

Egypt

Interim national progress report on the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action

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Strategic goals 1

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:

Although integration of disaster risk management and reduction considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming was observed at sectoral bases (e.g Civil defense, Health, Social affairs, Construction codes, water resources, environment...), consideration and actions are being taken to integrate the disaster risk considerations at national level to cover all sectors. National institutional and legal frameworks relevant to disaster and crisis management exist they are not adequate without further enhancement and development to correspond the concept of disaster management and risk reduction.

Egypt recognized the importance of developing disaster and environmental policies long time ago and further to the witnessing of large natural disasters (earthquake in 1992) and flash flood (in 1996), and several environmental risks related either to ecosystem degradation or to land based activities.

Accordingly, in 2000, a Crisis and Disaster Management Affairs (CDMA) entity was established.

Recently, a Crisis Management and Disaster Reduction Sector "CMDRS" was established within the Information and Decision Support Centre (hereinafter IDSC), Cabinet of Ministers. This sector was further upgraded as a national body to take responsibility of coordinating all issues related to Crises and Disaster Management in close cooperation with all concerned authorities and to act as a technical secretariat for the ministerial committee and to the National Committee for Crisis Management and Disaster Risk Reduction (NCCMDRR).

This was recently followed (April 2006) by the establishment of the NCCMDRR. The NCCMDRR, a multi sectoral platform for disaster risk reduction and crisis management is functioning as the "National Platform", having several mandates corresponding to the goals and priorities of actions outlined in the HFA 2005. Because DRR is a cross-cutting and complex issue, the NCCMDRR is a multi-stakeholder mechanism that provides coordination, develops a culture of prevention, and facilitating the integration of Disaster Management and Risk Reduction into national policies, planning and programmes. Main stakeholders of the committee are:

- ØThe Cabinet IDSC "Chair".
- ØArmed Forces Operations Authority (co-chair).
- ØMinistries Representatives.
- ØGovernorates Representatives.
- ØPublic Authorities Representatives.
- ØCivil Society and NGOs.
- ØPrivate Sector.
- ØSpecialized Experts (according to the need).

Crisis Management Bodies/Entities were established in all Governorates (Local level), Ministries, agencies and institutions.

Considering the scientific and technical aspects related to the Disaster Management and Risk Reduction, a Scientific Advisory Board was established as a subsidiary body to the NCCMDRR in 2008.

In view of the sustainable development policy, Egypt's regard its national MDG as a key instrument for mainstreaming disaster risk reduction. Egypt will probably achieve the 1st MDGs and reduce poverty levels. The 2nd MDGs is on the achievement track; the education system has improved but still need further improvements to respond to social and economic needs. The 3rd MGDs Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women and the gender disparities decreased. During the past decade Egypt succeeded in reducing child mortality rates (MGDs #4), and by 2015 it is expected to reduce the infant

mortality rates, and to further reduce Maternal Mortality Rates and Total Fertility Rates. Combating major diseases (MDGs # 6) are progressing well. Regarding the 7th MDGs Egypt adopted its National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) 2002 – 2017 to Ensure Environmental Sustainability, Although a legal framework that consist several actions relevant to the Crisis Management and Disaster Reduction exists in Egypt, and initiated since 1959 (more than 10 laws and decrees), there is a need for revised legislation and their enforcement and to institutionalize the legal structures.

Locally, there are several protocols between relevant agencies and institutions pertaining to Disaster Management and Risk Reduction including but not limited to the Ministry of Interior, the Egyptian Atomic Energy Authority, the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology, the Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities, the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency and the Armed Forces. These protocols intend to organize and coordinate the participation of these agencies in disaster management and reduction and elaborating codes and plans for protecting humans and facilities in case of disastrous accidents.

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:

As expressed above, a national multi-sectoral platform (NCCMDRR) is functioning, however, only sectoral plans and policies relevant to Disaster Management and Risk Reduction have been recently developed. Currently, “A National Policy Framework on Crisis Management and Disaster Risk Reduction” is in the process of preparation. This framework will incorporate a well-designed and mutually-reinforcing set of plans by the government to reduce the risk of disasters, including legislation, planning and resource allocation.

Crisis Management Bodies/Entities were established in all Governorates (Local level) in Egypt, Ministries, agencies and institutions. Therefore, a chain or hierarchy mechanism is in place, however it needed capacity building and enhancement of their resources.

Strengthening of the existing institutions is needed at all levels, particularly at the Governorates and executive Entities, since those are in charge of the operational level.

Capacity building, through the limited available resources is a continuous practice in Egypt, either at national or sub-national (governorates) levels.

While considering financial constraints and sometimes limitation in human resources, enhanced capacities at all levels to monitor and respond to potential disaster and environmental risks is an ongoing practice. This kind of practice is provided from the relevant specialized authorities as for example:

The Cabinet IDSC/CMDRS offers training in several areas and to several levels, in flash floods, fires, avian flu...etc. The Civil Protection Authority “CPA”/Ministry of Interior has training centres covering all Governorates, providing training to specialized personnel. The Centre for Crisis Management of the Military Forces is offering training on crisis management.

The Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) is offering training in environmental crisis management. The Ministry of Health and Population is offering training in issues relevant to disaster reduction. The Crisis research Unit at Ain Shams University organizes conferences and training programmes in crisis management. The Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport offeres training in crisis management.

NGOs as the Egyptian Red Crescent and CARITAS participate in enhancing the capacity of the local communities through either training or awareness campaigns.

At present, Egypt is regarding safety, security, Disaster Management and Risk Reduction as elements of high considerations while approving development projects provided from the different ministries and governorates to be considered and integrated in the national plan for funding.

Although some Egyptian Institutions or Agencies have specific budget lines for preparedness; these budgets are limited and sometimes are allocated in ad hoc bases to meet the need of the post incident

impacts.

Some Ministries earmarked budget, although limited, for disaster management as the Ministry of Social Solidarity. The Environment Protection Fund (EPF) is allocated for the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA), to enhance, among several activities, strategies for environmental DRR. The Ministry of Health and Population has an annual budget for DRR. Also CPA has similar budget.

The Social Fund for Development (SFD) has several success stories in alleviating the impacts of natural disasters, as for its role with the affected Governorates in upper Egypt in the incident of the flash flood in 1996. Also SFD financed a Dam construction in Sinai to prevent the impact of flash flood.

Insurance Companies are amongst the financial mechanism raising the awareness of disaster and risk and in securing funds to minimize the negative impacts of disasters.

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:

Although the National Policy Framework of the Crisis Management and DRR is in the process of development, sectoral plans and policy are incorporated into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the corresponding ministries. The Disaster Management and Risk Reduction will be incorporated in the national policy framework and will be considered in the design and implementation of emergency response, recovery and rehabilitation processes. Lessons learned from previous disasters will be included into pre-disaster planning in order to avoid past mistakes and address the underlying causes of risk.

In this context, Post-disaster reviews are routinely undertaken to evaluate the responses and actions taken further to any incident and to learn lessons on risk reduction; these lessons are incorporated into plans and preparedness for response (sectoral). Mechanisms and tools are being adopted for the implementation of environmental management and post-disaster recovery programmes for frequent events.

A lesson learnt from the earthquake of 1992 and the flash flood of 1994 resulted large numbers of deaths and casualties, was the introduction and or enforcement of building codes and prevention of construction in hazard prone areas most affected by earthquakes or flash floods. In addition, EIA is considering natural disasters as one of the main issues to be addressed for any development project.

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:

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

Description:

In Egypt, acceptable bases for national institutional and legal framework relevant to disaster

management and risk reduction exist, although they are subject to further development and strengthening. The Crisis and Disaster Management Affairs (CDMA) entity, and followed by the establishment of the Crisis Management and Disaster Reduction Sector "CMDRS", then the establishment of the National Committee for Crisis Management and Disaster Risk Reduction (NCCMDRR). The NCCMDRR is a multi sectoral platform for disaster management and risk reduction. However, a national policy framework on crisis management and disaster risk reduction is in the process to be formulated with the incorporation of multi-sectoral development instruments. This framework will incorporate a well-designed and mutually-reinforcing set of plans by the national government to reduce the risk of disasters, including legislation, planning and resource allocation. Crisis Management Bodies/Entities were established in all Governorates (Local level), Ministries, agencies and institutions; however it needed capacity building and enhancement of their resources. Community participation is ensured through the participation of the local level and NGO in the NCCMDRR as well as the establishment of local entities for disaster and crisis management. Besides enhancing the capabilities of the community through training and awareness.

Context & Constraints:

Although policies on crisis management followed a sequence of changes, and mostly were developed on reactionary bases, at present a national policy framework on crisis management and disaster risk reduction is in the process to be formulated, taken into consideration preparedness concept. However, it should be emphasized that the process will be faced by the coordination challenge between the various concerned institutions and from the central to local level, and insufficient resources. To overcome this challenge capacity building and resources are to be enhanced particularly at local level. There is a need to revise and update the regulations and code of practice. Legislations are to be revised to meet the requirements of the Disaster management and Risk Reduction, Strengthening the interagency relations through the NCCMDRR and the CMDRS.

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

Description:

Examples are the Environment protection Fund (EPF) allocated for the Egyptian Environmental affairs Agency (EEAA), to enhance, among several activities, strategies for environmental disaster risk reduction. The Ministry of Health and Population has an annual budget for disaster management, Ministry of Health, CPA as well have limited budget.

The Social Fund for Development (SFD) has several success stories in alleviating the impacts of natural disasters.

Insurance Companies are amongst the financial mechanism raising the awareness of disaster and risk and in securing funds to minimize their negative impacts.

Human resources although are available at all level but are not well trained to cope with the needs of the Disaster Management and Risk Reduction; capacity building is to be further strengthened in all sectors and levels.

Context & Constraints:

Resources are not adequate at national or local levels; neither is dedicated to the preparedness level. Therefore resources either financial or human are to be further strengthened.

Adequate Fund is to be earmarked in dedicated budget lines and reflected in the budgetary of all concerned institutions.

Human resources although are available at all level but are not well trained to cop with the needs of the Disaster management and Risk Reduction, capacity building is to be further strengthened in all sectors and levels.

Governmental and NGOs are to mobilize and empower resources either from national sources through PPP or international funds to implement disaster risk reduction plans and activities at all administrative levels.

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

Description:

Representatives of all Governorates “Local level”, Civil Societies, NGOs and Private Sector are represented in the NCCMDRR. Besides, at operational levels, decentralization is ensured according to the designated level of intervention based on the type and magnitude of the disasters, as shown below. Crisis Management Bodies/Entities were established in all Governorates (Local level), Ministries, agencies and institutions, however their capacity and resources are to be enhanced. Promotion of knowledge is regularly practiced through capacity building programmes, although limited for funding reasons.

Context & Constraints:

The Governmental system has long practiced the top down approach to implement national policy in some sectors. However, considering the crisis management, and although decentralization at operational level is achieved, decentralization further to participation is required. Funding will remain centralized since the authority at local level have long lived dependant on the government (central). Mobilization of resources will be a challenge to ensure the community participation and decentralization to local levels and to practice the bottom up approach.

Supporting document:

Command & Control in Egypt (2007)

https://www.preventionweb.net/files/2644_CommandControlinEgypt.ppt [PPT 169.00 KB]

Core indicator 4

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

Level of Progress achieved:

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

Description:

National platform for disaster risk management and reduction was established, with main development agencies active in their respective fields. This platform is represented by the NCCMDRR, that is a multi sectoral platform for disaster management and risk reduction, having several mandates corresponding to the goals and priorities of actions outlined in the HFA 2005. Because DRR is a cross-cutting and complex issue, the NCCMDRR is a multi-stakeholder mechanism that provides coordination, develops a culture of prevention, and facilitating the integration of Disaster Management and Risk Reduction into national policies, planning and programmes. Main stakeholders of the committee are:

ØThe Cabinet Information and Decision Support Centre “Chair”.

ØArmed Forces Operations Authority (co-chair).

ØMinistries Representatives.

ØGovernorates Representatives.

ØPublic Authorities Representatives.

ØCivil Society and NGOs.

ØPrivate Sector.

ØSpecialized Experts (according to the need).

Several sectoral (Ministries or national agencies) and local platforms (local entities or focal points) for disaster management and risk reduction were established.

Context & Constraints:

Although the multi sector National platform is functioning, the NCCMDRR will require further development to streamline the cooperation for ensuring better interagency, sectoral, central – local level cooperation. The mandate and responsibilities of the NCCMDRR is to be further developed to encompass the identified goals and priority actions of the HFA. Resources are to be made available in sustainable manner, and more efficient role is to be considered further to national commitments and political will.

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:

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

Description:

Risk assessment was developed for several issues, (earthquakes and flash floods for example). National and local risk assessments based on hazard data and vulnerability information are partially employed. However, ongoing efforts started to build the first comprehensive database on areas at risk (hazards maps). Standardized risk assessment methodologies for some sectors (earthquakes, floods, fires) are being adapted and endorsed by the government and applied by local government as an integral part of the development planning process.

Crisis and Disaster Management Sector in IDSC develop a prototype integrated related information system that contains an Integrated database. The database includes the following:

- General Procedures Manual for Crisis and Disaster Management and its risk reduction on the National Level.
- A number of models of Specific contingency and preparedness Plans/scenarios for crisis and disaster management and it's risk reduction for instance:
 - Emergency plan to address Nile related crisis and its risk reduction.
 - Emergency plan to address major fires and its risk reduction.
 - The National Plan to manage disasters of Flash Floods in Egypt and its risk reduction.
 - The National Plan to manage disasters of Earthquakes in Egypt and its risk reduction.
 - National contingency plan for pandemic influenza.
 - Simulation scenarios in the field of crisis and disaster management and risk reduction.

The Government established an information database for each Governorate, including socio-economic

information, administrative information, resources and physical infrastructure. The database includes information on vulnerable and exposed places to hazards and risk. These databases are updated regularly. Presently, the preparation of both local and national Risk maps (GIS) is progressing. Database is considered for development with the focus of man-made hazards.

The Government has also established the National Centre for Planning State Land Use. Amongst its mandate is to identify hazard prone areas and develop codes of practice and conditions for the development in such areas.

Context & Constraints:

Sectoral database and GIS with adequate information exists, the ongoing efforts to build the first comprehensive database on areas at risk (hazards maps) and to build the first vulnerability database relevant to the climate change are to be maintained and developed in a short period. The quality of information and data is to be revised, standardized and updated. Equal efforts are to be provided for the local levels, this will require the establishment of efficient local system with adequate resources. Meantime building the capacity and technical infrastructure is to be a continuous exercise covering all levels and sectors.

Core indicator 2

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

Level of Progress achieved:

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

Description:

Systems are being developed at sectoral level, to monitor, archive and disseminate data on key hazards (as earthquakes and flash floods) and vulnerabilities. However, archiving and dissemination of data on key hazards at the national level is within the mandate of the NCCMDRR supported by Crisis Management and Disaster Reduction Sector “CMRDRS” and relevant institutions. However, the system is to be supported to enable the timely dissemination of information to allow decision makers and communities to take effective action to reduce risk.

Ongoing efforts to build the first comprehensive database on areas at risk (hazards maps), but updating of the information not yet considered; problems remain with quality and information resolution.

Context & Constraints:

Systems at local levels are to be considered and functioning. This will be subject to resources availability, and decentralization. These systems are to be linked to the national system once established. Meanwhile, the existing sectoral system is to be enhanced.

Core indicator 3

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

Level of Progress achieved:

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

Description:

Early warning systems linked to some major hazards (earthquakes and floods) are in place, with indirect outreach to communities. This warning system links mostly with the media and employs a variety of communications processes, with a structure of hierarchical relations through which communication flow. Currently the Crisis Management and Disaster Reduction Sector “CMDRS” of the IDSC has initiated and developed a system to enhance the communication and serve at present as a focal point for national grid of communication, through the following:

§Establishing a Central Operational Room for crisis Management in The Cabinet information and decision support center (Focal Point).

§Supporting Ministries and Governorates to establish operational rooms and enhancing communications with the Central Operational Room.

§Setting up an Emergency and Communication System connecting all ministries and governorates with the main operational room.

Media broadcasts programs for raising community awareness with regard to disaster impacts and risk reduction, particularly on the following up of world wide disasters and impacts.

Context & Constraints:

Areas of weakness are to be identified prior to the establishment of a national early warning system, in particular monitoring and response capabilities. The envisaged National Policy Framework for Crisis Management and Risk Reduction has to incorporate this urgent issue. The Scientific Advisory Board of the NCCMDRR is to continue its efforts and contribute to the identification of gaps and provide the necessary recommendations and plan of action to develop the EWS.

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

Description:

National risk assessments take account of regional / trans boundary risks, particularly for major natural and environmental risks.

Cooperation at regional and international levels have been initiated to assess and monitor regional and trans- boundary risks, However, the exchange of information and provide early warnings through appropriate arrangements is to be developed. This would imply, having standard and accessible information and data on regional disaster risks, impacts and losses.

Egypt is a cornerstone for regional cooperation, considering its geographical position at the northeastern side of Africa, central for the Arab region and sharing areas from the southern Mediterranean and Western Red Sea.

Cooperation with the Arab Countries: Egypt has actively participated in the process of developing the Draft Protocol on the Arab's Cooperation for the Prompt Responses in Cases of Natural Disasters, Crisis and Emergency, under the umbrella of the Arab League. Besides there are bilateral cooperation between Egypt and other Arab countries for cooperation in cases of disasters and crisis. Also, Egypt will participate in the exercise of the implementation of the above protocol, when adopted; that will be followed by the monitoring process of implementation in accordance with HFA.

Egypt cooperates with the Arab States in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Region through its participation to the Protocol Concerning Cooperation in Combating Pollution of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Region by Oil and Other Harmful Substances in Cases of Emergency (1982).

Mediterranean Region: Egypt cooperates with the Mediterranean countries through the UNEP/MAP, since it is participated in the Protocol Concerning Cooperation in Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Oil and Other Harmful Substances in Cases of Emergency (1976).

Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation: Egypt is one of the participating countries in the Euro-med initiative "Supports the development of Euro-Mediterranean system of mitigation, prevention and management of natural and man-made disasters, through technical assistance and capacity building.

Egypt signed an agreement with the International Organization for Civil Protection, accordingly a Regional Centre for Training was established in Cairo to provide service to the countries of the Middle East and North Africa (MENA Region). Among the responsibilities of this Centre is to support

communication between different countries and organizations; exchange of information and expertise; delivering training courses, organizing conferences and workshops related to the field of civil defense and disaster reduction issues; in addition to raise awareness of the local communities with regard to contingency planning to reduce human losses. This centre is one of the five established centres worldwide.

Context & Constraints:

Although the cooperation for trans-boundary issues at regional bases is developed, vitalization of this cooperation is highly required to change the attitude of the “Paper Cooperation” to a “Doable Cooperation”. Cooperation in issues related to Marine Environmental Disasters have been materialized in the region through the establishment of the “Mutual Aid Centres”, similar approaches are to be regarded for major disasters. Exchange of information and provide early warnings through appropriate arrangements are to be developed. This would imply, having standard and accessible information and data on regional disaster risks, impacts and losses.

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

Description:

National Information Management System is in the process of building up within the Crisis Management and Disaster Reduction Sector “CMDRS” of the IDSC. The process has started by establishing of a Crisis Management Information System (CMIS), including:

- Integrated database (In the process of revision, development and update).
- Website*. website: www.crisismanagement.idsc.gov.eg

The website was designed with the objective of raising awareness regarding crisis and disaster management and its risk reduction, This includes relevant information and data regarding capacity building workshops targeting concerned staff members of Ministries and Governorates, organized by Crisis and Disaster Management Sector. The website also includes breaking news on disaster risk reduction, general information on crisis management, potential risks, and responsible ministries for each type of risk.

The Web will enable the accessibility on relevant information on disasters at all levels, to all stakeholders (through networks development of information sharing systems etc).

Also the Crisis Management and Disaster Reduction Sector “CMDRS” of the IDSC is organizing quarterly workshops on different issues related to crisis and disaster management. Similarly, Ministries and relevant agencies organizing workshops and developed their adequate information systems.

Context & Constraints:

The National Information Management System to be launched soon, has to consider developing parallel terminals points at the Local level. These terminals are to ensure the flow of information on disaster risks and protection options, especially to citizens and local authorities in high risk areas. The website: www.crisismanagement.idsc.gov.eg, will make the information easily available, understandable and accessible to all stakeholders (through networks, development of information sharing systems) pending

on the input of information and data from various sources at different levels. The Availability of resources (both financial and human) would facilitate the establishment of the network.

Core indicator 2

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

Level of Progress achieved:

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

Description:

Incorporation of DRR elements in basic curricula will be considered by the Ministry of Education to ensure continuous learning and reinforces knowledge for disaster risk reduction. The Ministry was requested to develop and incorporate DRR in the school curricula. Presently, schools received, on ad hoc bases, pamphlets and simple informal educational materials including information on risk, hazards, disasters and related issues.

Training is however developed in this domain, where training programmes for professionals and technicians are conducted and promoted by the institutions at some levels or in some areas. However, criteria was not yet set to monitor the benefit of the society from training, awareness and education and signs of cultural changes.

Context & Constraints:

There is an increasing awareness of the need to incorporate disaster risk into curricula further to the efforts made by the NCCMDRR/CMDRS. The response and implementation of the required action will be subject to the change of attitude, acceptance of the principle and availability of resources.

Core indicator 3

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

Level of Progress achieved:

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

Description:

Research methods for risk assessment were developed in some sectors; yet, the integrated concept of developing research methods and tools for multi risk assessments and CBA analysis is not achieved. The first significant step towards achieving this concept was the establishment of the Scientific Advisory Board. Amongst the mandates of this board is to strengthen, through cooperation with scientific research institutions, academia, research centres of the concerned ministries and agencies, the technical and scientific capacities to develop, and apply methodologies, studies and models to assess vulnerabilities and impacts of hazards, including the improvement of regional monitoring capacities and assessments.

Context & Constraints:

NCCMDRR/Scientific Advisory Board will develop plans to be implemented by concerned national research centres, academia and related research units to strengthen the technical and scientific capacities, in order to develop and apply methodologies, studies and models to assess vulnerabilities and impacts of hazards, including the improvement of the national monitoring capacities and assessments. Appropriate funding mechanism is to be mobilized and dedicated in sustainable manner. Capacity building for national specialists and experts, mutual cooperation in regional and international bases is to be considered.

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:

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

Description:

Presently, the Crisis Management and Disaster Reduction Sector "CMDRS"/ NCCMDRR are developing a national strategy for the public awareness to stimulate a culture of disaster resilience, with outreach to urban and rural communities. This strategy will be a long-term plan of action with specific goals.

Meanwhile, the CMDRS has developed a national training and capacity building programme including:

§Multi- agency trainings,

§Local, National joint exercises

§Training on risk assessment

Context & Constraints:

The NCCMDRR/CMDRS and the envisaged National Policy Frame work have looked at developing a countrywide public awareness national strategy. Implementable strategy will require mechanisms supported by trained personnel to enable its efficiency. Local authorities and community should be empowered to reduce risks by having a proper access to the "Awareness Materials", to enable the developemnt of a prevention culture. Training and capacity building will be required.

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:

3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

Projects and programmes related to environment and natural resources management include disaster/ environmental risk reduction in existing mechanisms. Therefore Disaster Management and Reduction are integral component of environmental protection. For example, the Law of the Environment No 4/1994 EIA includes among other articles:

ØArticle 19: Requiring An Environmental Impact Assessment for new establishments (EIA).

ØArticle 25: Concerning the preparation of the National Environmental Disaster Contingency Plan.

Regarding projects and programmes related to land use, the concept of Disaster Management and Reduction are considered and a set of regulations and codes of practice were developed by the National Centre for Planning State Land-Use.

Environmental related policy are presented in the National Environmental Action Plan (2002 – 2017).

Context & Constraints:

Coordination is to be strengthening, and legal aspects are to be revised through the NCCMDRR in order to integrate environment related policies and plans, including for land use, natural resource management and adaptation to climate change, since the existing modalities are not fully integrated although existing.

The multi-sectoral approach is to be adopted and operationalized to ensure the full integration and harmony.

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

Description:

The Ministry of Social Solidarity and the Social Fund for Development (SFD) implement social development policies and plans to reduce the vulnerability of populations most at risk, particularly the most poor communities and peoples lived in informal settlements, through addressing issues of food security, public health, risk sharing mechanisms, protection of critical public infrastructure, etc.

The Social Fund for Development (SFD) has several success stories in alleviating the impacts of natural disasters, as for its role with the affected Governorates in upper Egypt in the incident of the flash flood in 1996. SFD has developed a new mechanism by which it holds the responsibility of funding small projects for achieving socio-economic balance and improving the living standards.

Context & Constraints:

Funding is perhaps adequate to address one or two issues that might coincides at time; however adequate funding is to be made available to address issues of food security, public health, risk sharing mechanisms, protection of critical public infrastrucute. Besides,the incorporation of the DRR in the “public awareness”, , education, and early warning plans ,as advised by the NCCMDRR, will reduce the risk on the society, in particular impoverished, social programmes once fully implemented.

Core indicator 3

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

Level of Progress achieved:

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

Description:

Industry and Urban Development sectors are amongst the most productive yet vulnerable activities, both requires a set of procedures outlined in sectoral policies for protection, such as the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for newly established or developed and or impacted establishments, and the preparation of the Environmental Disaster Contingency Plan.

Besides, Codes of Practice and Standards were developed by the concerned institutions. The Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities developed a new code of buildings and standards following to the 1992 earthquake in Egypt. All structural designs should be based on the new codes to bear the impacts of earthquakes. Licensing and permits for construction have utilized tighter measures to avoid hazards and secure exits and facilitating relief operations to minimize the impacts of hazards.

Context & Constraints:

The role of the private sector and the adoption of the PPP will ensure the protection of a state’s most vulnerable economic activities and productive sectors, and will be an efficient strategy to help reduce the

overall impacts of disasters. This will require the set of public hearing sessions, vitalizing the role of investors to participate with the government in the protection of the most vulnerable activities. The envisaged National Policy Framework is to highlight this issue and to recommend means for mobilizing resources and encouraging the society participation at all levels.

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

Description:

Land-use management plans contain regulatory disaster prevention measures at the national and local levels.

In Egypt, planning and management of human settlements incorporate disaster risk reduction elements, including enforcement of building codes, particularly for the newly developed settlements in satellite cities and new community structure hosting the medium to low income peoples. The Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities developed a new code of buildings. All structural designs should be based on the new codes to bear the impacts of earthquakes. Licensing and permits for construction have utilized tighter measures to avoid hazards and secure exits and facilitating relief operations to minimize the impacts of hazards.

Context & Constraints:

Although construction codes were developed and the law required for their implementation, violation of these codes happens and the results are catastrophic. Therefore enforcement of the Construction Codes will remain as a challenge. Disaster risk reduction elements are incorporated in land-use plans particularly for the newly expanding human settlements.

Core indicator 5

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

Level of Progress achieved:

1: Minor progress with few signs of forward action in plans or policy

Description:

Post-disaster reviews are routinely undertaken to incorporate lessons learnt into plans and preparedness for response. Mechanisms and tools are being adopted for the implementation of environmental management and post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation programmes, as EIA for example is considering the Natural disasters as one of the main issues to be addressed for any development project. Reconstruction norms and standards are being developed in order to build new or 'build back better' and not recreate risk.

Context & Constraints:

The envisaged National Policy Framework will advise on the inclusion of the disaster risk reduction principles by the relevant authorities in their operational plans when designing post disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes. The Housing, Utilities and Urban Communities will be encouraged to implement international post disaster recovery and reconstruction norms and standards. Regulations, codes of practice and legislations are to be revised and updated accordingly. Training of national experts in International Institutions that have early considered, or have recognized experience on related matters deemed necessary.

Core indicator 6

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

Level of Progress achieved:

1: Minor progress with few signs of forward action in plans or policy

Description:

Some procedures and mechanisms are in place to assess the disaster risk impacts of major development projects as the EIA and the Environmental Disaster Contingency Plan. Concerned Ministries and Institutions have developed procedures, and plans were put forward to ensure the prompt resumption of these essential facilities, through an integral cross cutting approach between the various involved ministries as Industry, Electricity, Water, Health, Housing... and hence to minimize the economic loss and social impact.

Context & Constraints:

The NCCMDRR/CMDRS will put on track the modalities to institutionalise procedures to integrate disaster management and risk reduction measures into national sustainable development strategies, plans and programmes in key areas such as poverty reduction, housing, water, sanitation, energy, health, agriculture, infrastructure and environment to ensure that development does not create disasters. In this regard the Ministries of Planning, Social Solidarity and relevant institutions will lead the integration process.

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:

3: Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

Description:

The process of the building up the technical and institutional capacities and mechanisms for disaster management, with a disaster risk reduction perspective is ongoing.

The CMDRS/ IDSC is taken the following actions:

- Development / Revising of Emergency and crisis management Plans for all ministries and governorates.
- Developing of the general procedures manual for the cooperation with civil society in crisis and Disaster management.

The preparedness mechanism is reviewed and analyzed to be incorporated in the National Policy Framework to be developed.

Context & Constraints:

Some steps have been taken, yet strong policy, technical and institutional capacities and mechanisms for disaster risk management, with a disaster risk reduction perspective are to be developed.

Improving disaster preparedness capacities and mechanisms are systematically evaluating. However, lessons learnt are usually adopted pending to the resources availability and the frequency of occurrence of events.

Adequate resources (both financial and human) will enable the increase in readiness for managing disaster impacts, and improves response measures.

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

Description:

Some contingency plans are being developed, however disaster preparedness plans are in the process of development at all administrative levels.

These disaster preparedness and response planning for recovery and rehabilitation efforts will be established and benefited from lessons learned from previous disasters.

- Emergency plan to address Nile related crisis and its risk reduction.
- Emergency plan to address major fires and its risk reduction.
- The National Plan to manage disasters of Flash Floods in Egypt and its risk reduction.
- The National Plan to manage disasters of Earthquakes in Egypt and its risk reduction.
- National contingency plan for pandemic influenza.
- A national contingency plan for environmental disasters has been drafted by the Ministry of Environment and is being revised by the NCCMDRR.
- The National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP) was developed by the Ministry of Environment.

Regular training drills and rehearsals are held to test and develop disaster response programmes, a success story of this issue is proved by the Pandemic Influenza, as the CMDRS/IDSC initiated the following activities:

a) At National Level:

ØA Simulation Training Exercise was conducted at the Ministry of Health and Population in order to test Reporting Track, and the procedures taken by the health directorates to validate detection of the Pandemic Influenza. The training was held with 3 Governorates (El-Beheira, Red Sea and Menia Governorate).

b) At Local Level:

ØReviewed, developed, and evaluated Menofiyah Governorate plan aiming at encountering the Pandemic Influenza to be used as a model for the other Governorates.

c) Simulation Training Exercise (using Desktop Exercise) was held in Menofiyah, Sharkia and Gharbiya Governorates in order to test and revise the procedures set to encounter the Pandemic Influenza, test the Reporting Track, Soundness of the procedures, different roles of the directorates and ensure comprehensiveness of the plan.

d) Preparation of a Pandemic Response Chain of Command on the Local Level (Governorate Level).

e) Preparation of a Manual on how to set up Governorates Response Plans to the Pandemic Influenza.

Context & Constraints:

Disaster management/preparedness plans and contingency plans are in place at some sectors, this is to be enlarged to encompass all administrative levels. The CMDRS/NCCMDRR is considering this issue as one of the short term priorities. Regular training is to consider a set up agenda not necessarily linked to post event, but to preparedness level.

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

Description:

Dedicated, although limited resources were earmarked to manage crisis and risks, and to implement disaster risk reduction plans and activities at specific sectors having mandates as primary responsible and implementable sectors for Disaster Management and Risk Reduction.

Some Ministries dedicate resources although limited, for disaster management. Examples are the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) allocated for the Egyptian Environmental affairs Agency (EEAA), to enhance, among several activities, strategies for environmental disaster management and risk reduction. The Ministry of Health and Population has an annual budget for disaster risk reduction. The Social Fund for Development (SFD) has several success stories in alleviating the impacts of natural disasters, as for its role with the affected Governorates in upper Egypt in the incident of the flash flood in 1996.

Besides, bilateral cooperation with potential financing agencies and donors was established, for providing technical assistance in developing the national arrangements.

Context & Constraints:

Although Egypt is facing several social and economic challenges; the government has set priorities to alleviate poverty and subsidize the living standards for the majority of peoples. Therefore, financial reserves and contingency mechanisms are in place, but very limited, and sometimes on ad hoc bases to support effective response and recovery when required.

The government, however, committed resources for early recovery programmes, including quick assessment of damage, needs and capacities, restoration of critical infrastructure and livelihood, following major disaster events to support the resilience of affected communities, until long term reconstruction of assets takes place

At this stage, the private sector and civil society roles and PPP are to be encouraged to participate in such activities. Besides, international fund is supportive to this process.

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:

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

Description:

The CMDRS/IDCS has developed a mechanism, to be further improved and enhanced, to enable exchange relevant information during hazard events and disasters using the following provisional mechanism:

§Establishing a Central Operational Room for Crisis Management in the Cabinet Information and Decision Support Center (Focal Point).

§Supporting Ministries and Governorates to establish operational rooms and enhancing communications with the Central Operational Room.

§Setting up an Emergency and Communication System connecting all ministries and governorates with the main operational room.

Post-event review is one of the mandates of the CMDRS/NCCMDRR that is regularly exercised further to any large event in the country.

Context & Constraints:

The existing mechanism developed by the CMDRS/IDSC to enable exchange relevant information

during hazard events and disasters is to be improved and empowered. Capacity building and technical support will be needed to ensure the development of efficient mechanism.

Drivers of Progress

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

Levels of Reliance:

Significant and ongoing reliance: significant ongoing efforts to actualize commitments with coherent strategy in place; identified and engaged stakeholders.

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

No

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

The principle of a multi-hazard approach is considered by the CMDRS/NCCMDRR. At present, no detailed or integrated studies/reports/atlas on multi-hazard analyses exist in the country for the national and local levels.

In this context, the envisaged National Policy Framework on Disaster Management and Risk Reduction will consider the multi-hazard approach. Further to the decentralization and privatization approaches recently developed and adopted by the government, PPP will play a key role in supporting the DRR in the country, since the investment of the private sector has been dramatically increased and the country economy and welfare depend on their active contribution to the social and economic aspects.

Institutional setting is to be first developed and integrated in a way to ensure the effectiveness of these institutions to implement the DRR. The provision of full risk assessments and maps, developing of a national Early Warning System and enhancing the community capabilities will enable the linking knowledge of the full range of hazards into risk management approaches, strategies, assessments and analysis, leading to greater effectiveness and cost efficiency.

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

Levels of Reliance:

Significant and ongoing reliance: significant ongoing efforts to actualize commitments with coherent strategy in place; identified and engaged stakeholders.

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

Egypt recognizes Gender balance as a core factor to be considered in the implementation of disaster risk reduction measures, and continuous efforts are paid to narrow the gender gap, accentuated by poverty, that has been generally improved from 1990 until present. Despite some good success indicators, the country is working towards the gender empowerment to rank highly then at present. Economic opportunities through small project fund are offered through the SFD to assist in the openings of more work opportunities and benefits for gender. Economic participation continuously increasing and show remarkable progress in the country. On the other hand, educational attainment has sharply increased..

Therefore, the National Policy Framework, to be developed, will target at the most vulnerable groups and will be effectively implemented through the roles of both women and men.

Meanwhile, Gender workshops are usually considered and targeted the least developed environment communities. There are some workshops activities directed to the women in the rural areas in particular as “the Raedat/Pioneers Rural workshop”

c) Capacities for risk reduction and recovery identified and strengthened

Levels of Reliance:

Significant and ongoing reliance: significant ongoing efforts to actualize commitments with coherent strategy in place; identified and engaged stakeholders.

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

At present, capacity development focuses mostly on training and specialized technical assistance (Short term), however, the strengthening of the capacities of communities and individuals to recognize and reduce risks in their localities is a medium-term objective that is running parallel to the training and technical assistance activities.

However, and as appropriate, information exchange, network development, management skills are being developed and implemented.

The Crisis Management and Disaster Reduction Sector "CMDRS"/IDSC, is committed to sustain capacity development needs through institutions that support capacity development and capacity maintenance as dedicated ongoing objectives.

The "CMDRS"/IDSC developed a Framework National Plan for Training on Crisis Management and Disaster Risk Reduction, including directives, guidelines...etc. Institutions will benefit from the framework in developing their sectoral plans.

Institutions at the local level are in the way to develop and strengthening their capacities to meet the requirements of the disaster management and risk reduction.

Local institutions, governorate and communities are being trained according to the training package in disaster including response when appropriate (The Pandemic Influenza training was a success in this regard, taking into consideration the small villages, gender and social dimensions, level of preparedness and response.)

d) Human security and social equity approaches integrated into disaster risk reduction and recovery activities**Levels of Reliance:**

Significant and ongoing reliance: significant ongoing efforts to actualize commitments with coherent strategy in place; identified and engaged stakeholders.

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

Socio-economic programmes in Egypt either developed by the government e.g. Ministry of Social Solidarity and the SDF or from NGOs always take into account the individuals ensuring the full equity. Although the poor are the most vulnerable to the risks, the social programmes are usually directed to assist the least developed to guarantee that the most vulnerable are protected from the existing and emerging environmental risks. The most vulnerable are part of the Egyptian society and considered as integral part; therefore focused attentions (social and economic) are paid to ensure their role/ impact through risk management and reduction, recovery plans and programmes.

Appropriate social protection measures / safety nets that safeguard the socio-economic vulnerable society is adequately regarded and implemented, pending on the resources availability.

The Ministry of Social Solidarity and the Social Fund for Development (SFD) implement social development policies and plans to reduce the vulnerability of populations most at risk, particularly the most poor communities and peoples lived in informal settlements, by addressing issues of food security, public health, risk sharing mechanisms, protection of critical public infrastructure, etc. Besides, NGOs as the ERCA and CARITAS for example play similar roles.

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

Significant and ongoing reliance: significant ongoing efforts to actualize commitments with coherent strategy in place; identified and engaged stakeholders.

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

Community participation is ensured through the participation of the local level and representative of the Egyptian Red Crescent Association (ERCA) and the National Union of NGOs (about 22,000 NGO) in the NCCMDRR as well as the establishment of local bodies/entities for disaster and crisis management.

In Egypt there is effective (historical) community engagement and participatory approach that proved to realize effective disaster management and risk reduction. Voluntary association as the Egyptian Red Crescent Association (ERCA) started in 1912 is recognized as the main NGO dealing with disaster, and is joining governmental efforts in cases of crisis and disasters. The ERCA was involved in disaster rescue relief in 1992 earthquake in Egypt, and 1996 flash flood. ERCA participating in offering temporary shelters, resettlement and rehabilitation.

CARITAS Egypt is another NGO mandated to deal with crisis and disasters, and joined the efforts in the relief and rehabilitation further to the major disasters events in Egypt.

Presently, public-private partnerships “PPP” are considering the social and economic contributions to offer opportunities to combine resources and expertise to act jointly to reduce risks and potential losses.

Local relevance, community experience or traditional knowledge in disaster risk reduction will be integrated within the National Policy Framework (in preparation).

f) Contextual Drivers of Progress**Levels of Reliance:**

Significant and ongoing reliance: significant ongoing efforts to actualize commitments with coherent strategy in place; identified and engaged stakeholders.

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

In line with the HFA, the Government has developed the National Committee for Crisis and Disaster Management (NCCMDRR) The NCCMDRR, a multi sectoral platform for disaster risk reduction and crisis management is functioning as the “National Platform”, having several mandates corresponding to the goals and priorities of actions outlined in the HFA 2005. Because DRR is a cross-cutting and complex issue, the NCCMDRR is a multi-stakeholder mechanism that provides coordination, develops a culture of prevention, and facilitating the integration of DRR into national policies, planning and programmes.

National Policy Framework for Disaster Management and Risk Reduction is developed at present to complement the Disaster Management System in Egypt. The country will fully considered the integration of the risk reduction into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all levels.

Besides, there is positive indicator for a shift from the reactionary approach to mitigation and preparedness approach. Mandates for the respective institutions in relation to disaster management and reduction, and legal aspects will be revised and coordinated through the NCCMDRR.

The Government is strongly committed to enhance the institutional arrangements for the disaster management, this was manifested by a series of events started in 2000 by establishing a Crisis and Disaster Management Affairs (CDMA),.This was followed by the establishment of a Crisis Management and Disaster Reduction Sector “CMDRS” within the Information and Decision Support Centre (IDSC), Cabinet of Ministers, the NCCMDRR (corresponding to the National Platform) in 2006, and finally a Scientific Advisory board was established in 2008 as a subsidiary body to the NCCMDRR.

As a crucial step toward raising public awareness, the Ministry of Education will incorporate the disaster management as part of the schools Curricula.

At present, Disaster management and Risk Reduction are considered at Sectoral Level, where the concerned Ministries have incorporated the principle of disaster management and reduction in their planning and development policies as the Ministry of Housing, Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Ministry of Industries, Ministry of Social Insurance.

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:

Substantial actions have been considered and taken to consider integration of Disaster Management and Risk Reduction considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming. However, this will need further development and efforts to achieve the effective integration and emphasizing the concepts of disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction. However challenges are encountered while implementing the National vision and actions, these are summarized as follows:

Ensure the sustainability of the set national agenda and policy to adopt the DRR principle in accordance to HFA. and to keep the started momentum and resulted institutional setting, capacity building and technical assistance provided to local level,

The scarcity and limitation of funding and resources for the implementation of development programmes. Resources are not only related to funding issues but the lack of capacities on account of trained human resources and modern technology at all levels for planning and subsequent execution of DRR Policies and Programmes. The NCCMDRR and the Crisis Management and Disaster Reduction Sector "CMDRS" /IDSC, Cabinet of Ministers have implemented series of training along with other concerned institutions to train human resources at all levels.

Future Outlook Statement:

The Government has already put in place institutional arrangements, although needed further strengthening, at the National and Local (Governorate) levels. A Crisis and Disaster Management Affairs (CDMA) entity was established. This was followed by the establishment of a Crisis Management and Disaster Reduction Sector "CMDRS" within the IDSC, Cabinet of Ministers, and the NCCMDRR in 2006, and finally a Scientific Advisory Committee in 2008.

The National Policy Framework on Disaster Management and Risk Reduction is in the process of preparation, that will incorporate a definite roles and responsibilities of relevant stakeholders, along with the incorporation of the Disaster management and Risk Reduction in development programmes, capacity building, awareness, mobilization of resources, coordination mechanism, institutional arrangements at all levels, legal aspects.

At present the research/development and technical aspects of the DRR will be enhanced through the Scientific Advisory Committee of the NCCMDRR and the coordination with the Research Institutions, Academia and relevant bodies.

The capacity building measures taken by the NCCMDRR, to enhance local capacities in preparedness and response, will lead to the development of capable Local entities

The NCCMDRR is coordinating with Ministry of Education to incorporate the DRR and disaster management in the school curricula.

The existing Sectoral Early Warning Systems for Earthquake and flood, will be developed to be a proactive system, and the NCCMDRR has taken some steps to develop a national system including the GIS and maps.

Ensuring the enforcement of the existing construction codes and other regulations set by the Land Use Authority will minimize the risk generated from major hazards as earthquake or flood in Egypt. However, the socio-economic dimension is to be further strengthened through the concerned institutions as the Ministry of Social Insurance.

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:

In Egypt, Crisis Management Focal Points/Entities were established in all Governorates (Local level), Ministries, agencies and institutions.

Although, training is offered to the institutions at local level; research, data collection and dissemination activities remain at central level. The institutional structures are rather complicated and necessitate efficient coordination, an issue that is considered and promoted by the NCCMDRR and the CMDRS. The top down approach is the working mechanism at present to achieve the central-local, central-local-civil society organization (NGO) relations. Resource limitation slow down the process of the development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels.

Future Outlook Statement:

The envisaged National Policy Framework will call to 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. Better coordination will be achieved further to the development of the National Policy Framework; mandates will be set adequately for the relevant institutions to avoid undue overlapping and to develop efficient tracks for cooperation and response. Legal instrument will be revised to match the needs of the Disaster Management and Risk Reduction. Perhaps a bottom up approach is to be also adopted particularly for civil society's contribution.

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:

Although the National Policy Framework of the Disaster Management and Risk Reduction is in the process of development, sectoral plans and policy are incorporated into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the corresponding ministries, yet, the national policy framework requires the incorporation of DRR into the design and implementation of emergency response, recovery and rehabilitation processes at all levels. Lessons learned from previous disasters will be included into pre-disaster planning in order to avoid past mistakes and address the underlying causes of risk.

In this context, Post-disaster reviews are routinely undertaken to evaluate the responses and actions taken further to any incident and to learn lessons on risk reduction; these lessons are incorporated into plans and preparedness for response (sectoral). Mechanisms and tools are being adopted for the implementation of environmental management and post-disaster recovery programmes.

A lesson learnt from the earthquake of 1992 and the flash flood of 1994 resulted large numbers of deaths and casualties, has initiated the introduction and or enforcement of building codes and prevention of construction in hazard prone areas most affected by earthquakes or flash floods. In addition, EIA is considering natural disasters as one of the main issues to be addressed for any development project.

Future Outlook Statement:

The envisaged National Policy Framework will advise on the incorporation of the risk management and reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities. Coordination between relevant Ministries and Institutions will be through their participation in the NCCMDRR, and guided by its newly developed principles encouraging the incorporation of the Disaster Management and Risk Reduction approaches at all levels.