STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Strengthening National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction

With experience in Kyrgyz Republic

Editors:

Ministry of Emergency Situations of Kyrgyz Republic
Secretariat of the National Platform for DRR of Kyrgyz Republic

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Strategic Directions on Strengthening National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction.
With experience in Kyrgyz Republic

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Strategic Directions on Strengthening National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction.
With experience in Kyrgyz Republic

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Disaster Risk Reduction

2015
Strategic directions for strengthening national platforms for disaster risk reduction

Table of content

Table of content .............................................................................................................................................. 2
Introduction ....................................................................................................................................................... 5
The Purpose of Strategic Directions for enhancing National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction................................................................................................................................. 5
Background ....................................................................................................................................................... 6
Strategic directions on strengthening National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction. 7
   Directions on institutional strengthening of national platform for disaster risk reduction ................................................................. 7
   DIRECTION 1. Take organizational and practical measures for institutionalization of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction .............................................................................. 8
   DIRECTION 2. Take organizational and practical measures for identification of a public authority to deal with the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction ........................................ 8
   DIRECTION 3. Take organizational and practical measures to establish a working body of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and ensure its full functionality ........................................................................................................... 8
   Directions on capacity development of national platform for DRR ......................................................................................................................... 9
   DIRECTION 4. Organize and conduct comprehensive analysis of the current status of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction ............................................................................. 9
   DIRECTION 5. Develop strategic recommendations for DRR on national level through involvement all relevant stakeholder .............................................................................................................. 10
   DIRECTION 6. Develop a national action plan for disaster risk reduction (for a certain period: the mid-term and / or long-term) ............................................................................................................................. 10
   Directions on strengthening collaboration of national platform for DRR on local, national, regional and international level ................................................................. 11
   DIRECTION 7. Develop and establish a strong coordination mechanism for DRR that acts on national, sub-national, local, international levels. The mechanism shall be national platform for DRR ......................................................................................................................... 11
   DIRECTION 8. Strengthen and emphasize the value of collaboration with international organizations, regional and sub-regional organizations, with national, regional and global platforms for DRR ................................................................................................. 12
   DIRECTION 9. Increase the effectiveness of the National Platform for DRR by creating, strengthening and empowering local platforms for disaster risk reduction (at the level of administrative areas, cities, districts) ............................................................................................................................. 13
   DIRECTION 10. Enhance the effectiveness of measures for the collection and exchange of useful information in order to increase knowledge, competence and awareness of all stakeholders in disaster risk reduction ......................................................................................................................... 13
### Acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BCPR</td>
<td>Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG ECHO</td>
<td>European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department</td>
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<tr>
<td>DKKV</td>
<td>German National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction</td>
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<td>DRR</td>
<td>Disaster Risk Reduction</td>
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<td>GIZ</td>
<td>German Society for International Cooperation</td>
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<td>IFRC</td>
<td>International Federation of the Red Cross</td>
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<td>ISDR</td>
<td>International Strategy for Disaster Reduction</td>
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<td>JICA</td>
<td>Japan International Cooperation Agency</td>
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<td>MES</td>
<td>Ministry of Emergency Situations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPDRR</td>
<td>National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFDA</td>
<td>Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance</td>
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<tr>
<td>PDNA</td>
<td>Global Methodology to assess damage, loss and needs</td>
</tr>
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<td>RCS</td>
<td>Red Crescent Societies</td>
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<td>SFDRR</td>
<td>Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>SNP DRR KR</td>
<td>Secretariat of National Platform for DRR of the Kyrgyz Republic</td>
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<tr>
<td>SWOT</td>
<td>Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNHCR</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
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<td>WFP</td>
<td>World Food Organization</td>
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<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
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<td>UNDP</td>
<td>Development Programme of the United Nations</td>
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<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>United Nations Children's Fund</td>
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<td>USAID</td>
<td>United States Agency for International Development</td>
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Introduction

Most countries in the world were exposed to large-scale natural hazards, accidents and catastrophes that caused significant human and material losses. During the last decade (2005-2014) alone, disasters claimed more than 700,000 lives, injured more than 1.4 million people, and left about 23 million people homeless. In general disasters somehow affected more than 1.5 billion people. Total economic losses have exceeded US$1.3 trillion. Besides, between 2008 and 2012, 144 million people were forced to relocate away from disasters (ISDR, 2015). Magnitude of disasters increased in frequency and intensity, and those disasters, which are intensified by the effects of climate change, might have caused significant barriers towards achieving progress in sustainable development.

All countries aim to unite their efforts to improve disaster risk reduction through further strengthening of bilateral, multilateral, regional and international cooperation and global partnership. Disaster risk reduction (DRR) is a cross-cutting and complex subject, which requires political and legal commitment, public understanding, and support from all stakeholders, scientific knowledge, careful development planning, and effective disaster risk reduction mechanisms (ISDR, 2008).

Therefore, the National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR), which involve all stakeholders, who are possessing combined knowledge, skills and resources, having a solid institutional frameworks appear to be as most appropriate to advocate on issues related to DRR. NPDRR having clearly defined responsibilities and authorities, shall be devoted and committed to serve as the coordination mechanism in the implementation of the whole set of measures on disaster risk reduction at the national and local levels, in relation to the context of each country.

The Purpose of Strategic Directions for enhancing National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction

The strategic directions on strengthening National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction are intended for use by all stakeholders as a guiding document or manual, which proposes a list of rational options of organizational and practical actions that aim at strengthening the capacity, increasing efficiency and effectiveness of National platforms for disaster risk reduction.

The given “Strategic directions on enhancing National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction” are developed:

- by referring to experience of collaboration of the National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction of Germany and Kyrgyzstan, implemented during the period 2014-2015 within the framework of the joint project: ”National platform for DRR and stakeholder in Kyrgyz Republic: enhancing capacity and contribute to sustainable development through coordination and cooperation”;
- developed by a group of experts of National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction of Germany and Kyrgyzstan, with the technical assistance of the German National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (DKKV);
- developed with the financial support of the German Federal Foreign Office and the German Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development;
- by referring to the strategic recommendations provided by stakeholders and partner organizations that contribute to DRR in Kyrgyzstan: Local authorities and national government agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO), Academic institutions, humanitarian organizations, foundations;
- by referring to the “Guidelines for National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction”, developed by the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR);
► developed in line with the priorities for action of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) (2015-2030).

Background

The National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction worldwide represent unique multi-stakeholder mechanisms for coordination of the disaster risk reduction at the national level with key in-country stakeholders. In 2012-2013 DKKV upheld a National Platforms Capacity Review coordinated by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) with a voluntary contribution of fifty (50) international national coordination mechanisms for disaster risk reduction. The Review Report strongly recognized the unique and added value of stakeholders, and recommended an increased and more visible role of National Platforms in supporting risk governance and in influencing the disaster risk reduction decision-making process. In line with the above, many processes have been undertaken especially focusing on strengthening national ownership of development processes in disaster risk reduction in particular for disaster preparedness and prevention.

The German Committee for DRR (DKKV) and the Kyrgyz Republic National Platform for DRR have implemented the joint project "National platform for DRR and stakeholder in Kyrgyz Republic: enhancing capacity and contribute to sustainable development through coordination and cooperation" (2014-2015). Following measures and achievements came out during the project:

► the comprehensive SWOT-analysis of the current situation, current status of the Kyrgyz Republic National Platform for DRR - a national coordination mechanism of public authorities, international, non-governmental organizations and civil society on disaster risk reduction for the following four main categories: strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats / risks;
► scale-up of capacity and enhance the importance of the National Platform of the Kyrgyz Republic for Disaster Risk Reduction within the state system of civil protection;
► assistance in improving the planning of available structures, policies, rules and expectations in terms of DRR and preparedness at the national level;
► implementation of effective measures to ensure the stability of the whole complex of measures for DRR at the national and local levels in cooperation with all stakeholders;
► assistance in improving analysis and review of coordination mechanisms related to DRR and preparedness at the national and local levels;
► promotion the consolidation of an integrated approach with the current processes and structures to enhance complementarities and minimize duplication of existing coordination mechanisms for disaster preparedness and prevention;
► strengthening cooperation mechanism of NP DRR KR with various stakeholders at the regional, national and sub-national level;
► identifying and securing the legal status of the Secretariat of the NP KR for DRR;
► strengthening an expertise and technical capacity of the Secretariat of the Kyrgyz Republic NP DRR.

The collaboration between the National Platform of Germany for DRR and the National Platform of the Kyrgyz Republic for DRR has led to a significant increase of coordination role and resource potential of the National Platform of Kyrgyzstan for Disaster Risk Reduction. That clearly contributed to strengthening of the stability of the population and territory of the country to the impact of disasters for ensuring sustainable development and obtaining best practices, which served as a foundation for the development of these recommendations for strengthening National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction.
The German Committee for Disaster Reduction is a National Platform in Germany, established in 2000 and is an authorized center for disaster risk reduction within the framework of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), whose activities focus on DRR at national, European and international levels.

The National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction of the Kyrgyz Republic, established in 2011, is a mechanism to assist in coordination of governmental agencies, international, non-governmental organizations and civil society on disaster risk reduction.

Strategic directions on strengthening National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction

Directions on institutional strengthening of national platform for disaster risk reduction

The National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, as a national mechanism, is normally comprised of various stakeholder groups and responsible for coordination as well as analysis on areas of priority requiring concerted action in the country.

The National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction thus is a mechanism that represents countries interest for DRR where normally national agencies play leading role. In such case, the government when establishing National Platform for DRR should determine the authority that would lead coordination and provide full support for the work of the platform.

However, in order to achieve more efficient disaster reduction in the country the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR) shall be affiliated to government. This shall entitle national platform to certain relevant legitimacy in order to represent country with questions related to DRR. Parallel national platform shall have legal status according to country standards with defined tasks, functions, powers and all related aspects so that the so called ‘authority’ becomes independent when it comes to acquire financial resources. All the attributes authorize NPDRR to be in a sufficiently high position for make decisions within the mandate of the NPDRR e.g. dealing with all various stakeholders on national and international levels.

Review of the National Platforms for DRR, conducted in 2012-2013 showed that NPs for DRR work more effectively in those countries that have established relevant working bodies, which arrange direct implementation of tasks and functions assigned to NPs for DRR on regular basis or in case of emergencies. The working bodies need to have an appropriate coordination and monitoring structure that involve relevant expertise and technical capability and is capable to address the issues related to public administration or funding.

Following the guiding principles of Sendai Framework for DRR 2015-2030 it is necessary to ensure that the central governments and relevant national authorities, sectors and stakeholders are collectively responsible for DRR with due regard to national conditions and management systems. Disaster risk reduction requires the involvement and partnership at the level of the whole society, as well as ensuring an inclusive, barrier-free and non-discriminatory participation of all stakeholders, including those who are most affected by disasters, especially the most vulnerable categories of the population (SFDRR, 2015).
DIRECTION 1. Take organizational and practical measures for institutionalization of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

Examples of practical experience in capacity building of the National Platform for DRR in Kyrgyzstan

In Kyrgyzstan, with the technical and financial assistance from UNDP, the German Committee for Disaster Reduction (hereinafter DKKV) and other international organizations, many organizational and practical activities are being initiated during the last decade. Realization of all activities (stakeholder meetings, capacity building for experts, capacity development within different authorities etc.) lead to result that the Kyrgyz Republic National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction will obtain a legal status. This will be enshrined in the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic on “Civil Protection”. Tasks, functions, responsibilities and operating procedures will be determined through the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic.

DIRECTION 2. Take organizational and practical measures for identification of a public authority to deal with the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

Examples of practical experience in capacity building of the National Platform for DRR in Kyrgyzstan

The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic accordingly authorized the public authority to lead and coordinate the Disaster Risk Reduction related activities of the Kyrgyz Republic National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. It is the Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES) of the Kyrgyz Republic, which perform under unified state policy in the field of Civil Protection, fire, radiation safety, water safety and hydrometeorology. The MES KR that currently provides daily management of the Kyrgyz Republic National Platform for DRR coordinates, monitors and supports activities of the platform.

DIRECTION 3. Take organizational and practical measures to establish a working body of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and ensure its full functionality

Examples of practical experience in capacity building of the National Platform for DRR in Kyrgyzstan

In Kyrgyzstan, the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic, with technical and financial support from UNDP, the German National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and other international organizations, has taken measures as a result of which the Kyrgyz Republic National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction established working body. It is a Secretariat which organizes the implementation of the assigned tasks, functions on a regular basis, and is an active supporter of DRR in the country. The Secretariat of the National Platform of the Kyrgyz Republic for DRR was founded in 2011 in Bishkek, composes of four experts and it is located in Bishkek. Today it is equipped with all the necessary expertise and technical capacity, office space.
Directions on capacity development of national platform for DRR

Prior to strengthen National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction, it is necessary to conduct comprehensive analysis of the current situation of the national mechanism and past methods used for coordinating activities of the public authorities, international, non-governmental organizations and civil society in disaster risk reduction. Based on the proven practical experience of collaboration of the National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction of Germany and Kyrgyzstan, in order to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the current capacity of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, it is recommended to organize and carry out activities such as seminars, workshops, etc. Capacity assessment at the same time shall be conducted against the national plans of action for disaster risk reduction and sustainable development.

National platforms for disaster risk reduction representing national mechanisms are normally comprised of multiple stakeholders. The platforms aim to ensure coordination, conduct various analysis and are required to make an advocacy on the priority areas in DRR. In order to fulfill their role national platform is expected to proceed based on implementation of goal-oriented perspectives and action-oriented strategies, programs and plans. Further, national platforms shall ensure the inclusion of the decision making authorities and key stakeholders for sustainable development and climate risk reduction, since the expected DRR outcomes of the Sendai Framework depend on the actions of these parties.

Today's experience show that during development of the National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction for the medium or long-term period, it is advisable to focus on international strategic policy documents regulating the international obligations, basic principles, goals, objectives and actions to strengthen the world-wide activities in DRR. The National Action Plan for DRR at the same time is proposed to be developed for medium or long-term period and should concentrate on the global strategic document that defines the priority directions on disaster reduction for the period after 2015. This is indicated in the Sendai Program for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 -2030 that was adopted at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction on March 18, 2015 in Sendai, Japan.

DIRECTION 4. Organize and conduct comprehensive analysis of the current status of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

Examples of practical experience in capacity building of the National Platform for DRR in Kyrgyzstan

- Within the joined project, the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic (MES), the German Committee for Disaster Risk Reduction (hereinafter DKKV), the Secretariat of National Platform for DRR of the Kyrgyz Republic (the SNP DRR KR), together with specialists and experts from all interested parties (government agencies, academic institutions, international and non-governmental organizations, civil society) conducted an analysis of the current capacity of the Kyrgyz National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. Therefore, was conducted sectorial, transdisciplinary analysis and SWOT analysis. Sectorial analysis focused on explaining current objective and responsibilities of different thematic sectors within the DRR, explaining roles and expectations to NP. The transdisciplinary analysis concentrated on mixed stakeholder groups reviewing obligations, relationships and working as reporting procedures within the existing plans for action, activities, procedures and regulations (including relevance to Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction) with existing coordination mechanisms for DRR and preparedness and prevention; reviewing and map existing collaboration and cooperation indicating thematic or technical areas; and identifying main areas that need to be
reviewed in order to improve national platform and its cooperation with stakeholders. Developing strategic recommendations with possible plan for action. The SWOT analysis considered Institutional development, partnerships and roles and responsibilities of the platform in processes related to DRR. The analysis led to identification of five main areas that need to be reviewed: coordination, cooperation, funding, public awareness and preparedness for disaster. The analysis resulted into the interactive platform where stakeholder had an opportunity to exchange their experience and expertise and look for joint solutions in the future; to develop joint recommendations for their organizations as for policy makers.

DIRECTION 5. Develop strategic recommendations for DRR on national level through involvement all relevant stakeholder

In Kyrgyzstan, in order to develop National Action Plan for DRR for the period from 2016 to 2030, an expert working group comprised of the representatives of all stakeholders was established under NP DRR. This expert working group, with technical and financial support of DKKV and UNDP developed a draft of the National Action Plan for DRR for the period up to 2030. This draft of the Action Plan considered the voluntary intentions and commitment of Kyrgyzstan to take all necessary measures to implement the proposed deliverables, objectives, guidelines and priorities of Sendai Programme for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. That is planned to be implemented in cooperation with donor agencies, international organizations, non-governmental sector and other interested parties. Hereafter the draft of the National Action Plan was sent to all interested parties to consider, making amendments and additions. Then a Round Table was held to provide final discussions and agreement, that subsequently was submitted the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic for formal approval and adoption.
Directions on strengthening collaboration of national platform for DRR on local, national, regional and international level

The aforementioned government agencies and organizations, regardless of their departmental affiliation and forms of ownership, bear the main responsibility for preventing and reducing the risk of disasters, including through cooperation at the international, regional, sub-regional, cross-border and bilateral levels. In order to strengthen the role of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and consider it as a key coordinating mechanism for overall cooperation, coordination and harmonization of measures to prevent and reduce disaster risk is necessary to involve all stakeholders in the National Platform for DRR and provide their well-coordinated work.

The National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction should seek to ensure that the international community would view the country as a strong and reliable partner, which clearly adheres to its international obligations and norms of international law. International cooperation on the other side as genuine and lasting partnership at regional and international levels should be ensured in accordance with national priorities and needs.

To ensure successful and efficient functioning of the National Platform for DRR in order to reduce disaster risk at the local level, it should mandatorily establish, strengthen and assure the efficiency of the local platforms for disaster risk reduction. It is through them one can work closely with all stakeholders in the field, including local authorities, local governments, NGOs and the private sector, local communities, women, children and young people, the disabled, the elderly, the poor, migrants, volunteers, as well as other segments of the population. Therefore, it is of high value to consider the inclusion of sustainable development climate action related departments/agencies at the local leve.

The effectiveness of the National Platform for DRR is largely dependent on the quality and management of useful information, knowledge and experience exchange. This can be achieved through compiling of databases, building expertise, exchange of research results, lessons learned and best practices. This information should incorporate relevant traditional and indigenous knowledge, cultural heritage, and should be tailored to different target groups, taking into account cultural and social factors. The Sendai Framework highlights importance of cross cutting aspects of information referred to in - age and gender dis-aggregated data, inclusion of information on specifically vulnerable groups.

DIRECTION 7. Develop and establish a strong coordination mechanism for DRR that acts on national, sub-national, local, international levels. The mechanism shall be national platform for DRR

Examples of practical experience in building of the National Platform for DRR in Kyrgyzstan

The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, represented by authorized state body - MES KR, almost immediately after the creation of the NP DRR KR in 2011 invited all stakeholders to carry out all their activities in the field of DRR at all levels only within the Kyrgyz Republic National Platform for DRR, while preserving a leadership and coordination role. With the support from DKKV, UNDP, UNISDR, UNICEF and other international organizations, held conferences, meetings, seminars, trainings and other events. This, by solving certain problems in the field of disaster risk reduction eventually led to the strengthening of the role of the Kyrgyz Republic National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the overall cooperation, coordination and harmonization of measures at the national, local, international, regional levels.
Strategic directions for strengthening national platforms for disaster risk reduction

sub-regional, levels. They were organized and held according to the work frame of the Kyrgyz Republic National Platform for DRR. Since its formation in 2011, NP DRR KR held organizational and practical activities on all levels and in cooperation with all stakeholders, which resulted in the following: integrate disaster risk reduction issues into the National Sustainable Development strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2013-2017; Implementation Plan for the Strategy of complex safety of the population and territory of the Kyrgyz Republic in emergency and crisis situations until 2020, Action Plan to establish a framework for the involvement of local authorities in the process of emergency management in the Kyrgyz Republic for 2012-2016 etc.

DIRECTION 8. Strengthen and emphasize the value of collaboration with international organizations, regional and sub-regional organizations, with national, regional and global platforms for DRR

Examples of practical experience in capacity building of the National Platform for DRR in Kyrgyzstan

Kyrgyzstan pays more and more attention to the strengthening of international cooperation by initiating and implementing joint strategies, concepts, agreements, contracts, programs and projects in the field of disaster risk reduction and emergency response. Accordingly, the National Platform for DRR during the past decades has greatly expanded and strengthened partnership with donor agencies, international organizations, non-governmental sector and other stakeholders. It is in cooperation with the World Bank, USAID, UNDP, UNICEF, DIPECHO Programme of the European Commission, the Government of Japan, JICA, UN Office for DRR, the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ), WFP, UNHCR and many other agencies in the implementation of the project activities. E.g., UNDP in Kyrgyzstan with the support of the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR), the Government of Japan under the project «Effective disaster risk management for sustainable development and human security» implements measures on accounting disaster risk reduction (DRR) in programming on sustainable development etc. With the support from UNICEF and with funding from OFDA and USAID, as part of the project «Reducing vulnerability of children to disasters in Kyrgyzstan» there was carried out extensive work on the survey and evaluation of more than 3000 educational institutions, including 2222 schools and specialized educational institutions and 806 kindergartens. The German Red Cross, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC & RCS), Austrian Red Cross, Red Crescent Societies of Kazakhstan as part of the DIPECHO project of the European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department (DG ECHO) on «Creation of sustainable communities by strengthening systems for disaster risk reduction» implement measures to strengthen the sustainability of communities and strengthen the capacity of national institutions. In the period of 2012-2015, in Kyrgyzstan there were organized and held 4 regional high-level events - the Ministerial Conferences and Meetings of heads and representatives of the emergency agencies and 3 events at the level of experts of the countries of Central Asia and South Caucasus, as well as other international events.
DIRECTION 9. Increase the effectiveness of the National Platform for DRR by creating, strengthening and empowering local platforms for disaster risk reduction (at the level of administrative areas, cities, districts)

Examples of practical experience in capacity building of the National Platform for DRR in Kyrgyzstan

In order to enhance the effectiveness of the National Platform for DRR at the local level, with technical support from international organizations, there have been steps to create Alliances of non-profit organizations (Alliances of NGOs) in the five main areas/lands of Kyrgyz Republic. The Alliances involve all NGOs that act in each area and are represented by executive boards. These Alliances in turn, joined the network of non-governmental organizations working in the area of DRR, environmental protection, youth policy and volunteering, as well as in other areas at the local level. It is the Alliances of NGOs that have implied the role of local platforms for disaster risk reduction. Through them issues of disaster risk reduction become more effective in addressing with all stakeholders in the field, including local authorities, local governments, NGOs and the private sector, local communities, women children and young people, the disabled, the elderly, the poor, migrants, volunteers, as well as other segments of the population.

DIRECTION 10. Enhance the effectiveness of measures for the collection and exchange of useful information in order to increase knowledge, competence and awareness of all stakeholders in disaster risk reduction

Examples of practical experience in capacity building of the National Platform for DRR in Kyrgyzstan

With the support from the World Bank, UNDP, the German National Platform for DRR (DKKV), WFP and other partners, in order to improve the collection and exchange of useful information as well as to enhance knowledge, preparedness and awareness of all stakeholders in the field of disaster risk reduction there have been: significantly improved the systems for natural hazards monitoring, early warning, hydro-meteorological service; modernized crisis management centers; created and developed the capacity of fire and rescue service, unified duty and dispatch service - 112 (analogue of 911), unified information and management system; created comprehensive database platforms in DRR which are open and accessible to all stakeholders; introduced geo-information systems to be used for DRR improved educational and methodological base; adapted at the national level the Global Methodology to assess damage, loss and needs (PDNA), and implemented a set of mitigation projects, including «green» projects, «safe city» projects, projects for rehabilitation and reclamation of tailings and many others projects. It is important that this activity gradually involves an increasing number of stakeholders which have started to understand that by presenting useful information available to them they participate in the creation of more advanced database platform in DRR, which eventually will be needed and useful to themselves in order to improve knowledge, awareness and preparedness in disaster risk reduction.
Strategic directions for strengthening national platforms for disaster risk reduction

According to Sendai Framework for Action:

Disaster risk management needs to be based on an understanding of disaster risk in all its dimensions of vulnerability, capacity, exposure of persons and assets, hazard characteristics and the environment.

The commitment, goodwill, knowledge, experience and resources of stakeholders are important to the implementation of the Sendai Framework. Reducing disaster is a shared responsibility for all stakeholders. States should encourage the participation of civil society in the form of volunteers and community-based organizations in DRR planning and implementation as well as raising public awareness and creating a culture of prevention and education on disaster risk.

For risk-informed decision-making, it is important to promote, and invest in, the definition of base lines, the conduct of risk assessments, the collection and dissemination of relevant, disaggregated data, including disaster losses, and practical information such as hazard maps making full use of scientific tools and methods. Knowledge should be shared across all levels of society including the private sector through training and education. International cooperation on technology transfer, data sharing and public awareness campaigns such as International Day for Disaster Reduction (October 13) should be encouraged.

Disaster risk governance at the national, regional and global levels is vital to the management of disaster risk. This requires integrating DRR in all sectors and ensuring the development of national and local strategies, the coherence of national and local frameworks of laws, regulations and public policies that, by defining roles and responsibilities, guide, encourage and incentivize the public and private sectors to take action and address disaster risk. Local authorities and parliamentarians should be actively engaged in the formulation of public policies e.g. addressing issues of prevention, or relocation, where possible, of human settlements in disaster risk zones. Public debate and scrutiny should be welcomed and encouraged.

It is necessary to incorporate DRR measures into multilateral and bilateral development assistance programmes within, and across, all sectors, as appropriate, and as related to poverty reduction, sustainable development, natural resource management, urban development and adaptation to climate change.
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