Czech Republic

National progress report on the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (2009-2011)

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Outcomes for 2007-2009

Area 1

The more effective integration of disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all levels, with a special emphasis on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction.

Outcomes:
Disaster risk reduction is step by step incorporated into policies at defferent levels. The Czech Republic passed through several severe floods and Early Warning especially for floods is well organized. However, severe flash floods in 2009 year showed some problems with both early warning and fast responce caused by such quick events which are quite different from common floods on rivers. All floods and DRR process were analyzed and results reviewed in special reports financed by the government.

Area 2

The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards.

Outcomes:
The emergency system is institutionalized in the law package which has been in force since January 1, 2000. "Upgrade" of these laws has been in "preparation" stage. However, building standards is relatively week point and it will be beneficial to stress this factor more in forthcoming years.

Area 3

The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities.

Outcomes:
The anti-flood system in Prague has ben finished and also tested. It consists of removable barriers (dykes) together with some new standard dykes in the vicinity of Vltava river. In some communities in the country resilience especially towards flood has been improved while in others has not been improved especially because of a lack of finances. Last two years financing towards increase of resilience has been more difficult because of economic crisis.

Strategic goals

Area 1

The more effective integration of disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all levels, with a special emphasis on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction.

Strategic Goal Statement 2011-2013:
It is necessary to improve Early Warning for quick events like flash floods as the 2009 flash floods on a large area of the country showed some gaps and problems. More precise determination of a place and time of forthcoming flash flood has always been difficult. National hydrometeorological service has started some steps toward diminishing an uncertainty of flash flood warnings (it is just on the "edge" of science). Another problem is sometimes a failure of dissemination means like GMS SMS messages, taking care about old and disabled people, etc.) in the areas hitted by flash flood. Preparedness especially for flash floods is a problem while preparedness for "classical" floods on rivers has always been much better.

Area 2

The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards.

Strategic Goal Statement 2011-2013:
Supporting a reponsible body for early warning for disasters caused by hydrometeorological extremes was enhanced by a special decree of the government in September 2009 (after severe flash floods in summer) and precautions against floods in landscape, too. However, the main goal till 2011 will be obtaining of a better and also stable financial support for the above mentioned activities even under the conditions of economic crisis. The national DRR platform dealt with the problems of strengthening capacities and preparedness at several meetings nad the members of the platform forced this issue in their institutions.
The Czech national platform organize in cooperation with the Eoropean Network of national Platforms and the Czech Hydrometeorological Institute special Workshop devoted to Flash Floods and early warninng in Prague in November 1 and 2, 2010.

Area 3

The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities.

Strategic Goal Statement 2011-2013:
The Czech Republic needs to facilitate some changes in building codes to ensure building new houses in areas hit by flood in more resilient way not just to renew houses. It is necessary to build new houses but also the infrastructure (roads, railroads etc.) as an investment for future in more resilient way.
The Czech Republic has taken into account a potential black-out of electricity as a serious and relatively probable problem. Therefore, some activities for improvement of resilience towards black-outs have started and the government supported several projects dealing with decrease of "energetical" vulnerability. laso national DRR platforms took enhancement of energetical resilience as a subject od some of its meetings.

Priority for action 1

Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation.

Priority for action 1: Core indicator 1

National policy and legal framework for disaster risk reduction exists with decentralised responsibilities and capacities at all levels.

Level of Progress achieved:
2: Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Means of verification:

* Is DRR included in development plans and strategies? No

* No: National development plan

* Yes: Sector strategies and plans

* Yes: Climate change policy and strategy

* No: Poverty reduction strategy papers

* No: Common Country Assessments (CCA)/ UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF)

Description:
DRR principles have been included in so-called flood protection plans with specific responsibilities etc. However, more complex plans from all types of disaster risk prevention do not exist. On the other hand, floods are the most probable kind of disasters in our country (over 90% of all disasters).

Context & Constraints:
non-existence of a complex disaster reduction plans including all types of disasters is caused by differentiation of resposibilities for different ministries and a weaker role of the government for coordination and unification of such activities. Another problem is relatively low number of disasters per year so all precautions as well as programs for an improvement of preparedness are difficult for implementation. people think that some forthcoming disaster is rather improbable.

Priority for action 1: Core indicator 2

Dedicated and adequate resources are available to implement disaster risk reduction plans and activities at all administrative levels

Level of Progress achieved:
3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Means of verification:

* Is there a specific allocation of budget for DRR in the national budget?

* 0 % allocated from national budget

* 0 USD allocated from overseas development assistance fund

* unknown level USD allocated to hazard proofing sectoral development investments (e.g transport, agriculture, infrastructure)

* 5000000 USD allocated to stand alone DRR investments (e.g. DRR institutions, risk assessments, early warning systems)

* changing level each year USD allocated to disaster proofing post disaster reconstruction

Description:
After each flood or another kind of disaster the government releases certain funds for recovery etc. as well as for some programs for preparation of structural and non-structural measures to ensure an increase of resilience in damaged areas.

Context & Constraints:
However, the new government has been planning to create a special fund - the part of the state budget - for a coverage od disasters (especially floods) and their consequences. Increase of funds for coverage of floods should be approved by the parliament.

Priority for action 1: Core indicator 3

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

Level of Progress achieved:
4: Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Means of verification:

* Do local governments have legal responsibility and budget allocations for DRR? Yes

* No: Legislation

* No: Budget allocations for DRR to local government

Description:
Local governemnts have a full resposibility for handling disasters at their territory. However, in the case of very severe disasters (catastrophes), when the local governments do not have enough means to face all damages and lossses - then they can get help from the central government both financial and operational.

Context & Constraints:
The main constrains are financial.

Priority for action 1: Core indicator 4

A national multi sectoral platform for disaster risk reduction is functioning.

Level of Progress achieved:

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

Means of verification:

* Are civil society organisations , national planning institutions, key economic and development sector organisations represented in the national platform? Yes

* 2 civil society members (specify absolute number)

* 4 sectoral organisations (specify absolute number)

* 0 women's organisations participating in national platform (specify absolute number)

Description:
The membership in the platform is voluntary and representatives of institutions and civil society members participate in the activities of platform.

Context & Constraints:
Such activities have been carried out also at regional level in Moravian-Silesian region by so-called regional platform. In that area, floods and other disasters (recently also air pollution caused by high concentrations of aerosols) appear relatively frequently.

Priority for action 2

Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation.

Priority for action 2: Core indicator 1

National and local risk assessments based on hazard data and vulnerability information are available and include risk assessments for key sectors.

Level of Progress achieved:
3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Means of verification:

* Is there a national multi-hazard risk assessment available to inform planning and development decisions? No

* No: Multi-hazard risk assessment

* unknown % of schools and hospitals assessed

* 0 schools not safe from disasters (specify absolute number)

* No: Gender disaggregated vulnerability and capacity assessments

* Yes: Agreed national standards for multi hazard risk assessments

Description:
Multihazard assessment has been done for some areas or cities but not at the level of the whole state.

Context & Constraints:
The main problem is that all measures have been developed for floods - which are far more freequent disaster type. Much less has been done for other types of disasters which are occurring relatively rarely.

Priority for action 2: Core indicator 2

Systems are in place to monitor, archive and disseminate data on key hazards and vulnerabilities

Level of Progress achieved:
4: Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Means of verification:

* Are disaster losses systematically reported, monitored and analysed? Yes

* No: Disaster loss database

* Yes: Reports generated and used in planning

Description:
Special projects analyzing recent losses caused by bigger floods have been launched by the government after each such event showing some gaps, losses and also proposals for future avoiding drawbacks encountered. The reports dealing with evaluation of these floods could not be attached as they are latger than 8 Mbytes.

Context & Constraints:
Financial constraints can limit the scope of such projects.

Priority for action 2: Core indicator 3

Early warning systems are in place for all major hazards, with outreach to communities.

Level of Progress achieved:
5: Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels

Means of verification:

* Do risk prone communities receive timely and understandable warnings of impending hazard events? Yes

* Yes: Early warnings acted on effectively

* Yes: Local level preparedness

* Yes: Communication systems and protocols

* Yes: Active involvement of media in early warning dissemination

Description:
As floods encountered in the country very often caused that the system for early warning for floods an other kinds of disasters has been continuously developed, applied and improved from the state level to regional and community levels - in a systematic way. media like TV or radio have always been involved for dissemination of warnings and related information.

Context & Constraints:
Preparedness to DRR at local level should be improved and there have been financial and sometimes also capacity problems. Another problem is relatively low activity of NGO at the community level in DRR process.

Reference document:
> Weather and its Consequences to Emergencies (2006)
http://preventionweb.net/files/15427_weatherandemergencis2006.pdf [PDF]

Priority for action 2: Core indicator 4

National and local risk assessments take account of regional / trans boundary risks, with a view to regional cooperation on risk reduction.

Level of Progress achieved:

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

Means of verification:

* Does your country participate in regional or sub-regional DRR programmes or projects? Yes

* Yes: Programmes and projects addressing trans-boundary issues

* Yes: Regional and sub-regional strategies and frameworks

* Yes: Regional or sub-regional monitoring and reporting mechanisms

* No: Action plans addressing trans-boundary issues

Description:
The Czech Republic has been cooperating on flood protection and warnings by means of participation in Elbe, Oder and Danube river commisions.
National platform cooperates closely with the platforms from Germany, France and Poland in the framework of European network of national platforms (ENNP). Some projects have ben submitted to European Commision but have not been approved yet. In November 1 and 2, a special Workshop devoted to Flash Floods and early warning organized by the Czech platform, ENNP and the Czech Hydrometeorological Institute will take place in Prague.

Context & Constraints:
The Czech Republic shares catchments of some rivers and closely cooperates with its neighbors especially in data and warning exchange.

Reference document:
> Announcement of the Workshop (2010) http://preventionweb.net/files/15427_announcementdef.doc [DOC]
> Flash Flood Workshop (2010) http://preventionweb.net/files/15427_ffloodsprgmfinalprague.xls [XLS]

Priority for action 3

Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation.

Priority for action 3: Core indicator 1

Relevant information on disasters is available and accessible at all levels, to all stakeholders (through networks, development of information sharing systems etc)

Level of Progress achieved:
4: Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Means of verification:

* Is there a national disaster information system publicly available? -- not complete --

* Yes: Web page of national disaster information system

* Yes: Established mechanisms for accessing DRR information

Description:
Several web pages exist like the web page of the Czech Hydrometeorological Institute (http://portal.chmi.cz) , Fire and Rescue Service, River Catchment Authorities. Also the Czech Flood Commission under the Ministry of Environment has special wev pages for floods and flood warnings (www.mzp.cz/AIS/web-pkomise.nsf)

Context & Constraints:
The above mentioned web pages work quite well. However, complex pages for all disasters have been planned but not realized yet.

Priority for action 3: Core indicator 2

School curricula , education material and relevant trainings include disaster risk reduction and recovery concepts and practices.

Level of Progress achieved:
2: Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Means of verification:

* Is DRR included in the national educational curriculum? Yes

* Yes: Primary school curriculum

* No: Secondary school curriculum

* No: University curriculum

* No: Professional DRR education programmes

Description:

The curriculum has been used in some schools and areas but curriculum for the whole state needs to be developed and approved for the state level. Special care to such a curriculum has recently been devoted by the Regional platform in Moravian-Silesian region.

Context & Constraints:
School plans have been under recent reform coming with a new government - it is necessary to include DRR in school curriculums.

Priority for action 3: Core indicator 3

Research methods and tools for multi-risk assessments and cost benefit analysis are developed and strenghtened.

Level of Progress achieved:
3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Means of verification:

* Is DRR included in the national scientific applied-research agenda/budget? Yes

* No: Research outputs, products or studies

* Yes: Research programmes and projects

* No: Studies on the economic costs and benefits of DRR

Description:
Some institutions like the Czech Hydrometeorological Institute, Institute for Atmospheric Physics or Water Research Institute of TGM and River Catchment Authorities participate in various projects devoted to flood and disaster reduction. Also some universities participate in such projetcts and programs.

Context & Constraints:
They are many reserch projects but a systematic and coordinated approach needs to be improved.

Priority for action 3: Core indicator 4

Countrywide public awareness strategy exists to stimulate a culture of disaster resilience, with outreach to urban and rural communities.

Level of Progress achieved:
2: Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Means of verification:

* Do public education campaigns on DRR reach risk-prone communities? Yes

* No: Public education campaigns.

* Yes: Training of local government

* No: Availability of information on DRR practices at the community level

Description:
Educations and campaigns have been done especially in flood prone communities but usually in connection with some recent flood event. Mayors and members of local crisis management staffs have been trained. The Czech Association for Flood Protection, Fire and Rescue Service and the Czech Hydrometeorological Institute often help with such trainings.

Context & Constraints:
The main problem is involving of NGOs at community level. There have been just a few of such organizations. The best organizations existing practically in all communities are Voluntary Firebrigades and they should be more involved in such activities.

Priority for action 4

Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation.

Priority for action 4: Core indicator 1

Disaster risk reduction is an integral objective of environment related policies and plans, including for land use natural resource management and adaptation to climate change.

Level of Progress achieved:
4: Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Means of verification:

* Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc) -- not complete --

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* No: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* Yes: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes > National Program to Abate the Climate Change Impacts (2004) http://preventionweb.net/files/15427_ozknationalprogramme20040303.pdf [PDF]

Description:
The protection of ecosystems is realized by laws and the ministry of environment as well as the departments of regional and local authorities have got rights for an enforcement of EIA and other measurees for protection of these systems. Recent years also operational programs for environment protection supported by EU have been applied and funded.

Context & Constraints:
Climate change adaptation has also been recognized as an important tool. Special National Program to Abate the Climate Change Impacts in the CR has also been introduced.

Priority for action 4: Core indicator 2

Social development policies and plans are being implemented to reduce the vulnerability of populations most at risk.

Level of Progress achieved:
2: Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Means of verification:

* Do social safety nets exist to increase the resilience of risk prone households and communities? Yes

* No: Crop and property insurance

* No: Employment guarantee schemes

* No: Conditional cash transfers

* Yes: DRR aligned poverty reduction, welfare policy and programmes

* No: Microfinance

* No: Micro insurance

Description:
Social safety in connection with resilience to disasters has been usually involved in a short period after disasters especially floods. However, a systematic continuous support does not exist yet. Insurance policies have to be more extensively used for this purpose

Context & Constraints:
The main constraints are usually connected with lach of enough funding as well as coordination at the state level.

Priority for action 4: Core indicator 3

Economic and productive sectorial policies and plans have been implemented to reduce the vulnerability of economic activities

Level of Progress achieved:
2: Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Means of verification:

* Are the costs and benefits of DRR incorporated into the planning of public investment? No

* No: National and sectoral public investment systems incorporating DRR.

* No: Investments in retrofitting infrastructures including schools and hospitals

Description:
The economic and productive sectorial policies and plans are usually implemeted by particular companies without satisfactory coordination or support by the government.

Context & Constraints:
However, production od energy and energetical security has always been supported by the government.

Priority for action 4: Core indicator 4

Planning and management of human settlements incorporate disaster risk reduction elements, including enforcement of building codes.

Level of Progress achieved:

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

Means of verification:

* Is there investment to reduce the risk of vulnerable urban settlements? Yes

* Yes: Investment in drainage infrastructure in flood prone areas

* Yes: Slope stabilisation in landslide prone areas

* No: Training of masons on safe construction technology

* No: Provision of safe land for low income households and communities

Description:
Some investments have been realized with financial support from special EU programs.

Context & Constraints:
Realization of such projects and programs strongly depends on current regional and local authorities. In some areas a great success can be seen while in other ones such projects have not been launched yet.

Priority for action 4: Core indicator 5

Disaster risk reduction measures are integrated into post disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes

Level of Progress achieved:
2: Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

Means of verification:

* Do post-disaster recovery programmes explicitly incorporate and budget for DRR? No

* 0 % of recovery and reconstruction funds assigned to DRR

* No: Measures taken to address gender based issues in recovery

Description:
Inclusion of post-disaster recovery especially in connection with an enhancement of resilience of newly built houses and infrastructure have been applied only occassionaly, but situation has recently been improving.

Context & Constraints:
The main problem is a lack of money for inclusion of better resilience in future as a part of post-disaster recovery programs. It is rather difficult to incorporate these measures into the programs. Moreover, it is usually very difficult to find another place (land) for building new houses at safer areas (more distatgnt from rivers). It is cause by relatively high population density and complicated orography of the country.

Priority for action 4: Core indicator 6

Procedures are in place to assess the disaster risk impacts of major development projects, especially

infrastructure.

Level of Progress achieved:
4: Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Means of verification:

* Are the impacts of major development projects on disaster risk assessed? Yes

* Yes: Assessments of impact of projects such as dams, irrigation schemes, highways, mining, tourist developments etc on disaster risk

* Yes: Impacts of disaster risk taken account in Environment Impact Assessment (EIA)

Description:
All these impacts should be taken into account, however implemetation may differ from region to region. It also depends on concrete situation whether the region was hit by some disaster recently or whether it is a long time interval from the last disaster.

Context & Constraints:
Assessments of impact of projects such as dams, highways, etc. is compulsory but sometimes stroger enforcement of such rules could be missing.

Priority for action 5

Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation.

Priority for action 5: Core indicator 1

Strong policy, technical and institutional capacities and mechanisms for disaster risk management, with a disaster risk reduction perspective are in place.

Level of Progress achieved:
5: Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels

Means of verification:

* Are there national programmes or policies to make schools and health facilities safe in emergencies? Yes

* No: Policies and programmes for school and hospital safety

* Yes: Training and mock drills in school and hospitals for emergency preparedness

Description:
The Czech Republic has been very well prepared for flood kind of disasters as the country has been facing such disasters last 15 years relatively very often. Therefore, a relatively good system of flood warning and flood protection including "flood plans" for each city and community has been developed, applied and step by step improved. A support from crisis management as well as water (Water Act) legislation has been very important. Also some main made disasters like nuclear events are well covered and regular exercises organized. The recent exercise took place in September 2010. However, some problems could appear with some other types of disaster which occur very rarely.

Context & Constraints:
Some financial constraints always occur and education for disaster preparedness needs a more comprehensive and systematic approach coordinated from the state level.

Priority for action 5: Core indicator 2

Disaster preparedness plans and contingency plans are in place at all administrative levels, and regular training drills and rehearsals are held to test and develop disaster response programmes.

Level of Progress achieved:
4: Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Means of verification:

* Are the contingency plans, procedures and resources in place to deal with a major disaster? Yes

* No: Contingency plans with gender sensitivities

* Yes: Operations and communications centre

* Yes: Search and rescue teams

* Yes: Stockpiles of relief supplies

* Yes: Shelters

* Yes: Secure medical facilities

* No: Dedicated provision for women in relief, shelter and emergency medical facilities

Description:
These plans , procedures and resources for extraordinary events have been systematically created and could be relased for the use by proclamation of state of emergency by the prime minister and local authorities leaders at state and regional levels. Operational and communication centres create one system throughout the whole state and their functionality has been checked either by real disasters like floods or by regular exercises at various levels. Special attention has always been given to potential failures of nuclear power plants.

Context & Constraints:
Exercises and trainings have been organized regularly, however sometimes only some parts of the whole crises management systems are involved in exercises.

Priority for action 5: Core indicator 3

Financial reserves and contingency mechanisms are in place to support effective response and recovery when required.

Level of Progress achieved:
5: Comprehensive achievement with sustained commitment and capacities at all levels

Means of verification:

* Are financial arrangements in place to deal with major disaster? Yes

* Yes: National contingency funds

* Yes: Catastrophe insurance facilities

* No: Catastrophe bonds

Description:
The above mentioned financial arrangements have been established and can be used in declared emergency situations at various levels (state, region, community). Special state reserves of food, material, tools, bridges, fuel, etc., exist and are well maintained for the use in emergency situations.

Context & Constraints:
Problems could appear with an insurance as some people could think the insurance is expensive and facing some disaster in their place is rather improbable.

Priority for action 5: Core indicator 4

Procedures are in place to exchange relevant information during hazard events and disasters, and to undertake post-event reviews

Level of Progress achieved:
4: Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

Means of verification:

* Has an agreed method and procedure been adopted to assess damage, loss and needs when disasters occur? Yes

* No: Damage and loss assessment methodologies and capacities available

* Yes: Post disaster need assessment methodologies

* No: Post disaster needs assessment methodologies include guidance on gender aspects

* No: Identified and trained human resources

Description:
Some losses and damages have been assessed by insurance companies, others especially on the infrastructure (roads, railways, electricity lines, etc.) by companies responsible for maintaining this infrastructure and by the state and regional authorities.

Context & Constraints:
Very often - financial constraints appear as financial losses could reach very high levels.

Drivers of Progress

a) Multi-hazard integrated approach to disaster risk reduction and development

Levels of Reliance:
Significant and ongoing reliance: significant ongoing efforts to actualize commitments with coherent strategy in place; identified and engaged stakeholders.

Do studies/ reports/ atlases on multi-hazard analyses exist in the country/ for the sub region?:
Yes

If yes, are these being applied to development planning/ informing policy?:
-- not complete --

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):
The Czech Republic has developed a very comprehensive multihazard system based on an integrated early warning system connected with a special rescue and response system. The system passed through several tests during real disasters especially floods occurring last 15 years. Also exercices have been organized on regular basis. The system defines clear competencies of all stakeholders and includes also duties of media in such events.

b) Gender perspectives on risk reduction and recovery adopted and institutionalized

Levels of Reliance:
Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):
Gender perspectives have been respected but mostly not defined in a special way as such aspects have not been feeled as a serious problem.

c) Capacities for risk reduction and recovery identified and strengthened

Levels of Reliance:
Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):
Application is still not fully implemented across policy and practices.

d) Human security and social equity approaches integrated into disaster risk reduction and recovery activities

Levels of Reliance:
Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):
Human security and social equity aspects have usually been included in DRR and recovery activities on

state, regional and local levels. Also psychological aspects and help of professional psychologists after disasters have been organized.

e) Engagement and partnerships with non-governmental actors; civil society, private sector, amongst others, have been fostered at all levels

Levels of Reliance:

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):

Such engagement and partnership exists but it seems it will be beneficial to involve more NGOs at community levels. Sometimes, such NGOs do not exist in some communities.

f) Contextual Drivers of Progress

Levels of Reliance:

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):

One of the drivers could be a better and more official recognition of the work and influence of the national platform for DRR, which has been existing up to now as a nongovermental organization with a rather limited financial support from the state. It is partially caused by a good support of institutional parts of the crisis management structures and, therefore, a lower demand for the help from NGOs.

Future outlook

Area 1

The more effective integration of disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all levels, with a special emphasis on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction.

Overall Challenges:
The main challenge is to include other kinds of disasters than floods into preparedness and systematic preparation for their occurence. One of them may be drought, which mostly does not cause human losses while economic losses could be quite high. Also creation of new building codes and land use planning respecting higher occurence and impact of disasters should be stressed.

Future Outlook Statement:
We need to be adapted more to possible negative effects of climate change and, therefore, continously enhance overall resilience to such events.

Area 2

The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards.

Overall Challenges:
Some institutions involved in the state emergency system and also in rescue activities are endangered by economic crisis and consequently by budget cuts for various activities. Some of them are connected with preparedness for disaster.

Future Outlook Statement:
We need to care not only for the state emergency system but also for education of the public especially at small community level. We also need to ensure energetical security and to make precautions for avoiding black-outs being recently recognized as a very serious kind of "disaster". Other important point could be a preparation for man-made disasters including a danger of terrorist attacks.

Area 3

The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities.

Overall Challenges:
The main problem can be the usage and sometimes enforcement of building codes ensuring better resilience of newly built houses and infrastructure. It will probably need also some adjustments in legislation.

Future Outlook Statement:
A creation of some body at the governmental level fulfilling coordinated function - to force better collaboration among different resorts of government in DRR field could be very beneficial. I some countries special ministries for handling emergency situation exist - for smaller countries like the Czech Republic such function could be fulfilled by a small governmamntal body but with the strictly defined competencies.

Stakeholders

Departments/organizations that have contributed to the report

* Czech Hydrometeorological Institute (Gov) - Dr. Ivan Obrusník, director of the institute

* Czech National Committee for DRR (NGO) - Dr. Ivan Obrusnik, chairman of the Committee