

## ASSESSMENT OF ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE DECADE

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### Experience and Recent Disasters (Part 1)

**1.1 Please provide a list of major disasters your country has experienced during the past five years.**

- Flood
- Storm
- Drought
- flash flood
- landslide, mudflows
- icy rain
- tornado, whirl wind

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**1.2. What are the impacts of the above listed disasters (i.e. direct damage to assets vs. long term damage to the local economy, health)**

The impacts of above disasters are very severe, it causes serious consequence in disaster prone area. In addition to the loss of life an untold human misery, the disaster inflicts severe damage to agriculture infrastructure, public buildings, private houses and property and render the development of the country.

The intensity and damage of each kind of disaster is varying from year to year but they are the annual even.

**1.3 Which measures were taken to reduce the impact of the disaster? What measures will be taken to avoid impacts future disasters?**

Both physical measures and non-physical measures have been developed in Vietnam to reduce the impact of the disasters.

Physical measures include dikes and reservoirs and other infrastructure for natural disaster prevention.

Non physical measures include the strengthening of institutional framework, further development of the education, preparedness and mitigation programs.

Preparations are underway toward a strategy for disaster mitigation in Vietnam. The strategy will focus on Forecasting and Warning activities, Preparedness and Mitigation activities and Emergency relief.

**1.4. Do you believe there can be improvements in preparing for natural hazards in your country and in preventing negative impacts of such hazards? What sort of improvements?**

Yes

Improvement on structural solution and non-structural solution including the improvement on disaster forecasting and warning; Preparedness and mitigation; Emergency relief. All these improvements will contribute to the better disaster management and prevention of the country in the future.

**1.5 Do you believe the IDNDR helped your country to give greater attention to disaster reduction?**

Yes, by the link between NCIDNDR of Vietnam and IDNDR secretariat, by the documentation and information exchange.

**1.6 Please provide an example an achievement 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 (part 2)**

**Please provide a brief statement of national accomplishment and/or describe current activities related to achievement of the IDNDR Program Targets:**

(a) *Comprehensive national assessment of risk. If an assessment exists, is it published or codified?*

A comprehensive assessment of risk is not yet exists but preparation are underway for such assessment.

(b) *Structured migration plans. Do documented comprehensive national disaster management plans exist? Plans early warning practices and demonstrated successes?*

The strategy and action plan for water disaster mitigation was documented and publicized in 1994. Preparations are underway for a comprehensive national disaster management plan, which include major kind of disasters in Vietnam.

The early warning practices work well in Vietnam. In some major disaster events occurred recently, thank to the early warning the death tolls and the economic damage are significantly reduced.

(c) *Ready access to global, regional, national and local early warning systems. Can you provide examples of early warning practices and demonstrated successes?*

Yes, for example the Internet Assess on early and warning information of Tropical Storm is now available at the standing office of Central committee for Flood and Storm Control. Actions are underway to establish the access on warning information from regional disaster centers such as Asian Disaster Reduction Center (in Japan)

Example on early warning practice:

Prior to high flood and typhoon and other disasters, the warning messages from Hydrometeorology Service of Vietnam and Central Committee for Flood and Storm Control are disseminated to functioning agencies at different levels and to the individual by communication channels, by mass media. Thank to the early warning messages, local communities are on high alert and ready to cope with the disaster events.

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

Financial constraint in disaster management plans; legal system and institutional arrangement is not yet fully developed.

More budget commitment from national and international communities; Reform is needed on legal and institutional aspects.

*2.3. 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?*

Public awareness program is implemented through different training courses on disaster management for different target groups such as provincial officers, district officers, Red Cross Society and others.

Information is disseminated through training courses, public awareness campaigns, mass media.

*2.4 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?*

The Central Committee for Flood and Storm Control (CCFSC) is a functioning body of the Government in charge of Disaster Management and Prevention activities; all the policy related to disaster management and prevention are prepared by CCFSC.

The CCFSC has close link with local authorities and NGOs in implementation of any disaster reduction programs.

*2.5 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)?*

At present, the disaster reduction activities are not yet fully incorporated in the planning of other sectors. The CCFSC are making effort to develop this incorporation.

*2.6 The Decade provides an international arena for information exchange as well as an extensive international network of partners how have this input contributed to achieving the goals of the Decade?*

### **Regional/ Sub regional Achievements based on national perspectives (Part 3)**

*3.1 Please describe important achievements in your region/sub-region on disaster preparedness and reduction since the inception of the IDNDR*

Quick information exchange on disaster preparedness and other related activities among the disaster management circle.

*3.2. Do you take part in any regional/sub regional mechanism on disaster reduction? If yes, what type of mechanism is it and is there any linkage to IDNDR?*

Vietnam has a close link with Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) in Bangkok and actively participated in the formation of Asian Center for Disaster Reduction in Tokyo – Japan

*3.3 Have you participated in any regional/sub-regional events related to IDNDR? If yes, what are the benefits obtained from these events?*

Conference, information exchange

*3.4. Is there any need to further strengthen regional/subregional Cooperation in disaster preparedness and reduction? If yes, please explain.*

Better link between the disaster management circle on disaster information exchange.

Fund contributed from developed countries in the region should be established to enhance the activities of disaster preparedness and reduction.

#### **Structures in Place (part 4)**

*4.1. 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

The Central Committee for flood and storm Control is the agency responsible flood and storm control and natural disaster reduction in Vietnam. It is the inter-ministerial body under the direct management of Pre Minister and consists of many key government agencies. Under the CCFSC are the Provincial Committee for flood and Storm Control in every province and city.

The budget commitment from government for flood and storm control and disaster prevention is always get high priority.

*4.2. Have budget lines for disaster reduction and preventive activities been made available in your government budget*

Yes it has,

*4.3 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).*

Yes it has

For example the decree on Dike Management and Decree on Flood and Storm control ; the Water Law; the Forest Law; the Environmental Law.

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

Yet to be developed

*4.5 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*

No such network is available

*4.6 Who are your principal working partners? Do they present an interdisciplinary approach to disaster reduction?*

All the government bodies, branches and local authorities involving in disaster management and prevention. In the even of disaster, all the branch and localities have to act in an interdisciplinary approach to cope with disasters.

### **Future Requirement (part 5)**

*Given your experience since the inception of the decade and the new challenges of disaster in 21<sup>st</sup> century, please provide comments as to what you believe are the necessary future requirement needed to successfully carry disaster reduction activities into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Listed below are some criteria for your consideration:*

- *international mechanism for coordination*
- *Budgetary commitments*
- *policy commitment*
- *network building*
- *information dissemination*
- *communication tools*
- *local authorities*
- *link to economic and social development programs, environment protection and sustainable development.*

In our opinion, some of the items below are necessary for successfully carry disaster reduction activities. They are listed in the order of importance.

- More budget commitment from government;
- The disaster management and reduction aspect much be highlighted in the social-economic development planing and incorporated in the development strategy of all sectors;
- Strengthening the legal system;
- Capacity building for local authorities;
- Improvement of information dissemination, communication tools;
- Better mechanism for international Coordination.

*5.2 Please identify priorities in international cooperation, such as the establishment of regional/sub-regional warning systems, disaster preparedness, technology transfer, financial resources, technical assistance etc. which you deem pertinent in order to sustain disaster reduction activities in the future:*

The priority as follow:

- Financial resources;
- Quick information exchange on disaster preparedness among the disaster management circle;
- Regional network for disaster preparedness;

- Technology transfer;
- Technical assistance.

*5.3 What sort of national or international measures would you like to be put in place in the 21<sup>st</sup> century?*

- More power for national disaster management agency.
- Build up a net work of disaster management centers in the region and globally to share information and assist member country in disaster management activities.