

MEETING OF THE NATIONAL PLATFORM FOR DRR: SENTRIM ELEMENTAITA LODGE, 29TH TO 30TH JUNE 2017

CONCEPT NOTE

Background

In Kenya, disaster losses are increasingly becoming a threat to people's lives and livelihoods with disaster risk accumulating rapidly overshadowing the Government's efforts to build resilience and sustainability in most regions. The scale of vulnerability and exposure to hazards and the resulting demand for humanitarian assistance is on the rise and will continue to rise owing to the increased frequency and intensity of extreme climate and severe weather events being observed today. Like many disaster settings, women and children are disproportionately affected due to their existing vulnerability, limited access to resources and means of building resilience to shocks. The situation is further exacerbated by resource competition leading to scarcity, drought, ecosystem degradation, livelihoods impoverishment, demographic changes, rapid urbanization and limited capacities to manage risks from natural, technological, and biological hazards including disease epidemics.

Currently, the country is undergoing through a major drought which has impacted on large portion of the country with 23 out of 47 counties affected. According to a short rains assessment carried out in the month of February 2017, over 2.7 million people have been affected and are in need of humanitarian assistance. Amongst those affected by the drought are over 430,000 children and 43,000 pregnant and lactating women. The situation is likely to deteriorate given the regional and national forecast of below normal rains during the long rains season expected between April to June. All these hazards are being experienced on the backdrop of Kenya having recently adopted a new constitution dispensation order that supports the devolved disaster risk reduction functions between the national and the county governments.

Disaster risk management in Kenya

The Government has taken several measures aimed at reducing loss of lives, livelihoods and properties arising from natural hazards and human induced disasters. These include the establishment of various institutional and legal mechanisms for dealing with disasters such as; the National Drought Management Authority (established after the 2011 drought); the National Disaster Operation Center; the National Disaster Management Unit (NDMU) all these supported by rapid response teams from the Kenya Defense Force (KDF); the Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC), the Kenya Red Cross (KRC) to mention but a few. At the local levels, the County Governments have incorporated disaster risk management into their County Integrated Development Plans (CIDP) and some have already established County Disaster Management

policies and strategies. The government is also at advanced stage of developing its policy and legal frameworks for disaster risk management.

Kenya's disaster challenge continues to be impacted by both global and regional factors including fragility and conflict in some its neighbouring countries, population migration and displacement, emerging risks such as terrorism among others. To support both levels of government to increase their capacity for prevention of new and emerging disaster risks, generate coherence between disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and socio-economic development issues, the national platform for DRR has been playing a critical role in DRM coordination, prioritization and advocacy risk communication, capacity development and strengthened institutional capacities and capabilities in implementing the Sendai Framework. The platform will play a critical role in the operationalization of the Africa Programme of Action adopted by AU early this year

The Sendai Framework recognizes the need for inclusivity in reduction disaster risk and the critical role played by women in reducing disaster risk and in building resilience to future shocks. It emphasizes that "women and their participation are critical to effectively managing disaster risk and designing, resourcing and implementing gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes; and adequate capacity building measures need to be taken to empower women for preparedness as well as build their capacity for alternate livelihood means in post-disaster situations." While during the WHS, there were widespread calls at the Summit for gender equality, women's empowerment and women's rights to become pillars of humanitarian action. Therefore, gender mainstreaming efforts will continue to be strengthened in the DRM plans, policies and strategies, including the coordination structures.

Kenya has always participated and made immense contribution to all the post 2015 processes; the Sendai Framework, the Paris Agreement; the Sustainable Development Goals and the World Humanitarian Summit all aimed at improving the economic and social welfare of communities and countries. At the national level, the implementation of these international agreements has to be done in line with countries constitution and strategic plans in case of the Kenya, the vision 2030 through its structured MPT plans.

Recently, the Africa continent at the 6th Session of its Regional Platform for DRR (AfRP) back to back with the 5th High Level Meeting of the African Ministers responsible for DRR adopted two important documents; the Mauritius Declaration and the Programme of Action (PoA) for the implementation of the Sendai Framework in Africa. These two outcomes also formed the basis for the development of the Africa position presented by the Africa Union Commission to the 5th Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Cancun, Mexico.

The proposed meeting of the National Platform will offer an excellent opportunity to share Information on these important outcomes and put our DRR practitioners to speed with the recommendations therein.

The 5th Global Platform for DRR

The fifth session of the Global Platform DRR, which was hosted by the government of Mexico, took place in Mexico- Cancun on May the 22nd- 26th 2017. The platform brought together governments; CSOs, Academia, Private sector, donors and UN Agencies to deliberate on how accelerate implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. The theme of the conference was **“Turning words into Action”** indeed addressing the question of how the commitments would be turned into reality and durable actions. The platform had several main sessions and as well as side events, it had the ignite stage and market place which allowed all key stakeholders to show case their work in DRR. The platform also provided a rare opportunity to interact with our government delegations and most people used the space to influence government positions. The key outcome of this platform was the Chair’s summary and a communiqué including several sector specific recommendations including the need to mainstreaming gender in order to reduce gender inequality of risk. The National Platform for DRR in Kenya needs to be brought up to speed on these outcomes.

National Platform meeting objectives

1. Review the progress and current status on disaster risk management at both the national and county levels based on the national Disaster Risk Reduction work plan (2016-2020);
2. Share and take stock of sector specific DRR/M activities;
3. Receive updates on drought situation in Kenya;
4. Receive updates on the country’s preparedness in the run-up to the upcoming General elections including the business continuity plans;
5. Receive the outcome of the 5th Global platform for DRR; and
6. Revisit Work plans for Sendai Framework Thematic areas working groups
7. Share some best practice in mainstreaming gender in disaster risk reduction plans

Expected outcomes

1. Recommendations and wayward in accelerating the implementation of Sendai Framework for Action in Kenya
2. Share knowledge on the current trends and practices on DRR activities from various sectors
3. Plans for future activities of the National platform for DRR
4. Action plans to strengthen the integration of gender in the DRM plans

Tentative Agenda

National Platform for DRR: 29-30 June 2017, Sentrim Elementaita Lodge	
Day0: 28 June 2017	Arrival in Elementaita
Day2: 29 June 2017 8:30 -10:00	Opening session Objectives and expected outcomes Working modalities Presentation on the outcome of Global Platform on DRR, 2017 & the lead up process
Tea/Coffee Break 10:00 -10:30	
SECTORAL INITIATIVES IN DRR	
10:30 - 10:45	Government/Interior/Devolution (NDOC) – DRM Policy 2017 & the three DRM legislative proposals
10:45 - 11:00	NDMA – 2017 Drought Management and future outlook
11:00 - 11:15	UNDP – UNDAF and MTP III in support to vision 2030
11:15 - 11:30	UN-Women – Gender Programming and DRR in Kenya
11:30 - 11:45	KEPSA- Private sector Initiatives in DRR
11:45 - 12:00	KRC – Preparedness for August elections
12:00 - 12: 15	Academia – New innovations
12:15 - 12: 30	NDMU- DRR Progress and preparedness for elections
12:00 - 13:00	Session plenary discussions
Lunch break	
REVIEW OF THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS PROGRESS, ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES, AND ACTIONS GOING FORWARD: 14:00 - 17:00	
	Group1: Understanding disaster risks
	Group2: Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risks
	Group3: Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience
	Group4: Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “build back better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction
Day2: 30 June 2017 8:30 - 9:00	Recap from day 1
THEMATIC GROUP PRESENTATIONS	
9:00 - 9:30	Group 1: Presentation on Understanding disaster Risks
9:30 - 10:00	Group 2: presentation on Strengthening disaster risk governance
Tea/Coffee Break : 10:00 - 10:30	
10:30 -11:00	Group 3: Presentation on Investing in disaster risk for resilience
11:00 - 11:30	Group 4: Presentation on Enhancing disaster preparedness
11:30 - 12:30	Session Plenary discussions
Lunch Break: 12:30 - 14: 00	
14:00 - 14:30	Sendai Monitoring – Role of National Platform
14:30 - 15:00	Summary Statement to the Government and way forward
Tea/Coffee Break :15:00 - 15:30	
16:00	Departure for Nairobi