



**RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE UGANDA NATIONAL CONSULTATION ON
DISASTER-INDUCED DISPLACEMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF POST-HFA**

Summary

A one-day National Consultation on the 16th April 2013 at the Metropole Hotel in Kampala aiming at informing key stakeholders on the global and regional consultation process towards the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and their implications on people affected by displacement. The consultation brought together 43 participants representing the Parliamentary Forum on Disaster Reduction and Climate Change, Governmental representative including line Ministries, the Office of the Prime Minister, Civil Society, the Academia and the Media. The Consultation was organized through the joint efforts of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and the Uganda Parliamentarian Forum on DRR.

The consultation enabled participants to identify challenges and opportunities for creating the synergy of the policy implementation related to disaster risk reduction and displacement. Uganda has invested significant resources into policy development over the last years, and do currently have displacement and disaster risk reduction policies in place. In highly disaster prone communities, a more holistic approach to disaster risk reduction is needed, including specific measures to protect of the population at risk of displacement. Even though the policies are in place, implementing the policies at a local level remains a challenge as there not enough financial or human resources at the local level to act on the policy recommendations. For this reason participants underlined the need to provide state allocation to local governments as well as enough administrative staff to undertake the needed tasks. It was furthermore called for better monitoring systems when implementing policies where both good indicators and clear goals were presented. Moreover to ensure policy implementations the text should be translated into an understandable and user-friendly language and for the broader audience.

The consultation also called for the national Government systematic collection of relevant data of disasters and number of displaced after disasters to assess and reduce the risk of disaster-induced displacement. For this purpose it will be needed to analyse and share relevant data, especially between national and local level. As an outcome of the discussions, the consultation compiled the below key messages and recommendations on National inputs to the formulation of the post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Recommendations

I) To the Post-2015 Framework for DRR (HFA2):

Reduce underlying causes of disaster

- a) Strengthen the resilience of the most vulnerable communities to avoid the negative cumulative impacts associated with recurrent displacement
- b) Mitigate the underlying causes of vulnerability of people by reducing poverty, enforcing building codes and extending critical infrastructure for private properties
- c) Strengthen interventions to further reduce traditional and anticipated disaster risk

Good governance as a core priority

- d) Include displacement numbers in national monitoring and reporting systems, and in the Global Assessment Report “GAR”
- e) Ensure that disaster risk reduction will be an integral part of development plans and strategies
- f) Establish clear goals, standards, targets and indicators to enhance accountability to the HFA priorities at national level

Partnership building and strengthening

- g) Strengthen the link and synergies between Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation
- h) Strengthening international, national and local partnerships for DRR to ensure a streamlined approach
- i) Provide clear directions on how to bridge humanitarian assistance with development investment
- j) Strengthen collaboration with new partners, such as displacement and migration specific and mandated organizations
- k) Encourage commitment from the private sector to strengthening disaster risk reduction
- l) Institutionalize the role of Civil Society and strengthen their capacity in DRR

Resourcing

- m) Donors should engage in strategic partnerships with non-state DRR actors
- n) Donors must ensure longer term investment to ensure impact oriented results

II) Uganda National priorities for disaster risk reduction in HFA2

Knowledge management

- a) Integrating DRR in curriculum at all levels of education
- b) Strengthen in-depth analysis of displacement trends, patterns to address causal factors and increase response and preparedness capacity
- c) Strengthen and build local capacity to ensure understanding of disaster risk reduction and people affected by displacement
- d) Strengthening Early Warning- Early Action systems and the local communities' response capacity

Increase focus on disaster induced displacement

- e) The Government develops a clear durable solutions strategy and implementation plan for displaced persons due to disasters
- f) Establish a national data base for number of people, duration and geographical distribution of disaster induced displacement
- g) Policy makers must have access to information on the occurrence, frequency, patterns and duration of displacement for disaster risk reduction planning
- h) Consider climate change and its impact on the water resources in national planning, to ensure livelihood and avoid displacement along the cattle corridor

Strengthen policy implementation by

- i) Pursue mainstreaming of DRR into Poverty Reduction Initiative and programmes
- j) Establish and improve monitoring systems with standard operating procedures for disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes
- k) Strengthen the participation of women in in all stages of DRR policy planning and implementation strategies
- l) Elaborate laws/byelaws on disaster triggers: e.g. environmental conservation, hydrometrological factors, land use and land rights
- m) Ensure capacities for increased collaborative and streamlining between DRR effort made at National and local Levels
- n) Avoid duplication of work by enhancing partnership and networking for DRR

Resource allocation

- o) By local Governments implementation of DRR and durable solutions for displaced persons
- p) By the Government to acquire and buy more land to accommodate persons displaced by disasters or in need of re-location from high risk disaster zones
- q) For contingency planning to effectively facilitate migration and re-location of people in high risk areas
- s) For prevention of new risks, especially in urban areas, by developing plans, physical infrastructure, and adequate social amenities to accommodate and migrants and

III) To the Post-2015 Development Agenda

Integrate Disaster Risk Reduction as a standalone goal

IV) Recommendation of areas for in-depth analysis on disaster induced-displacement in Uganda:

- a) Landslides/Mudslides affected areas: Mt Elgon Zone (Bududa) and Kisoro, as pilot areas
- b) Flood affected areas: pilot area- Butalejja and Katakwi
- c) Drought: Karamoja and Isingiro