

ASSESSMENT OF ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE DECADE

Information on Provider

Name	:	
Position	:	
Organization	:	The Philippine National Red Cross
Address	:	Bonifacio Drive, Port Area, Manila, Philippines
State/Province	:	Manila
Zip/Post Code	:	2802
Country	:	Philippines
Phone Number	:	(632) 527-0865
Fax Number	:	(632) 527-0864
Email	:	
Webpage	:	

Experience and Recent Disasters

- Please provide a list of major disasters your country has experienced during the last five years.*
 - Drought triggered by the El Nino phenomenon experienced heavily from October 1997 to March 1998
 - Typhoon Glorjng in 1996
 - Typhoons Mameng, Nonang, Oniang, Pepang and Rosing (Angela)
 - Mindoro Oriental earthquake in 1993
 - Typhoon Kadiang (Flo) in 1993
 - Lahar avalanches in Central Luzon from 1992 to 1996
- What were the impacts of the above listed disasters?*
 - Direct human impact such as deaths, injuries and sickness
 - Displacement of the poor due to destruction of houses and livelihood, isolation of vulnerable communities, or damages to lifelines, resulting to their further marginalization
 - Economic slowdown due to destruction of market products, farm-market infrastructure/facilities, agricultural impacts, realignment of investments
 - Development re-programming since government funds have to be re-allocated to relief and rehabilitation efforts.
- Which measures were taken to reduce the impact of the disaster?*
 - Institutional development programs to enable disaster management agencies to effectively and efficiently respond to emergencies and disasters. The programs include enhancement of DM plans, updating of hazards maps, human resource development, appropriate technology build-up, organization, coordination and networking.

- b. Provision of mechanisms to operationalize decentralization such as local calamity funds.
 - c. Expanding the DM players from sole government function to partnership among national and local governments, the civil society and private sector.
 - d. Encouraging wider community participation in the DM efforts.
4. *Do you believe there can be improvements in preparing for natural hazards in your country and in preventing impact of such hazards? What sort of improvements?*

Yes.

- a. Stronger political will for the institutionalization of local disaster management systems, shifting gears from a temporary, functional council nature to permanent, management structure.
 - b. Mainstreaming of disaster management into the integral development program of government.
 - c. Establishment of enabling mechanisms for pro-active, pre-disaster programs and projects.
 - d. Strengthening of the national DM system through the passage of a 'modern' DM law.
5. *Do you believe the IDNDR helped your country to give greater attention to disaster reduction? Yes No. Explain.*

The Decade has laid down model frameworks which may be adopted by governments in fortifying its disaster management systems.

6. *Please provide an example(s) and achievement(s) incorporating successful preventive approaches which you consider a 'success story'.*

Progress made, since the inception of IDNDR, in the field of disaster reduction as a component of development planning and risk management.

1. *Please provide a brief statement of national accomplishment and/or describe current activities related to the achievement of the IDNDR Programme Targets:*
- (a) *Comprehensive national assessment of risks. If an assessment exists, is it published or codified?*

There is a national level initiative of developing a standard information tool (map) in the identification of hazard areas, and in assessing the vulnerabilities of these areas to various hazards. After the tool has been developed, this will be shared to the local governments in order to ensure coherence and oneness in the tools used in DM.

(b) Structured mitigation plans. Do documented comprehensive national disaster management plans exist?

Yes. But, through the National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC), there are efforts of enhancing the national statute on DM incorporating all developments and lessons learned from the past,

2. *What obstacles do you face which prevent the accomplishment of the Decade targets? What are your recommendations to best overcome these obstacles?*

The will and commitment of the players and stakeholders make or break the Decade targets. The initiatives of DM players had been focused on the promotion of pro-active programmes, such as the Decade targets, but the fulfillment of these initiatives depend largely on the support and commitment of the leadership -- in terms of laying down the foundation, framework and legal bases of these actions, and allocating funds to put these abstracts to action.

3. *To what extent have you established and implemented educational and information programmes aimed at generating public awareness? What methods of information dissemination have been utilized?*

We have developed training programs that will cater to a cross-section of the Society. There are three training levels: Basic DM Training, Standard DM Training, and DM Course. We also have gained the ability to develop more trainings which are suitable to the needs of our clients.

The Organization is utilizing the tri-media (print, broadcast) in its public awareness programs. For the educational programmes, interactive learning strategies are being employed.

4. *Have you liaised with policy makers and major groups, such as local authorities, NGOs, and the media, in order to ensure support for and effectiveness of disaster reduction programmes? Please describe your activities.*

Yes, thru the various levels of disaster coordinating councils, PNRG worked and liaised with different agencies.

Our Organization

5. *To what extent have you worked with other sectors in incorporating disaster reduction activities into their planning (i.e. insurance, banking, private sector and development agencies)?*

The contribution we made is more on health and emergency responses, but we consider this as a good entry point.

6. *The Decade provides an international arena for information exchange as well as an extensive international network of partners, how have these inputs contributed to achieving the goals of the Decade?*

It has worked well. Communities nowadays has wider opportunities in exchanging ideas and experiences.

Structures in Place

1. *Is there a designated government authority for disaster reduction activities? If yes, is this authority's commitment to prevention embodied in the government structure, priorities, budget and legislation?*

Yes.

2. *Have budget lines for disaster reduction and preventive activities been made available in your government's budget?*

Yes, but it is more of response rather than proactive.

3. *Have legislative authorities (national, state or local level) established legal frameworks for the implementation of disaster mitigation measures (i.e. land use planning, water and forest management, building codes)?*

4. *Have academic institutions and professional schools in disciplines such as engineering, agriculture, architecture, urban planning, business and public administration incorporated in their curricula applicable disaster-reduction concepts and measures? Please provide examples.*

5. *Have networks been built in order to aid in the transfer and application of existing knowledge and technology, information dissemination and international collaboration? Please briefly describe.*

6. *Who are your principal working partners? Do they represent an interdisciplinary approach to disaster reduction?*

Future Requirements

- 1. Given your experience since the Inception of the Decade and the new challenges of disasters in the 21st century, please provide comments as to what you believe are the necessary future requirements needed to successfully carry disaster reduction activities into the 21st century.*

- 2. What sort of national or international measures would you like to be put in place in the 21st century?*