



Lebanon

National progress report on the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (2013-2015)

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Outcomes

Strategic Outcome For Goal 1

Outcomes Statement

Disaster Risk Reduction is considered a priority at the national, sectoral, and local level.

The greatest achievement regarding the effective integration of disaster risk considerations at the national level is in the development of a National Response Plan (NRP) for all types of disasters which includes the roles and responsibilities of major agencies in preparedness, response, and recovery to major disasters and the establishment of the National Operations Room (NOR).

Moreover, the Lebanese government has set a roadmap of priority interventions for stabilization from the Syrian conflict that was developed with the support of the UNDP and the World Bank, as well as the UNDP Lebanon Stabilization and Recovery Program – Supporting Resilience in a Time of Crisis which is coordinated with the PCM/UNDP Lebanon Crisis and Disaster Management Programme integrating disaster as one of the actions within the program.

At the sectoral level, several ministries and key agencies have integrated disaster risk considerations into sustainable development and have been supported to develop their response plans in line with the NRP including the Ministry of Education (MEHE), Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and the airports. The MoSA is continuing to integrate disaster risk considerations through the poverty program, targeting poor, marginalized, and vulnerable people by providing social protection services including: health coverage in hospitals, coverage of the cost of medication for chronic diseases, free registration in public schools, and free books.

The Lebanese Army Command at the Ministry of Defense has integrated DRR within the different levels of disasters.

The Lebanese Red Cross (LRC) Strategy 2013 – 2020, strives to strengthen its Disaster Risk Management (DRM) capacities and to become the main civilian organization in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) for Lebanon in line with the National Response Plan

At another level gender balance is mainstreamed within different planning and programming levels including the Ministry of Social Affairs.

At the local level, local level authorities including 3 Mouhafaza, 3 Caza and 2 Union of municipalities are receiving support in developing their response plans and emergency rooms to increase urban resilience and collaborate across systems to have a holistic integrative DRR approach.

Strategic Outcome For Goal 2

Outcomes Statement



Strengthening of institutions is being maintained at the national, local, and community level.

At the institutional level, the Prime Minister established the National Coordination Committee in February 2013 through decision number 41/2013 under the chairmanship of the Secretary of the Supreme Council for Defense, and the membership of the major relief commission departments and general directors of concerned relevant ministries –including the DRM Unit. The capacities of this committee have been enhanced thanks to a pioneer tabletop exercise, continuous coordination meetings, and implementation of study visits by high level delegations to France, Italy and the USA with the objective of gaining best experiences. Capacity buildings with key partners were implemented including training on information management OCHA, local authorities training for the adoption of resilient cities campaign and private sector trainings with UNISDR and integration of DRR training to industrial companies with the EU through TAIEX.

At the sectoral level: the MoSA implemented a national health campaign for polio eradication as preventative action for a possible outbreak. LRCS has established structures, processes, and strategies for decentralized, community-based disaster risk reduction and uses them to support and alert the communities in Lebanon. Additionally, the LRCS implemented a plan aiming at increasing awareness and readiness amongst women on the risks resulting from natural disasters. The LRC have established a mobile unit with the support of the Italian Cooperation.

At the community level some 300 local authorities have adopted the resilient cities campaign by UNISDR. Strengthening of institutions at the regional and local level in 3 Mouhafaza and 3 Caza including developing their response plans and emergency rooms in addition to the Caza of Byblos reponse plans. The Metn region strengthened its institutional capacities through the development of a mobile operations room with the support of the private sector and municipal contributions, and implemented a simulation to test coordination and communication in a disaster response situation. The Caza of Tyr established an emergency room and raised capacity for 60 villages within the caza.

CNRS is also supporting building capacities in Hermel through a geophysical project.

Strategic Outcome For Goal 3

Outcomes Statement

Lebanon has made huge progress in the areas of preparedness, response, and recovery.

- It is clear that better coordination and communication among concerned agencies has resulted in more effective management of disasters. This was demonstrated through the implementation of a pioneer tabletop exercise, and a simulation of Getting Airports Ready for Disasters for both public and military airports.
- 350 emergency preparedness prototype emergency kits were distributed to key public and private institutions for their replication and 1,000 others were procured for redistribution.

- The UNISDR and IRP implemented a high-level workshop on disaster recovery. planning, strategies, and action to “build back better” after disaster.

Lebanese army is responsible for command and control and is able to mobilize resources human, equipment and machinery across all the territory.

- The Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) have accumulated experience in emergencies and have built up capacity in SPHERE through its centers and internal center policies. Moreover, disaster considerations are being spread to Syrian refugees displaced by the Syrian crisis. This is managed through the support of UNHCR, benefiting from MoSA centers that include vaccination, vocational education, and literacy programs.

- The Lebanese Red Cross’s defines and implements measures to reduce disaster risk and enhance preparedness within Lebanese communities through Integrated Community Action Teams (CATs) that have been created and enabled on a community level this stems from the fact that communities are at the center of the LRC's core principles.

The Internal Security Forces has accumulated experience in preparedness and response and is very active in supporting local communities.

- At the local level the development of response plans and crisis operations rooms for the Mouhafaza of North, Mouhafaza of South, Mouhafaza of Baalbek-Hermel, Caza of Chouf, Union of Municipalities of Tyre, Union of Municipalities of Dannieh has been achieved which has supported in strengthening regional and local level management. Some local level authorities that have been affected by disasters, such as Beit El Chaar in the Metn region, have built statistic and research centers on all lands and buildings within their authorities.

In general community awareness and building was enhanced through a national media billboard campaign on forest fires in collaboration with local stakeholders, the reproduction and dissemination of over 100,000 disaster home guide all over the Lebanese territories with the collaboration of the Internal Security Forces, and the implementation of DRR school plays in 5 different locations in the country targeting more than 3,000 students, teachers and school directors. While the Internal Security Forces also transmit preparedness messages through the media to the mass population and is highly active on social media.

Strategic goals

Strategic Goal Area 1

The more effective integration of disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all levels, with a special emphasis on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction.

Strategic Goal Statement 2013-2015

NA

Strategic Goal Area 2

The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards.

Strategic Goal Statement 2013-2015

NA

Strategic Goal Area 3

The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities.

Strategic Goal Statement 2013-2015

NA

Priority for Action 1

Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation.

Core indicator 1

National policy and legal framework for disaster risk reduction exists with decentralised responsibilities and capacities at all levels.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is disaster risk taken into account in public investment and planning decisions? No

National development plan	Yes
Sector strategies and plans	Yes
Climate change policy and strategy	Yes
Poverty reduction strategy papers	Yes
CCA/ UNDAF (Common Country Assessment/ UN Development Assistance Framework)	Yes
Civil defence policy, strategy and contingency planning	Yes

Have legislative and/or regulatory provisions been made for managing disaster risk?
No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

In addition to previous work, a National Disaster Coordination Committee was mandated in February 2013 by decision number 41/2013 under the chairmanship of the Secretary of the Supreme Council of Defense and the membership of major relief commission departments and general directors of relevant ministries –including the DRM Unit– to adopt the necessary measures and procedures to coordinate disaster response operations and national crises resulting from events, acts of war, natural disasters, or crises that threaten the security and safety of the community and environment, and require interference at a national level.

- At the sectoral level the Ministry of Environment developed the Climate Change Coordinating Unit (CCCU), designed to improve climate change governance through developing national and sectoral plans to coordinate climate change initiatives. The CCCU proposal illustrates the coordination mechanism, which includes planning and communication with national, regional, and international partners. The project is also designed to seek funding donors for the development and implementation of a low-carbon and climate resilient agenda. The Council of Ministers approved the establishment of the National Council for the Environment (NCE) on March 28th, 2012.

- The Ministry of Social Affairs' "Poverty Reduction Program" is part of the national planning for poverty eradication.

- Implementation of contingency planning has begun at the sectoral level, as with the Ministry of Education.

Local level contingency response plans have been developed for cities with large populations such as Beirut, Tripoli, and Caza of Byblos.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

So far, due to political impasse and the absence of government and parliament, which did not convene for almost 8 months during 2013, no legislative provisions were made:

- The National Response Plan has not yet been endorsed by the Parliament.

- As of yet, there is no national body for disaster risk reduction, specifically the National Disaster Risk Management Agency.

- The law on disasters proposal has not been approved or issued.

Core indicator 2

Dedicated and adequate resources are available to implement disaster risk reduction plans and activities at all administrative levels

Level of Progress achieved? 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

What is the ratio of the budget allocation to risk reduction versus disaster relief and reconstruction?

	Risk reduction / prevention (%)	Relief and reconstruction (%)
National budget		
Decentralised / sub-national budget		
USD allocated to hazard proofing sectoral development investments (e.g transport, agriculture, infrastructure)		

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Unfortunately, most public sector institutions do not have an allocated budget for risk reduction, as Lebanon is under large deficit, hence disaster risk reduction is not a government priority. Nevertheless, the High Relief Committee has an allocated budget especially within relief and reconstruction of affected communities. Moreover, the Ministry of Public Work and Transportation has a budget for reducing risk on the road and for the reconstruction of affected roads and bridges. Additionally, the Ministry of Energy and Water has a budget to repair damage on dams and electric power as a result of any disaster. The CNRS has a budget for a platform for prediction and early warning for forest fires, floods and water vulnerability.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Government lacks the necessary budget and resources necessary for risk reduction

measures, including human resources, as most of the budget for relief and reconstruction is allocated through the High Relief Committee.

Core indicator 3

Community Participation and decentralisation is ensured through the delegation of authority and resources to local levels

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do local governments have legal responsibility and regular / systematic budget allocations for DRR? No

Legislation (Is there a specific legislation for local governments with a mandate for DRR?)	Yes
Regular budget allocations for DRR to local government	Yes
Estimated % of local budget allocation assigned to DRR	

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Unfortunately, administrative decentralization has not yet been implemented; nevertheless around 300 municipalities have adopted the resilient cities campaign, some of which have been able to allocate a budget for disaster risk reduction through international agencies, the private sector, and local communities. Support has been garnered through awareness campaigns in local level communities, including training of trainers and participation in local and regional conferences. One example of the local level authorities that have received support is the municipality of Saida, which managed to allocate a small budget for risk reduction and mitigation with the support of the private sector, mainly as a result of the disasters that occurred during summer 2013.

Moreover, in 2013, the Municipality of Byblos presented a proposal as a part of the Rockfeller 100 resilient cities campaign to raise awareness and reduce risk in Byblos. Additionally, the union of municipalities of Tyr (around 60 villages) has been receiving support from the SDC to implement DRR actions within the region.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Main constraint remains in that municipalities lack financial and human resources in the first place which impedes the implementation of development strategies for local communities.

Add to it that they do not have any budgets for DRR.

DRR is still relatively a new concept within the local level authorities as such there is a need to raise awareness and enhance the capacities from national and international agencies such as the UNDP, UNISDR, WHO etc.

Core indicator 4

A national multi sectoral platform for disaster risk reduction is functioning.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are civil society organizations, national finance and planning institutions, key economic and development sector organizations represented in the national platform? Yes

civil society members (specify absolute number)	3
national finance and planning institutions (specify absolute number)	3
sectoral organisations (specify absolute number)	16
private sector (specify absolute number)	

science and academic institutions (specify absolute number)	2
women's organisations participating in national platform (specify absolute number)	1
other (please specify)	

Where is the coordinating lead institution for disaster risk reduction located?

In the Prime Minister's/President's Office	Yes
In a central planning and/or coordinating unit	No
In a civil protection department	No
In an environmental planning ministry	No
In the Ministry of Finance	No
Other (Please specify)	

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

So far, the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) has not been formed as the proposed law for the establishment of the NDMA has not yet been passed. This is a long-term process that necessitates strategic action, legislative action, human resources, and a large amount of funds; most of which are not currently available. A National Task force has been established, as a committee for the development and follow-up of the Hyogo Framework of Action. In 2013, the Prime Minister established a National Coordination Committee by decision 41/2013 under the chairmanship of the Secretary of the Supreme Council of Defense, the membership of the major relief commission departments, and the general directors of relevant ministries and agencies.

The High Relief Committee, besides its ongoing relief assistance, is also involved in the rehabilitation of schools, the reconstruction of public roads, bridges and airport runways, the recovery of damaged water systems, as well as rubble clearance. The High Relief Committee undertakes all of the above in collaboration with concerned Ministries.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the

country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Unfortunately the proposed law to establish a National Disaster Management Agency has not yet been passed. The Disaster Risk Management Unit at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers currently coordinates with all concerned agencies in DRM

Priority for Action 2

Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning

Core indicator 1

National and local risk assessments based on hazard data and vulnerability information are available and include risk assessments for key sectors.

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there a national multi-hazard risk assessment with a common methodology available to inform planning and development decisions? Yes

Multi-hazard risk assessment	No
% of schools and hospitals assessed	
schools not safe from disasters (specify absolute number)	
Gender disaggregated vulnerability and capacity assessments	No
Agreed national standards for multi hazard risk assessments	Yes
Risk assessment held by a central repository (lead institution)	No
Common format for risk assessment	No
Risk assessment format customised by user	No
Is future/probable risk assessed?	Yes

Please list the sectors that have already used disaster risk assessment as a precondition for sectoral development planning and programming.

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

In the scope of work conducted by agencies and public institutions, several agencies implement assessment plans, but work is not unified or disseminated as required.

- In 2013, major assessments accomplished included the "Flood Hazard Mapping Assessment" report for Lebanon; developed, submitted, and disseminated by the National Council for Scientific Research (NCSR) with the support of UNDP. The report sums up data acquisition, literature review, flood plain delineation, hazard mapping, and the local history of floods that had hit the country within the last century.
- The Ministry of Social Affairs implements future and probable risk assessments based on the poverty program.
- The NCSR geophysics department implemented a seismic hazard assessment for Beirut and the region which will be published in scientific journals.
- In 2013 a study of the seismic hazard assessment for Lebanon was launched.
- The CNRS has been funding several research projects run at the remote sensing center for assessing, detecting and monitoring landslides. Landslide hazard zonation has been conducted on the National scale using satellite images, GIS systems and statistical correlation methods.
- Recently, the CNRS through its remote sensing and Geophysical Centers established a Landslide Research Unit (RUMMARE) with the collaboration of researchers from the Lebanese's University, Notre Dame University and Saint Joseph University aiming at defining landslide hazard and risk maps at the scale of villages.
- The CNRS with close cooperation of Ministries of Agriculture and Environment in addition to the Civil Defense and active NGOs including AFDC established maps on a national scale related to forest fire prone areas.
- Recently the CNRS team and through a World Bank funded project is building a geospatial database for forest fires and working on facilitating forest fire data acquisition through smart Apps and crowd sourcing. It is also working on developing a methodology to assess the burning severity on yearly basis depending on satellite images and minor field investigation.
- The CNRS is also part of Reducing Earthquake Losses in the Eastern Mediterranean Region (RELEMR) programme which is supported by UNESCO and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) with the purpose of assessing, evaluating and reducing expected earthquake losses in this region.
- The Ministry of Environment within the "Protection of key bottleneck bird areas for soaring migratory birds in the eastern sector of the Africa-Eurasia flyway" project, implemented a mapping of the hazards that birds face in the Euro-Asian flyway with the support of the UNDP & World Bank.
- The Plan Blue initiative, a study on the socio-economics of maritime activities, including Lebanon, aims at enhancing socio-economic knowledge and raising

awareness among Mediterranean decision-makers on the potential role of socio-economics in supporting national and regional marine/maritime policy-making.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The main constraint lies in implementing these plans and strategies at the local, sectoral and national levels.
Another major constraint is the lack of funds for the implementation, development and dissemination of studies

Core indicator 2

Systems are in place to monitor, archive and disseminate data on key hazards and vulnerabilities

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are disaster losses and hazards systematically reported, monitored and analyzed?
Yes

Disaster loss databases exist and are regularly updated	Yes
Reports generated and used in planning by finance, planning and sectoral line ministries (from the disaster databases/ information systems)	No
Hazards are consistently monitored across localities and territorial boundaries	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Within the work frame of public and concerned agencies any disaster loss and hazard is reported, monitored and analyzed.

The major database available on disasters is in the DesInventar which is a disaster inventory conceptual and methodological development which deals with disasters of all magnitudes and a diversity of environments available since 1980 till present date mainly on forest fires, storms, landslides and floods.

Work on the re-launching of the DRM website which includes all available studies more than 120 studies is in process.

Ministry of Social Affairs and Ministry of Environment MoSA: Disaster losses and hazards are systematically reported, monitored and analyzed.

Within the development of response plans at the critical sectors/ministries, Mouhafaza, Caza and local authorities these agencies are being supported to report, monitor and analyze their disaster losses as part of a bigger data and information management of disasters and risks.

The Lebanese Red cross have a unified reporting method and application.

The Internal Security Forces also have a reporting system through the media, twitter account .

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Unfortunately so far there exists no centralized authority that gathers and analyses all data .

Main recommendations include: Implementation of the National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management.

Another recommendation is to have an adequate centralized software at the national level that includes all reports and from which other data can be generated and disseminate data.

Core indicator 3

Early warning systems are in place for all major hazards, with outreach to communities.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do risk prone communities receive timely and understandable warnings of impending hazard events? Yes

Early warnings acted on effectively	No
Local level preparedness	Yes
Communication systems and protocols used and applied	No
Active involvement of media in early warning dissemination	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Assessment of risk in Lebanon indicates it is prone to earthquakes, tsunamis, floods, landslides, forest fires, and storms.

While seismic forecasting is a far reach, the CNRS – Center for Geophysical Research – runs the Tsunami Warning Focal Point for Lebanon and is responsible for maintaining a constant watch for incoming alert messages broadcasted by regional tsunami centers, routing them to Civil Defense and other public authorities if necessary. In this matter, the center is an active partner in the NEAMTWS group of experts established by the IOC this initiative is still at the early testing stages. Moreover, the CNRS established a Pilot Operation Room for Natural Disaster Risk Management (ORNDRM) which is still at the early stages aiming to test technology tailored to the country’s needs and to provide scientific and technical support in preparedness and prevention strategies. The ORNDRM, which will be part of the DRM Unit established at the PM office, will be directing, issuing guidelines, facilitating, coordinating, monitoring, and where necessary directly implementing or enforcing activities related to among others.

The Lebanese army hosts 15 early warning centers with the collaboration of CNRS. An early warning system for forest fires exists through the operating system RISICO that issues a daily bulletin for the prediction and prevention of forest and rural fires. The project was implemented with support from the CIMA Research Foundation, Lebanese Civil Defence – Ministry of Interior, in collaboration with the Association for Forest Development and Conservation (AFDC), AL-SHOUF Cedar Nature Reserve, Lebanese Agricultural Research Institute (LARI).

For storms, an early warning system exists through the Beirut Rafic Hariri weather station, which forecasts several days prior to storms, informing concerned agencies,

moreover the media and agencies including ISF, civil defense, army, Beirut Rafic Hariri weather station which play an important role in informing mass population of DRR measures to be taken. In 2013 Alexa storm and in 2014 Zina Storm were very well managed thanks to the coordination among the weather station at Beirut Rafic Hariri Airport and agencies where accurate early warning systems were in place and where all agencies were coordinating their efforts and giving sound instructions that supported in no one getting hurt with minimal to no losses recorded.

The Ministry of Social Affairs has implemented in 2013 a vaccination campaign as part of an early for risk prone communities through campaigns on epidemics and diseases.

Moreover, the DRM Unit developed a mobile application targeting the Lebanese public to help raise their awareness, preparedness, early warning and response on disasters. By a simple click all those who will download the mobile application will be better informed, prepared for and respond to major natural disasters.

- The Lebanese Red Cross implements Hazards Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment Activities (HVCA). The HVCA promotes the knowledge of hazards as well as the physical, social, economic and environmental vulnerabilities to disasters, and is followed by action to reduce disaster risks. This is implemented with the objective of defining measures to reduce disaster risk and enhance preparedness in selected communities.

The Internal Security Forces send preparedness warning messages through its twitter account on the state of the roads and weather having more than 60,000 active followers and having received more 1.9Million tags during the storm on the special storm hash tag.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Lebanon needs to further develop its early warning systems at the national and local level.

Moreover early warnings should also be centralized within a defined agency which will be responsible for the proper dissemination of warnings and coordination among agencies.

Core indicator 4

National and local risk assessments take account of regional / trans boundary risks, with a view to regional cooperation on risk reduction.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Does your country participate in regional or sub-regional actions to reduce disaster risk? Yes

Establishing and maintaining regional hazard monitoring	Yes
Regional or sub-regional risk assessment	Yes
Regional or sub-regional early warning	Yes
Establishing and implementing protocols for transboundary information sharing	Yes
Establishing and resourcing regional and sub-regional strategies and frameworks	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The Lebanese government periodically participates in regional actions to reduce disaster risks. Despite the political impasse as well as budget constraints in 2013, 18 major stakeholders –including the Minister of Environment– participated in the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction forum in May 2013, which was held in Geneva. The Global platform allowed the Lebanese delegation and DRM Unit to exchange information, share experiences, build partnerships across sectors, and improve implementation of disaster risk reduction through improved communication and coordination amongst stakeholders. Moreover in 2014 a delegation representing different national, sectoral and local stakeholders participated in the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) 2nd Arab Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction which took place in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt in September 2014 which was an opportunity to highlight the progress of disaster risk reduction efforts and review the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 in Lebanon and the Arab region

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be

overcome in the future.

Need to better and more actively participate in regional programs that entail disaster risk reduction

Priority for Action 3

Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels

Core indicator 1

Relevant information on disasters is available and accessible at all levels, to all stakeholders (through networks, development of information sharing systems etc)

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there a national disaster information system publicly available? Yes

Information is proactively disseminated	Yes
Established mechanisms for access / dissemination (internet, public information broadcasts - radio, TV,)	Yes
Information is provided with proactive guidance to manage disaster risk	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Although there is no centralized and unified national disaster information system, the media plays an important role in this sector. The Disaster Risk Management Unit at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers has a special strategy for disseminating information and increasing awareness.

Its major accomplishments include its home guide, brochures, weather segments during news, training of trainers and reporters, and the annual celebration of International day for disaster reduction.

In 2014 the DRM Unit proceeded in updating and reprinting 100,000 copies of the home guide for disaster preparedness and response which includes among others

awareness how and what to include in preparing an emergency kit. The home guides will be distributed in collaboration with the Internal Security Forces all over the Lebanese regions. Moreover this action was accompanied with a social media campaign through the ISF twitter account. Moreover, the DRM Unit has been working to update the website in a way so as to be more informative and interactive. The website will include information on disaster risk reduction and the project, how to plan, prepare and mitigate for disasters, information and database on disasters in Lebanon as well as sections on the resilient cities campaign, training and workshops with project current and upcoming events, a news room and contact us section.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Despite the progress and achievements in making information available, Lebanon still lacks information on disasters, and some data requires updating. Moreover, some agencies have information but it is not yet disseminated. There also lacks a centralized agency and methodology that unites all information and data on disasters.

The main recommendations include updating hazard maps and making them available to the public, centralizing and unifying collecting and disseminating disaster information, and raising public awareness through media campaigns promoting risk reduction

Core indicator 2

School curricula , education material and relevant trainings include disaster risk reduction and recovery concepts and practices.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is DRR included in the national educational curriculum? No

primary school curriculum	No
secondary school curriculum	No
university curriculum	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The Ministry of Education (MEHE) has been working on the integration of DRR within its national education curriculum in different levels of education.

- Educational DRR actions currently exist, and are being implemented indirectly through courses of geography and history. Some agencies, such as the Civil Defense, Beirut Fire Brigade, and Red Cross train students on DRR concepts. One example is the DRR awareness sessions hosted by the Beirut Fire Brigade, reaching 20,000 students annually.
- Meanwhile, the MEHE implemented several capacity building projects and activities in 2013, including a training of trainers workshop for 40 schools, to implement the Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE) standards and to contextualize them in Lebanese standards and norms. An emergency committee at the MEHE was formed and expanded to include all ministry departments. Moreover in 2014 similar capacity building trainings with IBEE were conducted to 100 school principles for 100 schools from all over Lebanon.
- The MEHE, with the collaboration and support of UNHCR, is also supporting 90,000 displaced Syrian students with curriculums including psychological first aid, recreational activities, and the implementation of the WASH program in schools.
- Moreover, the UNDP initiated a pioneer training and drill exercise through the Disaster Risk Management Unit at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, including evacuation exercises for 25 schools that was implemented by the Ministry with the support of the Lebanese Red Cross and cooperation of the Lebanese Army, UNIFIL and UNICEF.
- Additionally, the MEHE implemented a training program for all its departments on safety, first aid and preparedness measures with the support of the Lebanese Red Cross.
- In parallel the Lebanese Red Cross implements Earthquake Risk Reduction in Schools including drills to promote awareness in the schools and play a role to advocate the integration of disaster culture and risk prevention in the schools curricular.
- In 2014 20 schools from the South of Lebanon and Nabatiyeh District benefited from training and drills on evacuation.
- The MEHE also implemented a report and booklet on the rehabilitation and maintenance of schools with the support of the DRASATI program.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities

and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The main constraint is the lack of budget and specialized human resources. Some of the major recommendations include the finalization and implementation of DRR within the education curriculum, the development of the MEHE response plan and its implementation, as well as the standardization of the accelerated learning program to Lebanese standards. Recommendations also include the development of an emergency operations room and training of MEHE staff on DRR. Another important recommendation is the assessment of all schools and implementation of retrofitting schemes where necessary.

Core indicator 3

Research methods and tools for multi-risk assessments and cost benefit analysis are developed and strengthened.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is DRR included in the national scientific applied-research agenda/budget? No

Research programmes and projects	Yes
Research outputs, products or studies are applied / used by public and private institutions	Yes
Studies on the economic costs and benefits of DRR	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

DRR is included within several public and scientific institutions agenda such as the

CNRS, the Lebanese standard association (LIBNOR). Moreover several universities such as the AUB, Balamand have advanced studies on earthquakes, floods and forest fires.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The main constraint is in gathering and disseminating scientific findings and making them available to the public.

Recommendations: To have more scientific studies on hazard assessments, updating of hazard maps and making available to the public.

Core indicator 4

Countrywide public awareness strategy exists to stimulate a culture of disaster resilience, with outreach to urban and rural communities.

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do public education campaigns for risk-prone communities and local authorities include disaster risk? Yes

Public education campaigns for enhanced awareness of risk.	Yes
Training of local government	Yes
Disaster management (preparedness and emergency response)	Yes
Preventative risk management (risk and vulnerability)	Yes
Guidance for risk reduction	Yes
Availability of information on DRR practices at the community level	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The national strategy for raising awareness on disasters includes educational campaigns aiming at raising awareness at different levels within educational and public institutions.

Within 2013-2014 the following campaigns were implemented:

- A training program implemented by The Ministry of Education for public school teachers in South Lebanon, with the LRC's collaboration on first aid and evacuation drills, and the LRCS equipping the schools with safety equipment.
- To increase awareness, preparedness, and emergency management of public and private institutions, and within the national efforts of the Lebanese government with the support of the UNDP on DRR efforts, pilot trainings on DRR were implemented for the management, staff, and Internal Security Forces at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, at the campus of the Beirut Arab University in Beirut and Dibliyeh, and at the Lebanese American University with the collaboration of the Lebanese Army, the LRC and the Civil Defence.
- At the Local level work continues within the UNISDR campaign for getting cities ready for disasters, so far around 300 municipalities already signed up for the campaign and working on the ten checkpoints.
- At the local level, the DRM Unit implemented with the collaboration of UNISDR regional office and expert from Italy a three day workshop aims to further develop the capacities of 70 local and regional government officials from 8 "Mouhafaza", Governorates, 25 "Caza"/ districts and 25 local authorities with high presence of displaced Syrians in the Bekaa, North, South, and Mount Lebanon on disaster risk reduction by equipping them with the necessary tools on how to integrate disaster risk reduction in city planning and local development.
- A 3 day course, "Training of Trainers on Disaster Risk Management and Emergency Response," was implemented with the support of the UNDP, aiming at enhanced public and military human resource capabilities and capacities, and supporting concerned entities in integrating disaster risk reduction into development projects within their respective scopes.
- Moreover, a workshop that was presented by UNISDR team on disaster recovery planning, targeting around 25 high-level officials from different ministries, explored options of recovery from disasters and conflicts.
- The DRM Unit with the collaboration of Khayal Association re-launched the children's puppet show "Firas Al Attas" in 5 different locations in Lebanon as part of raising awareness on disaster risk reduction. The tailor made play was performed across the country within public schools for around 3,000 students aged 7 to 12 in Beirut, Saida, Tyre, the Chouf and Metn.
- The UNDP supported a national media campaign with the objective of raising awareness on forest fires and the importance of taking actions to mitigate risks through the Disaster Risk Management Unit. This action was initiated as part of the

community awareness by the project team and as a result of the disastrous forest fires that overtook a large percentage of the forests in Baabda. The campaign is a joint partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Environment, the Association for Forests, Development and Conservation (AFDC), USAID and others.

- The media has played an important role in giving guidance to vulnerable communities, as was the case with the storm Alexa, taking guidance from the National Coordination Committee.
- The Lebanese Red Cross has implemented an awareness campaigns for behavioral change conceptualized and carried out by the DRR volunteers until establishment of the CATs to carry out by their turn the awareness campaigns in their communities

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The main recommendation is the implementation of the national disaster strategy, including awareness. Of the constraints, lack of necessary funds remains a major constraint.

The re-launching of the updated website portal on DRM will make information accessible to a large section of the community, with focus on 6 Mouhafaza and vulnerable communities, especially those with a high influx of Syrian population. These groups will be targeted to raise their awareness on risk reduction and in order to better support them.

Priority for Action 4

Reduce the underlying risk factors

Core indicator 1

Disaster risk reduction is an integral objective of environment related policies and plans, including for land use natural resource management and adaptation to climate change.

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc) Yes

Protected areas legislation	Yes
Payment for ecosystem services (PES)	No
Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)	Yes
Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)	Yes
Climate change adaptation projects and programmes	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The Ministry of Environment (MOE) has several mechanisms to protect and restore ecosystem services for protected areas such as law 532, dated 24/7/1996, which declares that Cedars in the Chouf area are protected, constituting around 5% of the Lebanese territory as well as others such as the law declaring a natural marine reserve in Ras el Ain, Tyr, the Cedars forest of Tannourine and the law declaring a

protected area in Bentael, among others.

Most recently the following regulations were prepared Ministry of Environment: Environmental Impact Assessment Decree - MoE Decree 8633 of 2012, MOE has been enforcing the EIA in many sectors by mainstreaming the EIA process into the permitting procedure of several ministries including Public Works & Transport, Industry, and Tourism. The Strategic Environmental Assessment Decree - MoE Decree 8213 of 2012 and the Environmental Compliance for Establishments - MoE Decree 8471 of 2012 that regulates all activities from classified establishments (such as industrial ones) that may cause harmful pollution and environmental degradation. Moreover, the forest fire management strategy has been adopted by the Council of Ministers and is currently being implemented, but lacks necessary funds for proper implementation. The Association for Forests, Development and Conservation (AFDC) has launched a project to plant one million trees as a part of the Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Agriculture strategy to increase Lebanon's green cover from 13 to 20%, with support from the private sector.

The Ministry of Environment also implemented hazard-mapping on climate change and has updated its identification of hazard areas as well as having completed the hazard map soaring birds face in their Euro-Asia flyway.

The civil aviation at Beirut Rafic Hariri Airport in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment is working on a project regarding the impact of aircrafts on the ecosystem.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

There is a lack of funds and human resources, as well as capabilities in the field of environmental disaster management. Decrees need to be approved and transformed into laws that are implemented.

There is also lack in data on the hazards of chemical materials and their storage. Additionally, Lebanon needs to create necessary laws to activate and implement the environmental police that will pave the way for more efficient law enforcement and implementation of the "polluter pays" concept

Core indicator 2

Social development policies and plans are being implemented to reduce the vulnerability of populations most at risk.

Level of Progress achieved? 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do social safety nets exist to increase the resilience of risk prone households and communities? No

Crop and property insurance	Yes
Temporary employment guarantee schemes	No
Conditional and unconditional cash transfers	Yes
Micro finance (savings, loans, etc.)	Yes
Micro insurance	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The Ministry of Agriculture has issued decrees on food, crop and livestock security and is working on some initiatives, there also exists some initiatives at the local level supported by local NGO's and international donors. Moreover the Ministry of Agriculture and the FAO have a country programming framework for 2013-2015 within which there is a priority area includes strengthening national capacities for improved food security.

The Consumer Protection Directorate at the Ministry of Economy works on consumer protection that safeguards consumers' interests " including food safety and quality of goods, and enhancing consumer confidence in the Consumer Protection

The High Relief Committee is in charge of paying indemnities as a result of disasters to affected households and communities.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

More investment in the insurance sector to increase the awareness and protect households and communities that are within risk prone areas. Safety measures within the building codes should be better enforced.

Core indicator 3

Economic and productive sectorial policies and plans have been implemented to reduce the vulnerability of economic activities

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are the costs and benefits of DRR incorporated into the planning of public investment? No

National and sectoral public investment systems incorporating DRR.

No

Please provide specific examples: e.g. public infrastructure, transport and communication, economic and productive assets

Investments in retrofitting infrastructures including schools and hospitals

Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

Unfortunately no progress has been achieved in this context as most ministries lack funds necessary to invest in DRR.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The main challenge remains that most public investments do not take into account DRR as part of their planning process which should become mandatory.

Core indicator 4

Planning and management of human settlements incorporate disaster risk reduction elements, including enforcement of building codes.

Level of Progress achieved? 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there investment to reduce the risk of vulnerable urban settlements? No

Investment in drainage infrastructure in flood prone areas	Yes
Slope stabilisation in landslide prone areas	Yes
Training of masons on safe construction technology	No
Provision of safe land and housing for low income households and communities	No
Risk sensitive regulation in land zoning and private real estate development	No
Regulated provision of land titling	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The National Master Plan for the Lebanese Territory (NPMPLT) provides recommendations for land-use and hazard maps for the following hazards that Lebanon may be subjected to: Landslides, floods, desertification and earthquakes. The Lebanese government passed the Public Safety the law that became effective as of 2012, which is applicable to the design of both buildings and industrial facilities and factories against earthquakes and fires. It is immediately applicable to buildings and facilities that have not yet obtained a planning permit

The projects implemented by the Council of Development and Reconstruction CDR take into account the building codes. Moreover new hospitals and schools are committed to implementing the building code.

DRASATI project funded by the USAID has assessed 1282 public schools and

reported the finding to the Ministry of Education
 The municipality of Beirut has in 2013 established the "Urban Planning" Municipal Committee to strengthen the urban governance and promote the adequate urban planning, hence boosting the resilience of the city.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

It is essential to enforce the law and monitor the proper implementation of the building code which includes public safety measures and punish violators. Capacities need to be enhanced especially for masons on safe construction technology and awareness needs to be raised among mass population.

Core indicator 5

Disaster risk reduction measures are integrated into post disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do post-disaster programmes explicitly incorporate and budget for DRR for resilient recovery? No

% of recovery and reconstruction funds assigned to DRR	
DRR capacities of local authorities for response and recovery strengthened	Yes
Risk assessment undertaken in pre- and post-disaster recovery and reconstruction planning	No
Measures taken to address gender based issues in recovery	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

A proposal law on reconstruction as a result of disasters has been prepared but still not approved.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

For the past few decades the efforts on disasters were focused on relief. Despite the challenges that Lebanon faces it is necessary to place disaster risk management and reduction as a government priority.

It is important to develop a law for fast recovery post-disaster, which includes building better and more resilient buildings and having a government budget for construction

Core indicator 6

Procedures are in place to assess the disaster risk impacts of major development projects, especially infrastructure.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are the impacts of disaster risk that are created by major development projects assessed? Yes

Are cost/benefits of disaster risk taken into account in the design and operation of major development projects? Yes

Impacts of disaster risk taken account in Environment Impact Assessment (EIA)	Yes
By national and sub-national authorities and	Yes

institutions

By international development actors

Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Decree - MoE Decree 8633 of 2012, is being enforced in many sectors by mainstreaming the EIA process into the permitting procedure of several line ministries including Public Works & Transport, Industry, and Tourism

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

The main challenge remains in the lack of planning and funding. There is also a need for building capacities on this level. Government to have a specific annual budget for reconstruction and develop policies that enhance risk reduction within all critical sectors.

Priority for Action 5

Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels

Core indicator 1

Strong policy, technical and institutional capacities and mechanisms for disaster risk management, with a disaster risk reduction perspective are in place.

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are there national programmes or policies for disaster preparedness, contingency planning and response? Yes

DRR incorporated in these programmes and policies

Yes

The institutional mechanisms exist for the rapid mobilisation of resources in a disaster, utilising civil society and the private sector; in addition to public sector support.

Yes

Are there national programmes or policies to make schools and health facilities safe in emergencies? Yes

Policies and programmes for school and hospital safety

Yes

Training and mock drills in school and hospitals for emergency preparedness

Yes

Are future disaster risks anticipated through scenario development and aligned preparedness planning? Yes

Potential risk scenarios are developed taking into account climate change projections

Yes

Preparedness plans are regularly updated

Yes

based on future risk scenarios

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

A major achievement in 2013 was the accomplishment of the National Response Plan (NRP), a reference for all agencies in the event of any natural or man-made disaster. This has paved the way for the proper implementation and endorsement of the NRF nationwide. The NRP is seen a blueprint guideline for the response plans at the sectorial and local levels. It took three years of work and was a significant achievement at the national level.

A tabletop exercise for coordination among concerned sectors was implemented. The importance of this exercise lies in the implementation the national response plan, and the cooperation between concerned agencies and bodies in one place through a National Operations Room to coordinate responses and unify efforts.

Within this framework and based on best practices in the field and study visits implemented by the concerned high level decision makers and agencies to the US and Europe, the DRM Unit established the NOR which is fully equipped with furniture, audio system, IT equipment and video wall in addition to a communication system. At the sectoral level DRR considerations were being integrated into development planning of critical economic and social sectors to reduce vulnerability of development infrastructure and assets. This was implemented by providing support to critical sectors in developing their response plans and adequate mechanisms including the establishment of disaster management rooms and enhancing sectors officers and staff skills in disaster risk reduction and management. This was accomplished for four key sectors in 2014 namely the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Affairs, Beirut Rafic Hariri International Airport and Ministry of Agriculture.

Within the framework of the NRP, Lebanon raised its national capacities in Getting Airports Ready for Disaster (GARD) by implementing a simulation with the support of UNDP and DHL to test its communication methods between the concerned agencies and to shift work from theoretical to practical, to increase the effectiveness of response.

Safety is a priority for the Lebanese airport, whose policies adopt the International Civil Aviation Organization airport code.

Moreover, the government has been working through its Disaster Risk Management Unit to support the Ministry of Education in its response plan.

The Ministry of Education and Health both have emergency policies in place and implement permanent drills and trainings for staff on emergencies. The Ministry of Education has adopted the minimum standards of education in emergency as part of INEE and is currently working on adopting them to Lebanon's standards. Moreover, the Ministry has expanded its emergency unit to include all ministry departments.

As a part of the Syrian crisis emergency the Ministry of Social Affairs opened its crisis

centers 24/7 to support the influx in the North of Lebanon and provide necessary support.

At the local level the development of response plans and crisis operations rooms for the Mouhafaza of North, Mouhafaza of South, Mouhafaza of Baalbek-Hermel, Caza of Chouf, Union of Municipalities of Tyre, Union of Municipalities of Dannieh has been achieved which has supported in strengthening regional and local level management in addition to the response plans that have been already developed for Beirut, the caza of Byblos, and the Union of Municipalities of Tripoli. Work is in progress for the development of response plans for other sectors and municipalities. The Caza of Tyr, which consists of around 60 villages and has established a team for DRR with the support of SDC, and has developed the capacities of 120 local level DRR coordinators in the villages with adequate training for community awareness including 15 schools with the support of UNDP and UNIFIL.

The Association of Forests, Development, and Conservation (AFDC) and within the Baladi Plus Project (funded by MSI- USAID) is supporting 6 municipalities in developing their response plans

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Although Lebanon has a wealth of experience in collaboratively responding to localized, recurrent and cumulative disasters, there is still a lack in coordination among agencies.

Another main challenge is the lack of funding and training on emergency. Several sectors need to be trained on security and safety as well as implementing drills and scenarios that will make them better prepared for disasters such as GARD, WASH ... etc.

Recommendation: to include the concept of risk reduction within the educational curriculum.

Core indicator 2

Disaster preparedness plans and contingency plans are in place at all administrative levels, and regular training drills and rehearsals are held to test and develop disaster response programmes.

Level of Progress achieved? 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

Key Questions and Means of Verification



Are the contingency plans, procedures and resources in place to deal with a major disaster? Yes

Plans and programmes are developed with gender sensitivities	Yes
Risk management/contingency plans for continued basic service delivery	No
Operations and communications centre	No
Search and rescue teams	No
Stockpiles of relief supplies	Yes
Shelters	No
Secure medical facilities	Yes
Dedicated provision for disabled and elderly in relief, shelter and emergency medical facilities	Yes
Businesses are a proactive partner in planning and delivery of response	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

By the end of 2013, the DRM Unit at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers concluded an important task within the project through the accomplishment of the NRP which is now considered a reference for all agencies in the event of any natural or man-made disaster.

A major breakthrough progress at the national level has been accomplished in the establishment of the National Operations Room in 2014 that will ensure strategic coordination, implementation of minimum standards in response that caters to the needs, priorities and that maximizes the impact in the management of resources, information and disaster mitigation. Once activated the NOR will be at the center of all response and will be mobilized during natural disasters, emergencies, crisis and major civilian operations to protect and safeguard civilians and property. It is worth noting that the NOR which consist of two rooms has been fully equipped with offices, desks, laptops, computers, LCD screens, photocopier machines, Video wall, audio system, communication systems and others so as to be fully functional

At the sectoral level DRR considerations were being integrated into development planning of critical economic and social sectors to reduce vulnerability of development infrastructure and assets. This was implemented by providing support to critical sectors in developing their response plans and adequate mechanisms including the establishment of disaster management rooms and enhancing sectors officers and staff skills in disaster risk reduction and management. This was accomplished for four key sectors in 2014 namely the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Affairs, Beirut Rafic Hariri International Airport and Ministry of Agriculture. Moreover as part of the national response plan activities, Lebanon raised its national capacities in Getting Airports Ready for Disaster (GARD) by implementing a pioneer simulation to test its communication methods between different concerned agencies and shift work from theoretical to practical with the objective of increasing the effectiveness of response. The simulation was implemented with the support of UNDO and DHL in cooperation with GARD program at Rafic Hariri International Airport in Beirut and at Rayak military base with the participation of the Lebanese army, the General Directorate of Civil Aviation, airport security, the Directorate General of Customs, service and freight companies at the airport, civil defense, the Lebanese Red Cross and Beirut Fire Brigade. The simulation supported assessing and evaluating the situation leading to better and more effective decision making.

The Lebanese army command at the Ministry of Defence implements awareness and training of trainers for building capacities as part of national and focused preparedness for disasters.

At the sectoral level the UNDP is coordinating with the Ministry of Education to develop its response plan and establish its disaster management cell.

The LRC have a special rope search and rescue team that was established with the support of the Norwegian red cross as well as a urban search and rescue 1st responders and light search and rescue.

Moreover within the plan prepared to reduce vulnerabilities of the municipal offices and services to disasters the UNDP supported the development of a risk assessment and a response plan and simulation for the Caza of Byblos and a response plan for the Union of Municipalities of Tripoli. and developed response plans and crisis operations rooms for the Mouhafaza of North, Mouhafaza of South, Mouhafaza of Baalbek-Hermel, Caza of Chouf, Union of Municipalities of Tyre, Union of Municipalities of Dannieh has been achieved which has supported in strengthening regional and local level management.

The Ministry of Economy maintains storage of strategic relief supplies of food and other non-foods items with private sector companies. There is also a strategic inventory of wheat for minimum of two months as well as principal food items .which has been adopted to cater to the Syrian crisis.

The UNDP is also supporting and setting up coordination with the Ministry of Education to develop its response plan and establish its disaster management cell.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the

country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

There are insufficient resources to deal with major disasters such as non-formal communication systems, equipment etc.
 Vulnerable regions sometimes lack medical facilities such as the case in the South of Lebanon who are under constant threat of man-made disasters including war.
 Work to support search and rescue team with equipment

Core indicator 3

Financial reserves and contingency mechanisms are in place to support effective response and recovery when required.

Level of Progress achieved? 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are financial arrangements in place to deal with major disaster? No

National contingency and calamity funds	Yes
The reduction of future risk is considered in the use of calamity funds	No
Insurance and reinsurance facilities	No
Catastrophe bonds and other capital market mechanisms	No

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator (not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

There is no specific fund for disasters, currently the only funds are mobilized as part of relief within the high relief council which pays indemnities for affected households and communities. The proposed law for reconstruction within post-disasters has not

been passed or approved by the parliament.
 Moreover the Lebanese Army supports recovery of effected communities and coordinated with local level authorities within early recovery to restore sites and support building better and more resilient communities and structures.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

No funds available for reconstruction and fast recovery.
 Recommendation: engage the private sector within the reconstruction and insurance sectors.

Core indicator 4

Procedures are in place to exchange relevant information during hazard events and disasters, and to undertake post-event reviews.

Level of Progress achieved? 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities.

Key Questions and Means of Verification

Has an agreed method and procedure been adopted to assess damage, loss and needs when disasters occur? Yes

Damage and loss assessment methodologies and capacities available	Yes
Post-disaster need assessment methodologies	Yes
Post-disaster needs assessment methodologies include guidance on gender aspects	Yes
Identified and trained human resources	Yes

Provide description and constraints for the overall core indicator

(not only the means of verification).

Please describe some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking/ assessment for the indicated level of progress.

As a result of 2006 July war a report on lessons learnt was developed highlighting the strengths and weaknesses with action taken. With the support of the UNDP a report on the needs assessment for the Lebanese government in preparing for disasters was accomplished.

The major database available on disasters is in the DesInventar which is a disaster inventory conceptual and methodological development which deals with disasters of all magnitudes and a diversity of environments available since 1980 till present date mainly on forest fires, storms, landslides and floods.

Provide an explanation of some of the key contextual reasons for the country's ranking assessment at the indicated level. In particular, highlight key challenges encountered by the country/ national authorities and partner agencies; and recommendations on how these can/ will be overcome in the future.

Due to the lack of financial and human resources there has been little progress and the government has not benefited from previous lessons learnt and recommendations from assessments made by concerned agencies.

Recommendations: Assessments should include the socio-economic losses and indirect losses of disasters

Drivers of Progress

a) Multi-hazard integrated approach to disaster risk reduction and development

Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Do studies/ reports/ atlases on multi-hazard analyses exist in the country/ for the sub region?: Yes

If yes, are these being applied to development planning/ informing policy?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

Lebanon has accomplished the "Comprehensive Analysis of Country Situation the Disaster Risk Assessments in Lebanon" and has developed a National Strategy for Disasters.

Several studies and reports exist concerning multi-hazard analysis in the country, some of which are still at the academic level; as is the case with building safety. There has been intense work and research on natural hazards, including landslides, floods, and to a lesser extent, earthquakes.

The AUB has recently accomplished the 1st national "Seismic hazard and risk assessment for Lebanon," the results of which were disseminated in local and specialized newspapers, conferences, and journals.

b) Gender perspectives on risk reduction and recovery adopted and institutionalized

Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Is gender disaggregated data available and being applied to decision-

making for risk reduction and recovery activities?: Yes

Do gender concerns inform policy and programme conceptualisation and implementation in a meaningful and appropriate way?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

As a part of the earlier accomplished assessment on gender, DRR, and the national disaster strategy recommendation on the integration of DRR with gender issues, the UNDP supported the National Commission for Lebanese Women (NCLW) and two NGOs with a grant to organize several workshops and trainings sessions for representatives of women's organisations and municipalities on the mitigation of the impact of disasters according to the Hyogo Convention, and to raise awareness and preparedness amongst women who may face risks resulting from natural disasters. All MoSA projects are integrating gender issues into their programs and are set up in all data sources. Centers have received training on gender through a project supported by ESCWA.

c) Capacities for risk reduction and recovery identified and strengthened

Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Do responsible designated agencies, institutions and offices at the local level have capacities for the enforcement of risk reduction regulations?: Yes

Are local institutions, village committees, communities, volunteers or urban resident welfare associations properly trained for response?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

Local authorities have faced both natural and man-made disasters in the past few decades, which has raised their response, reconstruction, and rehabilitation capabilities more than preparedness and mitigation.

In 2013, response plans were developed for the Caza of Byblos and the Union of Municipalities of Tripoli with the support of UNDP. Additionally, the Union of Municipalities of Tyr with the support of the CDC raised capacities for 60 local level authorities.

In 2014 response plans and crisis operations rooms have been developed for the Mouhafaza of North, Mouhafaza of South, Mouhafaza of Baalbek-Hermel, Caza of Chouf, Union of Municipalities of Tyre, Union of Municipalities of Dannieh benefiting hundreds of municipalities.

Approximately 300 cities have adopted the resilient cities campaign and have received awareness materials supporting their risk reduction measures: to save lives and safeguard development achievements at the local level.

Within this framework, the DRM Unit implemented in 2014 with the collaboration of UNISDR regional office a three day workshop aims to further develop the capacities of 70 local and regional government officials from 8 “Mouhafaza”, Governorates, 25 “Caza”/ districts and 25 local authorities with high presence of displaced Syrians in the Bekaa, North, South, and Mount Lebanon on disaster risk reduction including response by equipping them with the necessary tools on how to integrate disaster risk reduction in city planning and local development.

Additionally the Lebanese Red Cross has implemented a training of community members in First Aid and First Response which is a integral part of the program and in line with the National Response Plan. The CBDRR strengthens the community’s response to disaster risks was conducted in coordination with the local authorities which supports in reducing disaster impact and losses through increased disaster preparedness in terms of knowledge, capacities and equipment. Other trainings included trainings for First Responder training including drills. The ultimate objective is to have sufficient number of qualified LRC volunteers in CBDRR is rendering services for disaster management

d) Human security and social equity approaches integrated into disaster risk reduction and recovery activities

Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Do programmes take account of socio-environmental risks to the most vulnerable and marginalised groups?: Yes

Are appropriate social protection measures / safety nets that safeguard against their specific socioeconomic and political vulnerabilities being adequately implemented?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

The poverty program within the Ministry of Social Affairs takes social protection

measures of the marginalized and most vulnerable groups of people into account. However, due to a lack of financial resources there is no government fund for disaster reduction. Affected households and communities receive indemnities after disasters through the high relief committee. The government has previously given indemnities and support to farmers and fishermen.

Moreover as part of supporting vulnerable communities especially the hosting communities with highest influx of Syrian refugees the DRM Unit procured 1,000 new emergency kits to be distributed for replication purposes and supporting level stakeholders including municipalities with highest vulnerabilities and Syrian refugees.

e) Engagement and partnerships with non-governmental actors; civil society, private sector, amongst others, have been fostered at all levels

Levels of Reliance

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Are there identified means and sources to convey local and community experience or traditional knowledge in disaster risk reduction?: Yes

If so, are they being integrated within local, sub-national and national disaster risk reduction plans and activities in a meaningful way?: Yes

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

Within the national disaster strategy raising awareness and capacities is being implemented to local communities and NGOs among others.

Previous experience especially within man-made disasters such as the July war and explosions has given concerned stakeholders with wide experience and responding to disasters.

The Ministry of Social Affairs has partnered with the private sector NGO's in the sectors of displaced poor people and single mothers and received support from private sector on psychological first aid as a result of 2006 war through debriefing sessions for the ministry centers in cooperation with University Saint Joseph.

Contextual Drivers of Progress

Levels of Reliance



Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who)

The Lebanese Government has been working for the past couple of years with the support of UNDP to strengthen the institutional framework and system for disaster risk management, and to develop a comprehensive disaster risk reduction strategy, with a broader focus on disaster preparedness, response and mitigation.

Much progress has been accomplished in record time, nevertheless the years to come

are as essential.

Currently and as a result of the Syrian crisis focus is being placed on improving the Lebanese Government's capacities for emergency preparedness and response to man-made and natural disasters and crisis. This crisis as well as lack of financial and human resources has put extra pressure and impeded the desired progress in relation to the HFA.

Meanwhile the proposed laws and the establishment of the National Disaster Management Agency entails a long process which requires lots of time, effort and finance to be in place and implemented.

Currently the government is focusing on preparedness and response at the national, sectorial and local level in a comprehensive, coordinated, and effective manner. Nevertheless emphasis within the coming years should also include investing in DRR, preparedness, mitigation and early warning as well as continued work on raising awareness and ensuring fast recovery.

Lebanon will continue integrating DRR considerations into development planning of critical economic and social sectors to reduce vulnerability of development infrastructure and assets and mainstreaming DRR into Educational sector through awareness and tailored trainings as well as supporting development of a DRM master's program within universities to build capacities and enhance local DRR resources.

At the local level enhancing local and community capacity for disaster risk reduction to reduce losses to life and property remains a necessity by implementing several actions including the reduction of physical and organizational vulnerabilities of municipal institutions and services and supporting the proper integration of DRR into Municipal Development Planning within policies.

Future Outlook

Future Outlook Area 1

The more effective integration of disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all levels, with a special emphasis on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction.

Overall Challenges

The main challenge in integrating disaster risk consideration remains in the low level of awareness and capacities on the process and methods of integrating disaster risk reduction measures into projects, plans and strategies and on highlighting how this will have a positive impact on development goals.

Another challenge remains in investing in prevention and mitigation measures, focus remains on relief with a shift on response this is mainly due to the lack of funds and no budgets available for DRR within concerned agencies.

Moreover the national disaster strategy which gives a holistic approach and integrates DRR still needs to be implemented; holistic strategies need to be formulated including action plans with cross cutting issues.

Communities' awareness need to be raised so that they too can participate and advocate for the integration of DRR considerations starting from the local level.

Moreover, the Syrian crisis has hampered many of the development goals with the pressure it has put on the country at large as such more funds to DRR should be allocated especially since Lebanon is susceptible to natural and man-made disasters and where the pressure is on inadequate infrastructure has been heavily increased due to the Syrian refugees which is the highest in the region if not in the world accounting to about 1/3 of the population.

Future Outlook Statement

The establishment of the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) remains a major objective since it will support unifying efforts and integrating DRR within policies and programs across the different levels of the government.

Work will continue to mobilize resources and efforts for the establishment of the NDMA, however prior to this, the approval of the law and establishment of the NDMA by the parliament is needed.

The assessments implemented within the previous years will continue to be disseminated especially to decision makers at multiple levels for the integration of DRR within national, sectoral and local level programs and policies.

The further development of the NOR and the integration of DRR into critical sectors as well as the establishment of the Mobile Operations Room to help support national efforts.

Future Outlook Area 2

The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards.

Overall Challenges

Despite the progress accomplished in developing several hazard maps and assessments, Lebanon still needs to work on developing holistic maps and assessments that will support in strengthening concerned agencies and hence strengthening country resilience.

There is still a need to have capacity development at different levels including trainings on DRR measures as well as some tailored trainings such as social and psychological support for communities at risk for the Ministry of Social Affairs and Ministry of Education among others

Another challenge remains in the implementation of administrative decentralization, which supports the implementation of DRR and raise capacities across the different levels of institutions.

Future Outlook Statement

Within the framework of developing capacities, training of trainers and a special curriculum on DRR concepts will be introduced to all public servants and military in order to support strengthening institutions and build resilience.

Moreover, to support having national human resource capacities on DRM, an interdisciplinary Disaster Management Masters Program will be developed, including (but not restricted to) the following courses focusing on the three levels of disaster management: Disaster Risk Reduction and preparedness, response and recovery for the effective prevention and management and recovery of different disaster situations.

Capacities of critical sectors, local authorities, and communities in high risk areas will be enhanced and they will be equipped with methods, tools, and equipment to allow them to respond to different types of disasters through direct support, such as developing their response plan and crisis management centers. A mass media

campaign for communities will be implemented to increase their knowledge on what to do before, during, and after emergencies and disasters as a part of the national awareness campaign on risk reduction, response, and safety measures. The website and mobile applications will be launched and promoted so as to build as many capacities as possible.

Future Outlook Area 3

The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities.

Overall Challenges

Due to the lack of budget emergency preparedness is still weak, most sectors and as a result of not having DRR budgets have not yet integrated DRR approaches in their programs .

Additionally, the general lack of specialized human resources in DRR within institutions and communities who can have an added value and who can support the integration of DRR approaches

Despite the fact that in 2013 some tailored trainings on recovery were implemented, the process of DRR integration within reconstruction is a long process especially the concept of building better and more resilient especially at the household levels.

Coordination among different agencies in disasters is making sound progress as a result of the Prime Minister's decision 41/2013, calling for the formation of a committee to coordinate national disaster and crisis response. Nevertheless there is still a need to more efficiently coordinate efforts in relation to disasters, especially between local authorities and agencies.

Moreover, there is an urgent need for a centralized national operations room, mobile operations room, sectorial crisis management rooms, and regional operations room. These tools will facilitate coordination and ensure proper response, especially within the golden hours of disasters

Future Outlook Statement

The Syrian crisis has caused a shift in focus on response, and the near future will focus on the implementation of the National Response Plan, including the establishment of the national operations room, mobile operations room, and emergency crisis cells at the sectorial and regional levels. They will serve communities, ensuring coordination between different agencies in response to

natural and man-made disasters. This will be associated with training sessions, drills, and simulations, which will be evaluated so as to better incorporate DRR approaches that will increase the efficiency and resilience of communities in the future.

Stakeholders

Organizations, departments, and institutions that have contributed to the report

Organization	Organization type	Focal Point
Presidency of the Council of Ministers Ministry of Defence: Army Command, Air Force, Operations, Directorate of Geography Higher Defense Council High Relief Committee Ministry of Interior and Municipalities : civil defense - Internal Security Forces	Governments	Ms. Nathalie Zaarour - ProjectManager Disaster Risk Management Unit- HFA Technical Focal Point