

NEPAL
NATIONAL SUMMARY REPORT
I D N D R

Contact: National Committee for IDNDR
Disaster Relief Section
Ministry of Home Affairs
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SECTION A: PROFILE

(This section contains relevant basic information about your country.
Please complete and check the information already included.)

1. Composition of National Committee (Focal Point):

(Please list the names of the institutions represented and indicate in the brackets the number of members for each group)

Ministries		Non-Governmental Organizations
- Home	- Works & Transport	- Nepal Red Cross Society
- Foreign Affairs	- Finance	- Nepal Scout
- Water Resources	[8]	- []
- Education & Culture		
- Health		
- Forest & soil Conservation		
Academic & Research Institutions		Media
- Commission for Water & Energy		- []
- [1]		
Private Sector		Insurance
- []		- Nepal Rastra Bank [1]
Public Services (e.g. meteorological, etc)		Others
- Housing & Town Development Dept.		- Royal Nepal Army
- [1]		- Nepal Police [2]

2. Internal organization of the National Committee

(Please describe hierarchy, responsibilities, coordination and cooperation mechanisms in natural disaster reduction activities.)

The IDNDR National Committee was established in 1990 under the Chairmanship of the Hon. Home Minister. Seven task forces were set up to identify main issues in disaster management. These task forces after studying the basic problems, prepared reports on prevention & mitigation, housing, drinking water & sanitation, information & communication, temporary settlement, foodgrain storage, transport & other logistic support. These reports will be taken into consideration while the national action plans will be formulated as mentioned in Section B(5).

3. Prevailing hazards

Type	Location	Affected Population
Landslide Flood Fire Epidemics Earthquakes Others	Plains, Hills & mountains	Nearly 11800 people died due to these disasters from 1983 to 1992.

(Please attach additional information if necessary)

4. Recent natural disasters

Type	Location	Affected Population	Losses
Flood & Landslides	Plains & some mountainous areas	500,000 (Approx.)	More than 1500 people lost their lives & physical properties more than \$ 100 million worth were damaged

5. National socio-economic conditions

- Population: 18.5 million (Census 1991)
- Gross-National Product (GNP): \$ 2578.04 million
- Per-Capita Income: \$ 180

6. Availability of assistance to other countries in the field of natural disaster reduction.

(Please list potential resources, scientific expertise, technology, etc.)

7. International assistance required for natural disaster reduction

(Please indicate requirements for scientific expertise, technology, resources etc.)

Disaster Preparedness :

- a. Financial resources to prepare hazard maps & to assess vulnerability, to establish central emergency supplies warehouse & regional warehouses (to construct new one, and to expand the capacity of existing ones)
- b. International assistance to establish a central pool of specialized communication equipments and maintain a reliable communication system all over the 75 districts
- c. Donor assistance in developing human resources for warning system, in strengthening rainfall monitoring & river gauging equipment & reporting procedures and strengthening the flood warning system.

Disaster Response :

- d. Means of road & water transportation viz. jeeps, trucks, boats, lifejackets and so on
- e. Training on evacuation procedures & management
- f. Training on disaster & damage assessment techniques

Disaster Mitigation

- g. Training personnel on disaster management, land use planning & river training

Disaster Rehabilitation & Reconstruction.

- h. Donor contribution to meet the needs of rehabilitation & reconstruction especially in the field of school building, embankment work and so on.

2. Present national plan for natural disaster reduction

a) Time span covered:

The National Comprehensive Plan for Disaster Management in Nepal was drafted in 1991. Its provisions have been used as guidelines for the present as well as future disaster management activities.

b) Agencies, institutions and organizations involved:

Ministries of Home, Health, Forest & Soil Conservation, Housing and Physical Planning, Water Resources are involved

c) Implementing agencies:

The above ministries have been implementing their disaster reduction activities sectorally. For instance the Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation has been working to build retaining walls, check dams etc. for watershed management. Various river training projects are undertaken by the Ministry of Water Resources.

d) Funds available for implementation:

JICA, World Bank, DANIDA and so on.

3. Legislation introduced and enacted in relation to natural disaster reduction

Nepal enacted a law on disaster relief entitled 'The Natural Calamity (Relief) Act 1982'. As the law stressed on the post disaster activity i.e. relief only, it was further amended in 1992 to broaden the jurisdiction of the law and encompass all the activities related to disaster management. Hence, the law speaks not only of the relief work, but also of rehabilitation, reconstruction, prevention, mitigation and preparedness against the natural calamity.

4. Disaster mitigation activities completed or underway:

a) *Identification of hazard zones: hazard assessment*

Title of project: Hazard mapping not yet Undertaken.

Status:

Participating institutions in the country and/or on the international level:

Costs of project:

Sources of funding:

Implementing agencies:

Address (telephone and fax-number) of the agency in charge:

b) *Monitoring, prediction and warning*

Title of project:

Status:

Participating institutions in the country and/or on the international level:

Costs of project:

Sources of funding:

Implementing agencies:

Address (telephone and fax-number) of the agency in charge:

d) *Long-term preventive measures*

Title of project:

Status:

Participating institutions in the country and/or on the international level:

Costs of project:

Sources of funding:

Implementing agencies:

Address (telephone and fax-number) of the agency in charge:

c) *Short-term Protective measures and preparedness*

Title of project:

With whatever meagre resources the Government has, the Government alerts the people against fire hazard during the dry season through radio and newspapers, distribute funds for the District Disaster Relief Committees to relieve the disaster victims as a matter of immediate relief. Nepal Red Cross Society distributed relief packages also to them. While the Redcross has built warehouses in the districts, the Government has in its stock some plastic sheets, tents & clothes. But all these are not sufficient in view of the scale & magnitude of disasters that occur in this country.

Participating institutions in the country and/or on the international level:

- Ministry of Home
- Ministry of Health
- Nepal Red Cross
- UNDP & other UN agencies
- Various friendly countries

Costs of project:

Sources of funding:

Implementing agencies:

Address (telephone and fax-number) of the agency in charge:

e) *Land-use and risk management*

Title of project:

Status:

Participating institutions in the country and/or on the international level:

Costs of project:

Sources of funding:

Implementing agencies:

Address (telephone and fax-number) of the agency in charge:

f) *Public education and information*

Title of project:

DMP Training in Kathmandu (May 2-14, 1993)

Status: Completed

Participating institutions in the country and/or on the international level:

- Ministry of Home
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Local Development
- Ministry of Forest & Soil Conservation
- Ministry of Housing & Physical Planning

Costs of project:

Sources of funding:

UNDP / DTCP

Implementing agencies:

Ministry of Home

Address (telephone and fax-number) of the agency in charge:

Ministry of Home

Singh Durbar, Kathmandu, Nepal.

Tel. No. 225464 / 226137

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5. Plans to fully achieve Decade targets by the end of 1999

(As in 4 above, for each area of activity [i.e., hazard zoning/assessment, monitoring, preparedness, etc] please indicate as applicable, the project title, the participating institutions in the country and/or on the international level, the costs of projects, the sources of funding and the implementing agencies.)

The National Committee meeting is scheduled to be held in the month of February to prepare national action plans on disaster preparedness, response, recovery & mitigation for the remaining period of IDNDR Decade. Details of the plans will be presented later on.

SECTION C: INTERACTIONS

(This section focuses on international involvement in the IDNDR.)

1. Publications on IDNDR-related subjects:

(E.g. manuals, brochures, bulletins and other publications of relevance to IDNDR. Please mention title, author/institution, place and year of publication)

A report on the Emergency operation of the July Flood & Landslides 1993 has been prepared by the Ministry of Home and distributed to donor agencies through UNDP in December 1993.

2. IDNDR meetings and conferences held or planned:

(Please indicate, date, location, organizing agency, national and international participation.)

- a. DMTP Country Workshop
(31 October - 3 November 1993) - Kathmandu - Ministry of Home/UNDP/UNDHA/
DTCP/DPTC
 - b. National Conference on Disaster Management
4 November 1993 - Kathmandu - Ministry of Home/UNDP/UNDHA/
DTCP/DPTC
 - c. Observation of IDNDR day on 13 October 1993
- Kathmandu - Ministry of Home/UNDP/DPTC
 - d. District level disaster management training on NOV 1993 in Bhaktapur
3. Current or planned partnerships and cooperation related to IDNDR with other countries
-

(Please indicate Governments, National Committees, Institutions or Organizations involved.)

Cooperation with other countries will be decided only after the preparation of national action plans as mentioned in section B(5).

SECTION D: EVALUATION

(This section analyses national progress and outlines possible improvement.)

1. Overall evaluation of national disaster mitigation programmes including, but not limited to, those initiated after IDNDR and achievements up to now

(Please elaborate on whether the targets set by the National Committee, if any, the national disaster mitigation plans or other IDNDR activities have been met. If not, please indicate reasons.)

The Government has been doing whatever it can in terms of mitigation of disaster with its limited resources. But what it lacks is adequate resources for the huge capital investment; lack of trained manpower and physical resources has also contributed to the ever-increasing problems of disaster mitigation.

2. Review of the IDNDR

(Critique of the Decade to date and suggestions for improvement/modifications in the second half.)

Nepal has been endeavoring very hard to achieve some substantive works during the first half of the decade. But resource constraint is the main reason for its low level of achievement. But with greater international support and cooperation we hope to do better in the coming years.

In this context, it would be relevant here to maintain that Nepal is a country of not only the high mountains & hills, but also the originator of many a river in the Indian sub-continent. Heavy floods in India and Bangladesh are caused not because of

the rivers of these countries alone, most of the sources of these river lie in Nepal. Hence the need to establish Regional Center for Natural Disaster Relief & Rehabilitation in Kathmandu has been felt quite strongly. In fact, by establishing such type of center in Nepal, much of the greeneries of India and Bangladesh can be protected and their environmental peace and tranquility enhanced. Also as the country lies in the heart of Asia, relief and rehabilitation measures can be taken effectively and on time during disaster occurrences in any of the neighbouring countries. It would, therefore, be appreciable if the world conference focusses its attention in establishing this center in the Himalayan Kingdom.
