

Syrian Arab 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:

A national disaster risk reduction strategy is in the process of preparation. Settlements under the risk of natural disasters have been defined and legislative mechanisms for the organizational & development of these settlements have been issued.

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 existing institutional framework for disaster management is being reviewed and renewed to become a unified system to realize better cooperation, coordination and achievements amongst concerned parties.

A training strategy addressed to all parties involved in disaster management and reduction is in the process of being developed and implemented.

Raising awareness of most important parties at community levels such as women union, youth union, educational sector through training and awareness campaign for prevention and risk reduction.

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:

A number of laws have been issued that emphasized on all establishments to prepare a plan for rehabilitation besides prevention and response plans.

In addition to that the importance of the new industrial cities and working on expanding it, contributes significantly to the mitigation of risks that affect the areas inhabited by virtue of being subject to the laws and regulations of commitment to safety in addition to new construction standards.

Also the preparation for developing a seismic plan for the city of Damascus, which shows the most vulnerable areas to risks and develop appropriate solutions to improve the situation of these areas in order to circulate the plan in other major cities.

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:

The Eleventh Five Year Plan for Development 2011 – 2015 contains a chapter on disaster risk reduction which includes the goals of the Hyogo framework action plan as part of the strategies developed. It clearly focuses on achieving the following objectives: Integrated planning for disaster management, develop legislations and laws in order to ensure that disaster risk reduction is considered a national and local priority based on a solid institutional base for implementation, and also developing a national strategy for drought management aims to reduce the risk of exposure to drought and its effects to a minimum.

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:

There are currently too many councils and committees concerned with disaster management and mitigation and work is going on to merge these commissions and councils under a single body, that assumes the responsibilities of prevention, preparedness, response and rehabilitation of disasters, this is already included in the Eleventh Five Year Plan 2011-2015.

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:

At the local level work is going on to build the capacity of stakeholders to deal with disasters and raise awareness among the local community to mitigate potential risks.

At the national level a plan to build capacities through the development of an integrated training strategy that includes the implementation of scenarios in governorates.

At the international level there are a number of agreements between Syria and some countries in order to cooperate, exchange knowledge and provide assistance to mitigate the risks should they occur.

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:

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

Means of verification:

- * Is DRR included in development plans and strategies? Yes
- * Yes: National development plan
- * Yes: Sector strategies and plans
- * No: Climate change policy and strategy
- * No: Poverty reduction strategy papers
- * Yes: Common Country Assessments (CCA)/ UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF)

Description:

There is legislative and legal framework subject to deal with various risks and databases that helps decision makers to deal with different disasters. These legislations are distributing tasks and responsibilities to enable all regions and governorates to respond to any emergency directly.

Context & Constraints:

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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

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

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

* 0 USD allocated to disaster proofing post disaster reconstruction

Description:

There are a number of ministries and institutions that allocate part of its annual budget for disaster mitigation, in addition to the existing cooperation between these parties and a number of international organizations to implement joint projects aimed to reduce different risks.

There is a need for all parties to allocate a part of their budgets to prevention and mitigation from disasters.

Context & Constraints:

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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:

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

Means of verification:

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

* Yes: Legislation

* Yes: Budget allocations for DRR to local government

Description:

There are a number of laws that provide responsibilities and define roles and responsibilities to local authorities to reduce the risks of disasters starting from prevention and ending with rehabilitation. In addition to the interest provided by civil society organizations to develop social disaster risk reduction through a community capacity building, awareness and mitigation when disasters occurs.

Context & Constraints:

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Priority for action 1: Core indicator 4

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

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

* 0 civil society members (specify absolute number)

* 0 sectoral organisations (specify absolute number)

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

Description:

There is a multi-sectorial base for disaster reduction consisting of the higher national committee for disaster management, the central command for civil defense and the sub-commands for civil defense in the governorates, their roles are reflected in the coordination and facilitation for the interaction between all involved parties with disaster reduction.

Context & Constraints:

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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? -- not complete --

* No: Multi-hazard risk assessment

* 0 % of schools and hospitals assessed

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

* No: Gender disaggregated vulnerability and capacity assessments

* No: Agreed national standards for multi hazard risk assessments

Description:

Work is going on establishing a database and maps for different hazards such as earthquakes, besides collecting, analyzing and evaluating all data related to hazards that occurred for the last thirty years. As for schools and hospitals work has started in evaluating a large number of the main schools and hospitals, in addition to strengthening and rehabilitating the weak buildings. As for recently built schools and hospitals, they are subject to the standards of safety and resistant to earthquakes.

Context & Constraints:

Due to the large number of schools and hospitals, time for evaluating all these buildings is a challenging issue.

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:

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

Means of verification:

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

* Yes: Disaster loss database

* Yes: Reports generated and used in planning

Description:

The database for hazards is being analyzed to be used in the future regional planning, also work is under going on improving coordination and cooperation between various stakeholders to unify and develop databases to reflect the requirements of all parties.

Context & Constraints:

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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:

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

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:

There are early warning systems being developed for different types of risks such as wild fires through installing new equipments for predicting the occurrence of fires.

As for the early warning towards drought: work is under going to use remote sensing, and automated monitoring system for meteorology which can help in predicting dust storms.

In addition to the above there is an early warning system for predicting earthquakes (GPS systems) placed near seismic faults.

Also work has begun on providing industrial cities early warning systems for industrial fires and explosions, in addition to the existence of early warning systems for oil spills and oil pollution on beaches.

Context & Constraints:

There is a need for the development and capacity building for typical use of the existing systems.

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:

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

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

* Yes: Action plans addressing trans-boundary issues

Description:

There is a close cooperation with Turkey in the field of wild fires noticing the subject of early warning and response, in addition to the joint coordination for the risks resulting from the increasing of riparian rivers levels.

Also there is cooperation agreement with Jordan, Tunisia, Malta, and Switzerland in the field of response and providing assistance. Work is on going to develop regional and sub regional cooperation through the preparation of agreements with a number of other countries.

Context & Constraints:

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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:

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

Means of verification:

* Is there a national disaster information system publicly available? Yes

* No: Web page of national disaster information system

* Yes: Established mechanisms for accessing DRR information

Description:

There is a national disaster information system that can be obtained upon request.

As for the availability of information on disaster risk reduction there is a website that provides information about awareness towards disaster risk, and the how to prevent, prepare & respond to disasters.

Context & Constraints:

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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:

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

Means of verification:

* Is DRR included in the national educational curriculum? Yes

* Yes: Primary school curriculum

* Yes: Secondary school curriculum

* No: University curriculum

* Yes: Professional DRR education programmes

Description:

Disaster awareness concepts have been included in the new curricula in elementary & secondary levels, also disaster management projects executed in cooperation with United Nations development programme provided and distributed some awareness materials in schools such as cartoon and digital games, earthquake booklet, and poster on prevention from different risks. Recently work is going on in preparing training courses for schools as a part of integral training strategy.

In addition to that the Syrian Arab Red Crescent continues its first aid public training courses, and different programmes in the disaster management, and establishing a team of trainers and trainees on the local level.

Moreover Work is undergoing on preparing a master degree in the field of disaster & risk management in cooperation with Damascus University which aims to prepare specialized team in disaster prevention & response.

Context & Constraints:

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Priority for action 3: Core indicator 3

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

Level of Progress achieved:

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

Means of verification:

* Is DRR included in the national scientific applied-research agenda/budget? No

* Yes: Research outputs, products or studies

* Yes: Research programmes and projects

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

Description:

Progress is being accomplished through projects and research studies that some disaster management concerned parties implement, in addition to execute some technical workshops that aim on reducing risks and exchange information, also some researchers participate in different seminars and workshops through presenting work papers and research in the field of disaster assessment and reduction.

Context & Constraints:

There is still a need to establish plans for institutional commitments and provide budgets needed for implementing scientific research projects and programmes that lead to disaster risk reduction.

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:

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

Means of verification:

- * Do public education campaigns on DRR reach risk-prone communities? Yes
- * Yes: Public education campaigns.
- * Yes: Training of local government
- * Yes: Availability of information on DRR practices at the community level

Description:

A noticeable progress has been achieved in disaster awareness through integrate the concepts of disaster reduction in the school curricula, in addition to distributing awareness materials such as posters & booklets, and implementing training studies that concentrate on the importance of providing awareness in local communities plus the participation in global campaign for urban risk reduction.

Context & Constraints:

There is a need to allocate sufficient budgets for carrying out awareness campaigns that includes producing and distributing awareness materials through the media, in addition to use Specialized expertise to deliver the subject to all levels of the local community including the far rural areas & more institutional commitment to pay this subject enough attention.

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:

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

Means of verification:

* Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc) Yes

* Yes: Protected areas legislation

* Yes: Payment for ecosystem services (PES)

* Yes: Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)

* Yes: Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)

* No: Climate change adaptation projects and programmes

Description:

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Context & Constraints:

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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:

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

Means of verification:

* Do social safety nets exist to increase the resilience of risk prone households and communities? No

* Yes: Crop and property insurance

* No: Employment guarantee schemes

* No: Conditional cash transfers

* No: DRR aligned poverty reduction, welfare policy and programmes

* Yes: Microfinance

* No: Micro insurance

Description:

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Context & Constraints:

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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:

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

Means of verification:

* Are the costs and benefits of DRR incorporated into the planning of public investment? Yes

* Yes: National and sectoral public investment systems incorporating DRR.

* Yes: Investments in retrofitting infrastructures including schools and hospitals

Description:

All of modern buildings being established recently are subject to the institutional commitment system to secure its safety in addition to strengthening the infrastructure of current buildings especially schools, universities & hospitals.

Context & Constraints:

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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:

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

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:

There is a commitment to apply the Syrian Arab Seismic code, and work is undergoing to develop the seismic code through studies and scientific research in this field.

Context & Constraints:

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Priority for action 4: Core indicator 5

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

Level of Progress achieved:

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

Means of verification:

- * Do post-disaster recovery programmes explicitly incorporate and budget for DRR? -- not complete --
- * 0 % of recovery and reconstruction funds assigned to DRR
- * No: Measures taken to address gender based issues in recovery

Description:

It has been taken into consideration the concentration of the process of recovery and rehabilitation after disasters, besides establishing standards and specifications for risks that may result from some disasters.

This subject has been given an interest through providing training courses to stakeholders involved in disaster management, in addition to the existing of legislative laws and regulations which concentrate on the need to develop rehabilitation plans in all fields after disasters.

Context & Constraints:

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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:

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

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

* No: Impacts of disaster risk taken account in Environment Impact Assessment (EIA)

Description:

Studies are being conducted to assess the impacts of major development projects such as dams, oil tanks, and refineries in order to reduce disaster risks.

Context & Constraints:

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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:

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

Means of verification:

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

Yes

* Yes: Policies and programmes for school and hospital safety

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

Description:

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Context & Constraints:

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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:

There are contingency plans at the governorates level, industrial plants and major economic projects. Training is taking place periodically on these plans to know the level of preparation for dealing with various disasters within specific scenarios including the cooperation on the regional level such as training on wild fires, marine pollution and tsunamis, also there are scientific studies to benefit from previous mistakes in order to develop these plans.

Context & Constraints:

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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:

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

Means of verification:

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

* Yes: National contingency funds

* No: Catastrophe insurance facilities

* No: Catastrophe bonds

Description:

It has been taken into consideration that a budget is allocated in the financial reserves for effective response and recovery to disaster. There are also national funds but they do not fully cover all emergencies and their impacts. There is a study to improve the status of emergency funds and insurance facilities towards disasters gradually.

Context & Constraints:

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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:

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

Means of verification:

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

* Yes: Damage and loss assessment methodologies and capacities available

* Yes: Post disaster need assessment methodologies

* Yes: Post disaster needs assessment methodologies include guidance on gender aspects

* Yes: Identified and trained human resources

Description:

There are available methodologies and capacities on the assessment of damages and needs for different stakeholders, but coordination among different parties is needed in order to determine who should work on these methodologies and provide training on them in order to be adopted as a unified guidance including aspects related to gender.

Context & Constraints:

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Drivers of Progress

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

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.

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?:

Yes

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

Risk analysis is divided into two sections: section I, covers the analysis of disasters that took place during the last thirty years in order to benefit from the data that lead to what should be done towards various disasters in more effective way.

Section II, covers the collection of reports and studies in order to identify potential hazards and setting up maps for these hazards to determine the necessary preventive measures at various levels to mitigate disasters and their impacts.

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):

There are a number of parties that pay a considerable attention for the issue of gender such as the Women's Union and the Syrian Commission for Family Affairs. Moreover, work is currently taking place in cooperation with international organizations to focus on the integration of gender issues in disaster risk reduction, prevention and awareness-raising and targeting the most vulnerable groups to disasters.

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):

The institutions and stakeholders at the local level have the capacities to enforce regulations of disaster reduction and deal with them when they take place. These parties are working on periodical training to qualify and upgrade the local capacities at the level of governorates and major cities. As for village councils and local societies, there is still a need for developing and qualifying capacities at these levels.

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):

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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):

Although the participation and partnerships with non-governmental actors have begun some time ago, but it needs development and follow-up especially that the private sector is developing and growing dramatically. All these require the improvement of cooperation and coordination between public and private sectors, noting that there are effective partnerships with non-governmental organizations such as Red Crescent Societies and other voluntary associations.

The cooperation and strengthening partnerships between the public and private sector are reflected in the modern industrial cities through the identification of risks and prevention procedures, in addition to that the private sector puts under the disposal of governments agencies concerned with disaster mitigation all the available capabilities such as materials, equipments and human resources that can enhance the ability of society to response and reduce the risks.

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):

Laws and legislations have been put under implementation to ensure the safety of hospitals, schools and other governmental constructions, also the executive instructions have been issued to ensure correct construction and taking into account public safety conditions in all buildings that are newly created, including the private sector enterprises. In addition to effective interest in schools through the system of preventive maintenance and periodic inspections.

The Eleventh Five Year Plan (2011-2015) had added a clear strategy for safety through prevention, early warning, preparation, response, recovery and rehabilitation.

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:

Although the latest Five Year Plan 2011 – 2015 includes Disaster Risk Reduction in its strategies, but the essential point is in the implementation of these strategies and the availability of necessary funds.

Future Outlook Statement:

Through establishing a disaster risk reduction commission, and reorganizing the available disaster management system, there will be integrated planning for disaster management to avoid duplicity and defining the priorities and realizing more coordination among different parties working in this field.

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:

There is still lack of knowledge towards DRR on different levels especially local communities.

Future Outlook Statement:

Establishing comprehensive strategies for training & raising awareness to communities in order to improve their knowledge to DRR.

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:

Emergency management plans are still lacking the prevention phase of the disaster management lifecycle.

Future Outlook Statement:

The 11th Five Year Plan will include the prevention phase as a complementary part to preparedness and response. During the implementation, different researches and studies in regard to prevention will be needed to cover all kinds of risks.

Stakeholders

Departments/organizations that have contributed to the report

* Ministry of Local Administration (Gov) - Eng. Kinda AlMuhanna / Director of Systems & Plans