

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PROGRAMME FOR THE GAMBIA

Presentation

THE NATIONAL DISASTER AND CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PROGRAMME

- The programme as outlined in Chapter 5 of the document provides the technical and operational details necessary to ensure that the programme is translated into action and results. It also provides indicative financial estimates of the cost of intervention.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- In line with the Hyogo Framework for Action, the Africa Regional Strategy and the ECOWAS policy for DRR, the overall goal of the integrated Programme of Action from 2010 to 2013 is to achieve a substantial reduction of social, economic and environmental impacts of disasters and climate change impacts on people and economies, thereby facilitating the achievement of the PRSP, the MDGs and other development aims in the Gambia. The specific objectives of the programme are to:

- Operationalise the institutional framework on DRR and advance national planning for adaptation to climate change.
- Raise public awareness and knowledge sharing on DRR and CCA through Information, Education and Communication, on early warning risk assessment and monitoring.
- Mainstreaming DRR and CCA in national plans, programmes and projects.
- Build capacity on DRR and CCA at all levels.
- Elaborate national rapid response and early recovery mechanism.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE PROGRAMMING

All the activities in operationalising the National Disaster and climate change adaptation programme must consider the following cross-cutting core principles and mainstream them into national development:

- Advocacy
- Service delivery
- Capacity building
- Community local empowerment
- Emergency preparedness
- Integrated planning and programming
- Partnership and alliance building

For any disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation programme the following features are essential for any success:

- Trust between authorities and civil society
- Social cohesion and solidarity
- Investment in economic infrastructure that explicitly take potential consequences for risk reduction and climate adaptation into account
- Investment in human capital
- Investment in institutional capital (e.g. capable accountable and transparent government institutions for preventing and mitigating disaster and climate change).

- Effective coordination, information sharing and cooperation among institutions involved in the programme.
- Attention to life line infrastructure
- Attention to the most vulnerable
- An effective risk communication system
- Political commitment to disaster and climate adaptation management
- Laws, regulation and policy directives to support these features

KEY STAKEHOLDERS

The stakeholders involved in the implementation of this programme are numerous and can be categorised as follows:

- Government including local authorities
- NGO including civil society organisations
- Private sector
- International development partners
- Local communities
- Women and youths
- Other vulnerable groups e.g. children and persons with disabilities

PROGRAMME STRATEGY

- The proposed integrated programme on DRR and CCA will support a development-oriented disaster risk management by promoting and strengthening of risk reduction capacity, effective management, and protection of livelihoods from erosion during and after emergencies.
- The programme priority areas is to focus on the operationalisation of the newly established institutional framework for DRR by Government and to enhance and strengthen the national capacity required to effectively manage and coordinate an integrated DRR management and CCA programme.

The strategic focus of the proposed activities will be as follows:

- Operationalise the institutional framework established by The Gambia Government.
- Link emergency preparedness and contingency response to disaster recovery and long term reduction.
- Implement targeted appropriate interventions aimed at reducing vulnerability to major hazards and climate risk facing The Gambia.

Effective integration of natural hazard and climate risk reduction programme would require proper coordination in the medium to long term. Such coordination would not only create synergies and promote more timely achievement of desired development, but will also promote delivery of one programme by the UN system and other donor partners.

PRIORITY AREAS OF ACTION/INTERVENTION AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE PROGRAMME

These priority areas are outlined in the matrix in pages 46-53 and they are:

- Operationalise the institutional framework on DRR and advance national planning for adaptation to climate change
- Raising public awareness and knowledge sharing on DRR and CCA through communication, education, early warning, risk assessment and monitoring
- The outcome for each intervention is also indicated in the matrix

- Mainstreaming DRR and CCA in National Development Plans and Programmes
- Building capacity on DRR and CCA at all levels
- Elaborate a national rapid response and early recovery mechanism

FINANCING AND RESOURCE MOBILISATION STRATEGY

- Based on the information contained in Chapter 5 particularly the implementation matrix, an initial estimated cost associated with the five priority areas of the programme is US \$5million over a five year period

Source of Funding

1. National Budget
2. Pooled donor funding – UN, Multilateral and bilateral external donors

PROGRAMME MONITORING, REVIEW, REPORTING AND EVALUATION

- Programme management and monitoring are critical to the implementation process of the Integrated Programme. The Disaster Management Council, the National Disaster Management Agency, and the National Planning Commission have a key role to play in this process, especially at the programme level.
- At the activity level the NDMA and its decentralised coordinating bodies will be primarily responsible for monitoring of the programme activities.

- At the programme level it is proposed that the National Planning Commission which it is proposed should chair the national platform sub-committee on resource mobilisation and capacity building will carry out the monitoring of the programme and submit periodic reports (half yearly) to assess programme implementation in terms of resources utilised in the programme and the output produced, being guided by the monitorable indicators in the programmes. It will submit reports to the NDMA which will in turn review the report and submit it to the Council.
- The National Planning Commission will also be required in close consultation with all stakeholders, to carry out periodic evaluation of the programme to assess its impact on DRR and CCA e.g. on the safety and welfare of the Gambian population.

RISK AND SUSTAINABILITY

- During the implementation of the integrated programme, government and NDMA are likely to face number of risks that can impede or seriously affect the efficient and effective implementation of the four year programme on DRR and CCA.

- Some of the risks which can be anticipated include:
 - Lack of capacity at all levels to implement the programme
 - Problem of coordination
 - Lack of adequate resources or the timely availability of such resources to implement the programme.

- The Gambia Government and its donor partners including the UN system will have to accord priority to resource mobilisation once the programme is endorsed by all parties to ensure its success.