

# Swaziland

## National progress report on the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action

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## Strategic goals 1

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### 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:**

Incorporation of DRR in the regional development planning models which builds upon the decentralization policy and the poverty reduction strategy and action programme (PRSAP). Integration of environmental risk issues in PRSAP and National Development Strategy (NDS), a vision 2022 national sustainable development strategy.

### 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:**

The Disaster Management Act of 2006 establishes the institutional framework for DRR. There are several structures to be established at both national, regional and local/community level for the effective coordination and implementation of DRR activities.

### 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:**

Existence of a legal framework for effective emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities. Development and implementation of sectoral contingency plans are ongoing.

## Priority for action 1

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

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### Core indicator 1

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

#### **Level of Progress achieved:**

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

#### **Description:**

•A draft National Disaster Management Policy is in place

- A Disaster Management Act of 2006 is also in place
- Government has established a permanent Department of National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) within the public service replacing the National Disaster Task Force which was established in 1992 in response to the 1991/92 drought
- Government has approved some newly established posts for the Agency
- The Director for the NDMA has been appointed and already started his work
- A Ministerial Disaster Management Team which is led by the Deputy Prime Minister is in Place
- Regional Disaster Management Committees (RDMC) which are the interface between the communities and the National office for Disaster Management have been formed
- There is serious commitment between UN agencies, local NGOs and Government not only to attend to disaster relief but widen the scope of emphasizing on disaster preparedness and risks reduction strategies and training of Regional Committees.
- National ministerial Focal Points are in place.
- National Disaster Risk Reduction Action Plan 2008-2015 is being reviewed and is at completion stage

#### **Context & Constraints:**

- Revision of the National Disaster Management Policy is overdue as it about 10 years old
- The National Disaster Management Council (NDMC), a policy making body is yet to be established. The NDMC is responsible for among other responsibilities to advise the Minister on all issues concerning DRR for the consideration of Cabinet.
- Cooperating partners that are willing, have funds and technical support to assist the country have had to delay implementing as some of the essential structures such as the RDMC are not yet functional
- The NDMA which is the Secretariat to the Council has no staff or specialists needed and their posts are not yet approved by Government. The Agency needs one Agro-Meteorologist, one Risk Assessment Officer, one Information and Training officer and four regional disaster management officers.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- The appointment of the following officers: Agro-Meteorologist; Risk Assessment Officer, Information and Training officer and four regional disaster management officers will go a long way in addressing the human resources capacity constraints of the NDMA.

### **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:**

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

#### **Description:**

- Same as in Core indicator 2.
- Funds for effective DRR are not enough. As a result the Government has mainly prioritized short term interventions such as disaster relief and recovery programmes
- Government has made commitment to fund the new NDMA Secretariat office
- Collaborating Partners like UN agencies willing to provide technical and financial assistance on Disaster Risk Reduction initiatives
- UNDP has been involved in providing assistance (technically and financially) on the development and implementation of disaster risk reduction plans and activities at all levels.
- UNICEF has pledged to provide training of Regional Disaster Management Committees and Focal Point officers for Government ministries and Departments, municipalities and communities

#### **Context & Constraints:**

Government constrained in terms of resources to establish all structures and systems for effective DRR interventions.

### **Core indicator 3**

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

#### **Level of Progress achieved:**

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

#### **Description:**

Community participation is being advocated through the decentralisation policy and the regional development model

#### **Context & Constraints:**

Decentralised implementation of DRR activities at regional and local/community level plans are underway.

### **Core indicator 4**

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

#### **Level of Progress achieved:**

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

#### **Description:**

National Multi-sector platform none existent but plans are underway towards its establishment.

#### **Context & Constraints:**

Capacity constraints.

## **Priority for action 2**

*Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning*

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### **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:**

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

#### **Description:**

No risk assessment is being undertaken. The only assessment that is being done is the annual vulnerability assessment which focuses mainly on issues of the availability of food and water at the moment

#### **Context & Constraints:**

There has been some capacity constraint as the National Disaster management Agency has been operating with a skeleton structure and was mainly focusing on relief efforts.

## Core indicator 2

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

### Level of Progress achieved:

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

### Description:

Establishment of teh NDMA as the primary source of information. There will be an indformation and resource centre under the NDMA office

### Context & Constraints:

capacity constraints. An information office will be recruited

## 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:

There are no proper structures in place.

### Context & Constraints:

Lack of both financial and human resources

## 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:

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

### Description:

We have not yet started to carry our risk assessemnts

### Context & Constraints:

Capacity constraints

## Priority for action 3

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

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## 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:

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

**Description:**

Information on disaster risk reduction (DRR) is scattered among some sector organizations. Although the National Disaster Management Act was passed in 2006 not much progress has been achieved in terms of putting in place a national disaster management information system for disaster risk reduction. But it is hoped that with the recruitment of the Director, a coordinated national disaster information system for DRR will be established. Two national action plans have been developed since 2005 but with little significant implementation.

**Context & Constraints:**

Public awareness campaigns and training on disaster risk reduction through the chieftdom system has not yet been done due to the absence of regional disaster management committees (RDMCs) who are the mandatory coordinators.

Information such as hazards profiles and risks especially climate risk/disasters should be linked to community based interventions. There is need to produce hazard risk maps.

A programme aimed at strengthening national and local/community resilience to disasters in Swaziland is being implemented in partnership between government and UNDP until July 2010. The programme seeks among others to address the issue of an information management system for disaster risk reduction.

Supporting document:

[http://www.preventionweb.net/files/3395\\_SwazilandDRRProjectBriefFinalApril182008.doc](http://www.preventionweb.net/files/3395_SwazilandDRRProjectBriefFinalApril182008.doc) [DOC 426.00 KB]

**Core indicator 2**

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

**Level of Progress achieved:**

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

**Description:**

Education curriculum does not mainstream DRR issues and concepts.

**Context & Constraints:**

Challenges include advocacy and lobbying education policy makers including linking general messages in national curricular to local awareness of involvement in local hazard and risk reduction processes and emergency planning.

The programme aimed at strengthening national and local/community resilience to disasters in Swaziland seeks to advocate for the incorporation of DRR in the education curriculum through piloting DRR materials in the formal and informal education systems starting with a pilot of one school.

**Core indicator 3**

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

**Level of Progress achieved:**

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

**Description:**

The strengthening national and local/community resilience to disasters in Swaziland programme is advocating for a multi sector approach to DRR issues. To date a multi sectoral drought early recovery needs assessment is underway. Methods used in this assessment provide the basis for future assessments of major hazards in the country. Two main outcomes are envisaged from this intervention namely the multi sector drought early recovery (DER) needs assessment and drought early recovery strategic plan. A draft DER strategic plan was developed. It follows a sector discussion approach of the issues.

**Context & Constraints:**

Capacity to develop multi-sector assessment including cost benefit analysis tools is the major constraints for the country. Constraints include lack of capacity to effectively apply science to practice and policy development.

**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:**

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

**Description:**

There is no formal national coordinated programme/strategy aimed at public awareness for building or promoting resilience to disasters with outreach to urban and rural communities. Some NGOs such as World Vision, Lutheran Development Services are assisting some communities to develop and implement community based disaster preparedness emergency plans. Coverage is limited to some rural communities.

**Context & Constraints:**

There is no research to establish a baseline about the awareness and knowledge base of both rural and urban communities about the culture of resilience to disasters. It is difficult to gauge the levels of preparedness and or resilience of the communities. Awareness is in many cases generated in the aftermath of a disaster through stories covered by the media.

**Priority for action 4**

*Reduce the underlying risk factors*

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**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:**

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

**Description:**

Environmental legislation and related policies, strategies/plans including land use natural resource management does not explicitly integrate disaster risk reduction. Although the Environmental Management



Act of 2002 has a sustainable management purpose, it does not have explicit requirements to address the effects of natural hazards.

The Second National Communication (SNC) on climate change whose implementation is underway seeks to among others integrate climate change risk management (CRM) within the context of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. Swaziland is party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Capacity constraints is a major challenge on integrating climate change issues and concept within the context of DRR model/framework.

**Context & Constraints:**

The absence of substantive information on major hazards constitute a major challenge to translate this information into integrated planning and implementation across sectors.

Supporting document:

[http://www.preventionweb.net/files/3395\\_TheEnvironmentManagementAct2002.doc](http://www.preventionweb.net/files/3395_TheEnvironmentManagementAct2002.doc) [DOC 312.00 KB]

**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 Poverty Reduction Strategy and Action Programme (PRSAP) identifies disasters as a major challenge to social sustainability. At the moment community based advocacy on the PRSAP has been rolled out.

**Context & Constraints:**

We have been slow in the mainstreaming of DRR in the PRSAP as a result of capacity constraints

**Core indicator 3**

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

**Level of Progress achieved:**

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

**Description:**

The Government policy documents such as the NDS and the PRSAP are all documents that are advocating for the reduction of vulnerabilities of economic activities.

**Context & Constraints:**

There is some capacity constraints

**Core indicator 4**

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

**Level of Progress achieved:**

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

**Description:**

DRR has not been mainstreamed. we are currently engaged on public awareness campaigns

**Context & Constraints:**

Capacity constraints

**Core indicator 5**

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

**Level of Progress achieved:**

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

**Description:**

We are currently undertaking a drought early recovery needs assessment. rehabilitation projects will be identified from the assessment and these will integrate DRR. The outcome of the assessment will also feed into the drought early recovery framework being developed

**Context & Constraints:**

Capacity constraints

**Core indicator 6**

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

**Level of Progress achieved:**

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

**Description:**

There has been no awareness creation and any form of advocacy on this area

**Context & Constraints:**

capacity constraints

**Priority for action 5**

*Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels*

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**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:**

Legal basis for establishing structures for disaster management structures. Disaster management act

passed and policy is being revised. An agency, NDMA dedicated to DRR in place but needs to be capacitated.

**Context & Constraints:**

National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction developed but there are implementing capacity challenges. An emergency service exists but it has limited capacity especially with regards to the DRR concept.

**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:**

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

**Description:**

Only national action plans have been developed but without systematic implementation. Ad hoc disaster and emergency response because of the absence of contingency/disaster preparedness plans.

**Context & Constraints:**

Lack of capacity to develop and implement contingency/disaster preparedness plans. However, trainings are in the pipeline. Some NGOs e.g. World Vision is working with rural based communities on community based disaster preparedness plans.

**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:**

National Disaster Relief Fund is in place to finance disaster and emergency situations.

**Context & Constraints:**

The National Disaster Relief Fund may need to support preparedness and risk reduction mechanism as opposed to supporting post disaster situations.

**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:**

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

**Description:**

Systems with laid down procedures for exchange of information during hazard events and disasters are not in place as yet in place.

**Context & Constraints:**

Capacity to undertake reviews and exchange of information on hazards occurrences/situations/events.

## Drivers of Progress

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

#### **Levels of Reliance:**

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

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

- There is a need to strengthen capacity of the multisectoral focal points and committees.

- Establish and capacitate the national multisectoral platform

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

#### **Levels of Reliance:**

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

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

Swaziland is currently developing an early recovery framework which puts more emphasis on the impact of disasters on vulnerable groups including gender dimensions. A national drought early recovery multisector study which mainstream gender is currently underway.

### **c) Capacities for risk reduction and recovery identified and strengthened**

#### **Levels of Reliance:**

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

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

Strengthening capacity on DRR at national, regional and local/community levels. This includes risk identification and assessment; information and knowledge management; integration of DRR in development planning; preparedness and emergency response.

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

#### **Levels of Reliance:**

No/ little reliance: no acknowledgement of the issue in policy or practice; or, there is some acknowledgement but nothing/ little done to address it

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

Most vulnerable communities are not protected from existing and emerging environmental risks. However, food aid/relief has to a great extent assisted some vulnerable communities but with shortcomings/challenges in terms of providing targeted assistance to the most vulnerable communities in e.g. drought disaster emergency response and recovery programmes. The DRR interventions seeks to ensure the protection of vulnerable populations during hazard/disaster events/situations.

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

**Levels of Reliance:**

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

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

The National Action Plan 2008-2015 on DRR was developed through a stakeholder partnership model and predominatly seeks to foster cross sector partnership between Government, NGOs, UN and Civil Society. Less efforts have been put on private sector engagement/partnerships on DRR.

**f) Contextual Drivers of Progress**

**Levels of Reliance:**

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

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

Limited resources and institutional capacities for disaster risk reduction etc.

## **Future outlook**

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### **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:**

1. Lack of awreness on DRR by varoius sectors of teh society including government and the public sector
2. Reswource constraints within the National Disater Managemnt Agency to drive teh process of DRR advocacy

**Future Outlook Statement:**

1. Creation of DRR focal points in government and public or private institutions such as utility companies, municipalities and the chamber of commerce to name a few.
2. Implementation of Unicef the project on strengthening capacity on DRR funded by UNDP and the Strengthening National and Local Resilience to communities project funded by UNDP-BCPR and the

swaziland Government.

## **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:**

There have been delays in setting up the structures as outlined in the Disaster Management Act of 2006 due to limited resources

### **Future Outlook Statement:**

Establishment of local level disaster management committees and capacity building .

## **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:**

Lack of financial and human resources

### **Future Outlook Statement:**

1. Capacity building
2. Avail resources to carry out programmes