

**Government of Nepal
Ministry of Home Affairs**

**Report of National Consultation on
National Disaster Risk Management Platform (NDRMP)
And Inputs for the Post-2015 Framework on DRR (HFA2)**

17 February, 2013, Kathmandu, Nepal

Key messages

Priorities for future DRR in Nepal would be:

- Effective implementation of the National Strategy for DRM
- Update policies related to Climate and Disaster Risk Management (C/DRM) and focus on capacity building
- Strengthen institutional mechanisms and relations with private sector
- Strengthen coordination and information sharing
- Raise awareness. Include C/DRM in school curricula, academic and training institutions
- Formulation and Implementation of National Disaster Response Framework (NDRF)
- Strengthen Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Capacity in the country
- Strengthen Early Warning Systems
- Promote large scale media involvement
- Promote national level multi-hazard risk assessment to minimize existing risk and anticipate/reduce new risks
- Mainstream C/DRM in planning, implementation and M&E
- Strengthen post disaster recovery and reconstruction
- Promote wider coverage of CBDRM/LDRM
- Address cross-cutting issue such as gender and environment, resilient communities
- Ensure greater synergies between national framework such as the NRRC and HFA, post-HFA

Background

Government of Nepal has formulated and approved the National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management (NSDRM) in 2009 which is in line with the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015. A Nepal Risk Reduction Consortium has also been formulated by the Government of Nepal which has been supported by the donor community. The consortium has identified five key priorities (five Flagship Programmes) among the 29 programmes recommended by the NSDRM. Climate change is also considered as new thematic area in disaster risk reduction (DRR) as per the recommendation by the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA). DRR and Climate Risk Management (CRM) focal points system has been established at national and local levels to integrate DRR/CRM issues in development process and the focal point system is coordinated and strengthening through

MoHA/MoE. National Emergency Operation Center is established under MoHA to coordinate the emergency response services.

Several government and non-government agencies have been working in the field of disaster risk management in Nepal since the 1988 earthquake in eastern Nepal and water-induced disasters in Central Nepal in 1993. However, there is no primary information at the central level on which agencies are involved in DRM in Nepal, where are they working, what are they doing, how much resources have been spent, etc. Therefore, in many instances, DRM activities are isolated from mainstream development initiatives with lots of duplication of activities, no any cross learning and unhealthy competition.

In this context, a National Disaster Risk Management Platform (NDRMP) has been proposed to facilitate the coordination process at national and local levels, a committee comprised of disaster management related agencies (government, donors, UN agencies, INGOs, NGOs, academia, media, private sector and local government) involved in practicing disaster risk management. A consultation meeting of stakeholders has been organized to discuss about the structure and work of the platform.

Objectives

The consultation meeting had two key objectives:

- Discuss and make common understanding about the NDRMP among stakeholders
- To share about Nepal's progress on Hyogo Framework for Action and discuss about the post-HFA framework

Proceedings

Opening:

Mr. Lakshmi Prasad Dhakal, Joint secretary of Ministry of Home Affairs and chair of the meeting thanked to all participants, representing government agencies, civil society, donor community and other stakeholders. Mr. Dhakal expressed that MoHA expects the platform as loose network, led by Ministry of Home Affairs with representatives from different stakeholders; however, government is open about suggestions from stakeholders regarding its structure. Sharing meeting will be organised each year where annual programme of the platform will be decided and lessons/feedbacks from stakeholders can be collected and incorporated.

Mr. Dhakal also shared that the global platform meeting is being held in Geneva in May 2013. A team from Nepal will participate in the meeting. Now, now it is time to finalize our report on HFA implementation and prepare about what we are presenting on the platform.

Presentations and Discussion:

1. **Mr. Pradip Koirala, Under Secretary, MoHA - HFA Update and Post HFA Consultation at Disaster Management Platform**

Mr. Pradip Koirala suggested some ideas about the platform as it can be a loose network, covering a wider participation form stakeholders and can be used as a forum for information sharing, replication of successes and lessons and cooperation and support from stakeholders. Regarding the institutional mechanism, MoHA can lead and work as a secretariat. The

platform will meet at least twice every year. Previously, it was thought that a NGO like structure could be used and also registered to the Government. However, it could not be more effective. Mr. Koirala also asked the participants if a NGO like structure or a loose structure as suggested by MOHA would be better.

After this suggestion on the NDRMP, Mr. Koirala shared updates on HFA progress and suggested some ideas about post HFA from the government side as follow.

- Effectively implement NSDRM
- Update policies related to Climate and Disaster Risk Management (C/DRM) and focus on capacity building
- Strengthen institutional mechanisms and relations with private sector
- Include C/DRM in school curricula, academic and training institutions
- Strengthen coordination and information sharing
- Strengthen Early Warning Systems
- Promote large scale media involvement
- National level multi-hazard risk assessment
- Mainstream C/DRM in planning, implementation and M&E
- Strengthen post disaster response and recovery
- Promote wider coverage of CBDRM/LDRM
- Address cross-cutting issue such as gender and environment, resilient communities
- Focus on land use planning, drawing on available data available to consolidate in one portal, probably with GIS Database

The presentation is attached for further information on HFA progress and update.

2. Dr. Jishnu Subedi, DRR Expert -- HFA Progress and Updates

Dr. Subedi shared the findings from a study on HFA updates from civil society perspectives. Two assessments were made on HFA progress covering the period of 2007 to 2009 and 2009 to 2011. As per the findings, progress has been made on priority 2 and 5, while more has to be done on 1, 3 and 4. Please refer to attached presentation for details.

3. Ms. Moira Reddick, Coordinator, NRRC -- Nepal Risk Reduction Consortium and HFA Platform

Ms. Moira Reddick, Coordinator of Nepal Risk Reduction Consortium made a presentation on NRRC and HFA platform. NRRC is based on the National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management and the HFA and has specific objective of making DRR a priority for Government and partners in Nepal. NRRC has five flagship areas, which correspond to different HFA priorities.

Ms. Reddick also suggested some issues to consider for post HFA to continue the momentum gained in the last 3-5 years. The recommended priorities include:

- Awareness
- Policy engagement
- Preparedness
- Reducing new risk
- Minimising current risk
- Global recognition (political champions, Global Platform etc)

Ms. Reddick also suggested discussing how to create greater synergies between national initiatives such as NRRC and the HFA and post-HFA. The NRRC work plan extends to 2015 – the same timeline as the HFA. What would be the best mechanisms to avoid duplication and too many processes?

Discussion:

During discussion, participants favoured about the loose structure under MoHA's leadership for the platform. Similarly, participants suggested initiatives that can link the policy issues to the grassroots level.

For HFA update, it was agreed that further work is needed to cover all areas of progress. Each organisation will send update about their progress on HFA to Ministry of Home Affairs, which MOHA will consolidate into a final report from Nepal. Similarly, Civil Society Organisations might also prepare a complementary report, which will not replace but compliment the report from government side.

To facilitate the process, a five member task team to develop the report is formed. The members of the team are as follows:

Mr. Pradip Koirala, Under Secretary, MoHA - Coordinator

Dr. Jishnu Subedi, DRR expert

Mr. Shyam Gyawali, Plan Nepal

Mr. Krishna Raj Kaphle, UNDP

Mr. Anil Pokharel, World Bank.

Conclusion:

The meeting agreed the loose structure of the platform under MoHA leadership covering as many stakeholders. The platform also can have sub-structure based on the thematic areas which will support on streamlining the operation. Further discussion on this issue will be continued.

Each participant also committed to share their update to Ministry of Home Affairs within February 2013. The proposed report from Civil Society will serve as complimentary to the report by government which will be coordinated separately by the CSOs.

At his concluding remarks, Mr. Lakshmi Prasad Dhakal, Joint Secretary of Ministry of Home Affairs thanked again for the participation and expressed that the meeting was highly successful in guiding MoHA regarding the platform and HFA implementation.

Annexes:

1. Presentations
2. List of Participants