



Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh



Workshop on Disaster Recovery Planning

Dhaka, Bangladesh

25-27 May 2015

Concept Note

Rationale

The concept of “Build Back Better” is emphasized in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, which was adopted at the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in March 2015 in Sendai, Japan. In support of implementing Priority 4 of the Framework, the International Recovery Platform (IRP) serves as an international mechanism for sharing of experience and learning among countries and all relevant stakeholders.

The accumulated lessons from past experiences serve as rationale for proposing key actions on recovery, including the development of disaster recovery plan (pre and post). Firstly, while governments have implemented large-scale recovery and reconstruction programs in the wake of certain disasters, success hinges upon the availability of and access to skills, knowledge and resources from a remarkably diverse community of stakeholders. Secondly, despite ongoing and expanding efforts to minimize hazard impacts through disaster risk reduction, risks cannot always be completely eliminated. The recovery function remains relevant and necessary given that catastrophic events continue to occur at an alarming frequency. Finally, the post-disaster recovery response has been increasingly plagued by significant time-gaps, a lack of continuous attention by international and national partners, declining resource commitments and lack of proper analyses of reasons for failure. Often, recovery momentum tends to slow following post-disaster assessments, making it hard to plan and implement later stages of recovery and reconstruction. Even with so many capacity building efforts, nations still face serious limitations in terms of planning and implementing recovery processes.

Against this backdrop, a workshop on disaster recovery planning is expected to benefit countries in addressing the gaps experienced in recovery. In the case of Bangladesh, the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) recognized the need for strategic options that will further reduce the impacts of disaster. The MoDMR advocates the “build back better” principle of recovery to seize the opportunity to correct the limitations and failures of previous practices, policies, and programs. As pointed out during the first Stakeholders Consultation Workshop on Disaster Recovery Planning, 9-10 December 2014, Bangladesh is experiencing recovery gaps in knowledge, practice, and resource. First, the concept of recovery is not yet fully integrated in the policies and planning instruments of the Government such that recovery is not clearly articulated in the Standing Orders on Disaster (SOD) and National Plan for Disaster Management. Second, recovery plans and efforts are not yet fully aligned with the long-term development agenda. For instance, the Disaster Management Act of 2012 does not stipulate predictable funding for recovery. Third, stakeholders and other key actors are not yet fully engaged and coordinated to take on recovery functions after a disaster – as there is no existing mechanism for cooperation in the context of recovery. The workshop is expected to provide guidance on addressing these challenges.

Objectives

This three-day event is expected to achieve the following objectives:

1. Key government officials and relevant stakeholders are oriented with recovery concepts, including “build back better”, case studies, and tools (e.g. guidance notes) – specifically in relation to Priority 4 of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

2. Participants will be able to deliberate the strategies and actions on recovery, and reflect these in drafting the Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan of Bangladesh
3. Participants will be able to come up with list of responsibilities on recovery to be recommended for integration in the responsibilities of the Inter-Ministerial Disaster Management Coordination Committee (IMDCC) in the Standing Orders on Disaster (SOD) which is now an integral part of the Disaster Management Act 2012

The workshop builds on the substantial experience of government officials, aiming to provide an opportunity for improved understanding and abilities to incorporate risk reduction into recovery. It also contributes to: (i) build a critical mass of professionals in national governments oriented towards resilient recovery who can inform the recovery processes in the country as well as advocate for “build back better”, (ii) provide guidance for officials managing recovery programs through the benefit of prior global experiences, (iii) facilitate support for more effective management of recovery after major disasters, and (iv) disseminate references and resources on recovery, reflecting the best of global knowledge.

Expected Outcomes

- Convened and activated the IMDCC, and integrated the recovery agendas in its responsibilities
- List of strategies and actions to be integrated in the Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan of Bangladesh, including commitments to move forward
- Government officials and other stakeholders were oriented with recovery and committed to push related policy and legislation

Participants

Recovery planning is a process that requires involvement of different organizational and sectoral partners. With the central and/or local government in the lead (subject to the scale of the process), the workshop may also enlists the engagement of regional inter-governmental organizations, UN Country team, national platforms members (as available), and the multi-lateral development banks.

Most importantly, the expertise required from different ministries and key government agencies is essential in recovery planning to facilitate broader and holistic outputs. In this regard, it is important the following ministries and offices.

Organizers

- Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR)
- Institute of Strategic Recovery Studies for Disaster Resilience and Research (ISRSDRR)
- International Recovery Platform (IRP)
- Islamic Relief
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)



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Tentative Agenda

Day 1	
09:00~09:30	Registration
09:30~11:00	Panel Discussion: Overview of Recovery Issues in Bangladesh - Government - Academia - Civil Society - IRP Partners Moderator: (tbc)
11:00~11:15	Tea Break
11:15~12:00	Inauguration - Guests of Honor - UNDP Resident Coordinator (tbc) - Chair of the International Recovery Platform
12:00~13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduction to Disaster Recovery ● Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning
13:00~14:00	Lunch
14:00~14:45	Infrastructure (case studies)
14:45~15:30	Shelter (case studies)
15:30~17:00	<u>Workshop 1: Shelter & Infrastructure</u> (including presentations & 15 minutes tea break)
Day 2	
09:00~10:00	Recovery Tools: Introduction to PDNA (UNDP)
10:00~11:00	Recovery Planning: The Case of Japan
11:00~11:15	Tea Break
11:15~11:45	Health (case studies)
11:45~12:30	Psychosocial (case studies)
12:30~13:00	<u>Workshop 2: Health & Psychosocial</u>
13:00~14:00	Lunch
14:00~15:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Climate Change (case studies) - Environment (case studies)
15:00~17:00	<u>Workshop 3: Climate Change, & Environment</u> (including presentation of outputs & 15 minutes tea break)
Day 3	
09:00~09:30	Governance (case studies)
09:30~10:00	Livelihoods (case studies)
10:00~11:00	Gender (case studies)
11:00~11:15	Tea Break
11:15~12:15	Financing Recovery (GFDRR)
12:15~13:00	<u>Workshop 4: Governance, Livelihoods, Gender, and Financing</u> (including presentation of outputs & 15 minutes tea break)
13:00~14:00	Lunch

14:00~16:30	Way Forward <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Proposed Recovery Responsibilities of the IMDMCC- Activation of IMDMCC- Build National Platform on DRR (as stipulated in the SOD) through organizing programs on mainstreaming DRR into different development sectors, health, education, livelihood, etc.- Key elements for Draft Pre-Disaster Recovery Plan of Bangladesh- Proposed Policy Recommendations for the Disaster Management Plan of Bangladesh
16:30~17:00	Closing (including evaluation, feedback, and distribution of certificates)