disaster management.

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## **Slovenia** (in English)

**Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

**Description:**

The system of protection against natural and other disasters is based on the obligations of:

- municipalities (mayors), and
- the state (Slovenian Government - Administration for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief with regional branches).

Additionally, enterprises, institutions and other organisations are responsible for protection and rescue within their competence.

Roles and responsibilities of the two levels are defined in the Act on protection against natural and other disasters. In the period 2006-2008, both levels have carried out their tasks according to the annual programmes.

Three practical examples of the involvement of the different levels:

1. On the basis of risk and threat assessments, regions, local communities and enterprises must adopt emergency response plans, which have to be in compliance with national emergency response plans. In the period 2006-2008, local communities and enterprises have prepared or updated most mandatory emergency response plans.
2. Both levels are also linked through development and research work that is done on the national level, but involves the national and local levels as well (e.g. research projects in 2007: major emphasis was put on information support for fire prevention and fire extinguishing in the Karst and mountainous areas).
3. Local enterprises and other organisations (NGOs, institutions, etc.) are also included in the national education and training activities. One example of this cooperation is the involvement of all the aforementioned in an annual national exercise. Each year an exercise is organised in a different region, and the scenario involves regional and local threats (in 2007 an exercise on fires in the natural environment

was organised in the Karst area; in 2008 the scenario of the exercise includes a nuclear accident and will be carried out in the region where the nuclear power plant is).

**Context & Constraints:**

Establish a fully operational and independent regional level (some tasks from the national and local levels will be transferred to the regional one when the regions are established as political entities).  
Ensure enough personnel in local administration for protection and rescue activities.

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## Sweden (in English)

**Level of Progress achieved:**

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

**Description:**

Authority is based on the principle of proximity which means that major emergencies should be managed locally where they occur. Authorised public personnel at the lowest possible decision making level handles the emergency and is only supported at the regional or national levels when the event exceeds the geographical responsibility of the local authority.

Another key element is the principal of maintained responsibility. Whoever is responsible for an activity in normal conditions should assume the same responsibility during major emergencies.

At the local level the municipalities are fully responsible for land use planning.

During major emergencies the state can, through the Swedish Rescue Services Agency (SRSA), support municipalities with specific extra resources (e. g. sandbags, temporary flood barriers and water pumps, generators, specialists). The incident commander can request for resources via the SRSA's duty officer.

**Context & Constraints:**

For most municipalities issues regarding natural hazards and disaster risk reduction have low priority. Matters such as schools, child care, care of old people, building development, employment and being attractive as a place to live, are considered much more urgent.  
Resources at local level are often limited.

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## Switzerland (in English)

**Level of Progress achieved:**

5 - Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels

**Description:**

By law, operational responsibility for dealing with risks and for civil protection lies first and foremost with the cantons and municipalities. The Confederation overlooks the coordination of services and defines fundamental aspects. For risks and events with a national impact, the Confederation coordinates the intervention of the relevant partners and takes over responsibility for managing the situation.

**Context & Constraints:**

There is no need or significant potential for improvement to be identified.

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## Turkey (in English)

**Level of Progress achieved:**

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

**Description:**

The organizational structure of DRR at provincial level is under the authorization of the governor. Each governorship has own "Provincial Rescue and Aid Committee" and under this committee there are nine service groups those are responsible for response and recovery activities. Provincial Private Administration has its own resources for DRR activities.

In every province and district Turkish Red Crescent has its own branches for community participation and in most of the big cities there are special NGOs for search and rescue activities and they also conduct educational activities for public awareness.

After 1999 earthquakes lessons learned, government decided to give more responsibilities to local administrations. Some important changes made in "Provincial Special Administration Law (No: 5302) and "Metropolitan Municipality Law (No: 5216) and Municipality Law ( No: 5393). After those changes municipalities and governorates are given increased tasks and responsibilities for DRR and most of the mitigation, preparedness, planning and recovery works have been transferred to them.

**Context & Constraints:**

There are still some conflicts between these three laws and Disaster Law (No:7269) and the idea on what type of planning processes are necessary for DRR is not clarified. In some aspects, some of these tasks given to provincial administrations (under governorship) show similarities with the tasks of municipalities. Local administrations (both provincial and municipalities) should be supported in terms of organizational structure and financial resources.

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## United Kingdom [\(in English\)](#)

**Level of Progress achieved:**

5 - Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels

**Description:**

Regional government structures provide the platform for a regional role in emergency response where one would add value by improving co-ordination between local and central response. The actual delivery of a response to a disruptive event will remain for the most part with local responders.

The Government Offices (GOs) in the English regions provide a useful link between local and central government during a non-terrorist emergency. Government departments may use GOs to cascade information and guidance to local responders. The GOs also have substantial knowledge and experience of the working of central government and so provide a valuable first port of call for advice and guidance. A Regional Resilience Team (RRT) has been established in each of the GOs to co-ordinate the response of the whole GO to emergencies. RRTs will often be the first place that government departments turn to for a situation report on non-terrorist emergencies that could generate ministerial interest or national/regional press coverage, and RRTs in turn will look to local responders for this information.

In order to ensure an effective two-way flow of information between local responders and central government in an emergency, GOs may place a Government Liaison Officer (GLO) within the Strategic Co-ordinating Group (SCG).

The mechanisms for alerting, mobilising and information sharing between local responders and the GO will be set out in Regional Response Plans, agreed for each region. The plans will outline procedures for: activating the emergency management facilities in the GO; activating the Regional Civil Contingencies Committee (RCCC); and communicating with the local level, other regions and central government.

GOs can provide particular support in relation to consequence management - where the scale and nature of an incident is such that the effects are likely to be felt outside the immediate locality or to overwhelm the

local response - and in areas such as arranging Ministerial or VIP visits. They work closely with the Government News Network (GNN) in the regions and, with their links to government departments, can help local responders to ensure that a co-ordinated and coherent message is given to the public. Where a spokesperson for the region as a whole is appropriate, one option is the Regional Director of the GO.

GOs may play an important role in cross-regional co-ordination, liaising with other GOs and the Devolved Administrations (DAs) to support the response effort during cross-border emergencies.

**Context & Constraints:**

In involving the community and local responders 3 areas have given rise to issues over and above the response expected from them.

Vulnerable people may be less able to help themselves in an emergency than self-reliant people. Those who are vulnerable will vary depending on the nature of the emergency, those with mobility difficulties (e.g. those with physical disabilities or pregnant women); those with mental health difficulties; and others who are dependent, such as children.

Victims of an emergency - which includes not only those directly affected but also those who, as family and friends, suffer bereavement or the anxiety of not knowing what has happened.

Responder personnel should also be considered. Plans sometimes place unrealistic expectations on management and personnel. Organisations should ensure their plans give due consideration to the welfare of their own personnel. For instance, the emergency services have health and safety procedures which determine shift patterns and check for levels of stress.

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# Oceania

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## Australia (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Description:

The key elements of future emergency management at the national level are the mitigation of disaster impact, the promotion of community safety, and an investment in community resilience. These are undertaken through a whole-of-government, multi-agency, and "all hazards" approach.

Emergencies and disasters rarely conform to jurisdictional boundaries. Local governments will always have a key role in the response to and recovery from an emergency or disaster event, usually in a broader state, territory or even national context.

Community engagement roles undertaken by local governments are seen as very important and community attitudes appear to be very supportive.

Australia has a long and proud tradition of volunteerism and one of the most important elements of the volunteer movement is the emergency management and response sector which has more than 500 000 volunteers. They provide frontline response capabilities against our major natural hazards of floods, storms, cyclones and bushfires. Volunteers are particularly active at local level with schools and community groups, and their extensive involvement in mitigation preparedness programs has enhanced their effectiveness and the overall value to the Australian Community.

The Australian Emergency Management Volunteer Forum, supported by Emergency Management Australia was formed 2001, as part of the International Year of Volunteers. The purpose of the Forum is to provide a national forum representative of the volunteer emergency management sector, to facilitate better communication between the organisations within it, and to provide advocacy for the sector.

The objectives of the Forum are to foster communication, to share information, provide advocacy, particularly on behalf of the non-government organisations and to focus on the issues States and Territories, as well as providing day to day support in lesser incidents.

### Context & Constraints:

A significant issue for emergency management in Australia is its ability to maintain a strong, active and willing volunteer community into the future. Busy lives and intergenerational changes mean that people are less likely to volunteer, or if they do, then it is less likely to be on the life-long, continuous basis of the past. The emergency services volunteer cohort is ageing. At the same time, community expectation of support by, for example, the State Emergency Services (SES - largely made up of volunteers), is increasing.

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## Marshall Islands (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Description:

An objective in the NAP is to strengthen the capacity of key community groups and NGOs in RMI and assist communities in the outer islands to develop their own mechanisms to supplement the national and local government plan for emergency preparedness and response

### Context & Constraints:

1. Communities need to be committed to building their own resilience
2. Limited budgetary allocation for community based DRM

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## New Zealand (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

4 - Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Description:

Local Authorities are enabled to manage local risks through local policy, regulatory planning, code compliance certification and monitoring, and community asset planning. Local authorities are able to set general and targeted rates on property (on a capital, annual or land value basis), raise loans, make uniform charges and, in some circumstances, set fees for services to cover their costs of developing policy, and providing community and individual services.

Core local government legislation, and hazard management legislation, require open government processes covering consultation, requests for information and review of decisions. Local body elections are every three years, and all adults over 18 years may vote.

The Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 requires local authorities (regional, city and district councils) to establish Civil Defence Emergency Management Groups across 16 regions of the country. Each Group has a senior political representative from the constituent local authorities, and is supported by a Coordinating Executive Group of their senior managers and local emergency services. The Group is supported by a secretariat with links to other stakeholders, such as their local lifeline infrastructure organisations and Rural Support Trusts in rural areas.

### Context & Constraints:

Recent changes to local government legislation require local councils to have Long Term Council Community Plans (ten year) based on the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being outcomes sought by their communities. These plans enable consistent strategic goals and priorities to be established for policy and funding arrangements across the council's regulatory and service delivery programmes. These plans are updated on a three yearly cycle. This planning process, as well as land-use and environmental planning under the Resource Management Act and hazard and emergency planning under the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act, are highly participatory processes with the local community.

New Zealand authorities are now also reviewing their first generation of plans under the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002. Additionally national frameworks and processes are being set in place to enable monitoring and evaluation, and establishing benchmarks and best practice. Continuing improvements are expected as a result of these activities.

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## Vanuatu (in English)

### Level of Progress achieved:

3 - Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Description:

The overarching policy for this activity as this indicator suggests is the Vanuatu DRR and DM NAP 2006 - 2016, where under thematic area VI and strategy 8, the NDMO is tasked with the collaboration of these various agencies in ensuring that communities do take action to reduce risks and prepare for disasters.

There are a number of non-governmental organisations that are already involved in support of governments disaster response and relief programmes. These are namely:

- a. World Vision
- b. US Peace Corps
- d. ADRA (Seventh Day Adventist)

- e. Vanuatu Red Cross
- f. Caritas Vanuatu
- g. Jean Vancent De' Paul

Of the six listed, the ADRA together with the NDMO is actively training its Youth to venture into the communities and conduct disaster assessment and relief work. Other partners include volunteer organisations/agencies that work with civil society organisations and/or rural communities in the area of disaster relief, preparedness and mitigation. These partners, namely JICA and the Peace Corps are involved on a voluntary basis in this area as their secondary activity with their primary focus being on service delivery and technical assistance type of work right across all the provinces of the 27 islands in Vanuatu. As much as their presence is right across the provinces and within the community, the emphasis is still largely towards disaster management alone.

**Context & Constraints:**

However the above situation is to be enhanced with the recent expansion of the Foundations of the Peoples of the South Pacific International (FSPI), into Vanuatu. FSPI is a network of non-governmental organisations in the South Pacific who will start engaging communities in participatory methods of problem identification, risk analysis and action planning in Vanuatu. The initiative is for the development of people centred early warning system and community based DRR and DRM plans or for safer village plans. These will be documented through participatory research and wide dissemination of the traditional and modern vulnerability reduction methods, social conditions and skills that contributes to community resilience in PICs, including Vanuatu. The objective for such is so that communities are empowered to organise themselves for and manage disasters and to build risk reduction measures into their daily development activities. Further, the projects are intended for improved linkages with key stakeholders at both national and regional levels to promote sustainability of community activities and to spread advocacy for community based vulnerability reduction.

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