SADC IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HYOGO FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

Presented at the 4th Africa Regional Platform Meeting for Disaster Risk Reduction
Arusha, Tanzania, 13-15 February 2013

ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Most Member States and Secretariat have developed, or are reviewing, their institutional arrangements and legal frameworks, aligned to HFA and to incorporating other sectors;

2. National platforms exist in all Member States, and a sub-regional platform has been established at the REC level, to facilitate collaboration, multi-sector and multi-stakeholder participation in implementation of programmes;

3. Integration of DRR into primary and secondary school curricula in progress (Zimbabwe, Malawi); and into university programmes (South Africa, Tanzania, Madagascar);

4. In most countries, disaster risk profiles done for the main disasters, but only at national level (more needs to be done at sub-national levels);

5. In some countries, integration of DRR & CCA into the DRR strategy and development plans at local level (Poverty Reduction Programme) being piloted (Tanzania & Mozambique);

6. Multi-hazard response strategies and contingency plans increasingly being developed for disaster preparedness and response;

CHALLENGES

a) Insufficient funding for DRR, including human capacity constraints; funding still skewed towards preparedness and response;

b) Despite national platforms, there is poor coordination of DRR programmes in other sectors, and among NGOs and partners, leading to parallel initiatives in different Ministries – eg DRR & CCA spread over three Ministries, driven by donor funding;
c) Risk identification and monitoring for early warning not effective due to poor database management skills and lack of mapping skills;

d) Conflicting legislation and practices in different Ministries and sectors not aligned, leading to challenges in reducing underlying risk factors eg mining and environmental degradation;

e) Increasing urban vulnerabilities and disasters;

f) Mainstreaming DRR into other sectors and local communities

PRIORITY AREAS 2013 – 2015

1. Strengthening of early warning systems (identify gaps, overlaps, needs);

2. Establishment of emergency operations centres (to strengthen coordination during disaster emergency operations);

3. Streamlining different legislation dealing with DRR in different sectors;

4. Implementation of community based DRR interventions;

5. Strengthening national platforms;

6. Mainstreaming DRR into national development plans, policies, and programmes in different sectors of government;

7. Improvement in data and knowledge management to inform decision making (including website development);

8. Conducting an audit of DRR funding of projects and programmes by government, donors, partners, NGOs etc to inform decision makers of value of DRR and return of investments;

9. Conducting simulation exercises as part of contingency planning;

10. Continuing consultations with Member States on HFA2.