

# Cambodia

## 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:**

NCDM Strategic Goal  
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The National Strategy of Disaster Management (NCDM) and Disaster Risk Reduction had been launched along with the National Comprehensive AHI Preparedness Plan in July 2007. Key goals under this comprehensive plan includes :

- Integrate DRR into Social and Economic Development Plan in multi-sectoral aspects at all levels.
- Develop Disaster Management Information System

## 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:**

NCDM Strategic Goal  
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The National Strategy of Disaster Management (NCDM) and Disaster Risk Reduction had been launched along with the National Comprehensive AHI Preparedness Plan in July 2007. Key goals under this comprehensive plan includes :

- Strengthen the Disaster Management System
- Develop human resources and Institutional Capacity

## 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:**

NCDM Strategic Goal  
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The National Strategy of Disaster Management (NCDM) and Disaster Risk Reduction had been launched along with the National Comprehensive AHI Preparedness Plan in July 2007. Key goals under this comprehensive plan includes :

- Develop the Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response Contingency Plan

## 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:

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

#### Description:

Since NCDM established in 1995, NCDM has tried its best in collaborating with local, international and regional partner agencies to implement the disaster risk reduction measures at all levels, especially, at community levels. Since 2001, NCDM developed a draft National Emergency Management Policy (NEMC) and currently, NCDM is developing a National Disaster Management Bill (NDMB) with actively participate from its line ministry members.

The formalization of National Emergency Management Policy and National Disaster Management Bill are the fundamental steps towards strengthening the disaster management process throughout the country. The documents provide a comprehensive approach to disaster management that considers the entire range of possible disasters that could occur, as well as outlining the national disaster management framework required before, during and after emergency situation. As the Committees for Disaster Management become operational at all levels of Cambodian society. In this respect, the documents will serve as a foundation from which to build an efficient and effective process for disaster management.

#### Context & Constraints:

The government of Cambodia, with technical and financial supports from NGO's and other agencies, has been actively supporting the initiatives to reduce people's vulnerability to hazards at both provincial and district levels. However, there are other gaps that highlight general weaknesses in national capacity building as well as organizational coordination and planning for better prevention, preparedness and mitigation for hazards in the country. Some identified gaps are as follows:

§ With financially and technically support from partner agencies, NCDM drafted a National Emergency Management Policy (NEMP). Due to the insufficient support, the draft has not been finalized.

§ NGOs are playing active roles in implementing disaster risk reduction at all levels in Cambodia, especially at provincial, district and community levels. The government agencies are providing coordination and facilitation to those partners. So it is still not become a strong institutional and systematic mechanism in disaster risk reduction which government agencies play lead roles and national policy and legal framework and the national government is not efficiency in comprehensive overview strategy on disaster management.

§ The NCDM is still partly integrated into the government's national administrative and budgetary structure: There is no regular budget allocation for the implementation of training and preparedness activities.

#### Recommendations to Overcome:

§ National policy and legal framework on disaster management will help to ensure substantial and comprehensive achievements of the disaster risk reduction in the country. So, the drafts of National Emergency Management Policy and Disaster Management Bill shall be reviewed and finalized. While the

policy developed, there will be needed to widely disseminate and mainstream into the institutional policies and programmes.

§ Overall capacity of NCDM to develop and implement disaster management bill has been seen as one area that need to be strengthened.

## **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:**

There are some available resources for disaster risk reduction plans in the county, but the resources are mainly borne by partner agencies, who are working on disaster risk reduction in the country. They are: ADPC, MRC, LWF, CWF, Concern Worldwide, Care International, World Vision, ZOA, Action Aid, CRC, Oxfam GB, Oxfam America, Oxfam Australia, DCA, Save the Earth and other local NGOs etc. The partner agencies are funded by funding agencies, including ECHO, GTZ, World Bank, ADB, AusAID, USAID, OFDA and others.

The government also allocated some fund, but it could only be utilized for emergency relief and response operation when the disaster occurred.

### **Context & Constraints:**

§ The level of progress on disaster management in the country is limited due to many factors contribute to, including:

- o Disaster management is not become a systematic and institutional mechanism due to Disaster Management Offices at all levels are not become the institutions which enable them to have their own budget for ensuring their programmes implementation and functions
- o DM is not institutionalized.
- o Capacity of institutions at all levels are limited in terms of human resources, administrations, and financial resources for ensuring their functions

### **Recommendations to Overcome**

- Strengthening institutions at all levels enable them to institutionalize disaster management into sectors and mobilize resources to ensure their functions and mechanism on disaster risk management.
- Strengthening capacities of institutions at all levels enable them to manage and implement the policies, and legal framework on disaster risk management and disaster management.

## **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:**

There is much encouragement and empowerment of participation and decentralization of community, including identifying and analyzing problems, needs, decision in planning and implementing disaster risk

reduction, development planning and other areas. There are also encouragement of participation from different groups, such as vulnerable groups, woman and children groups, the rich and poor, religions, development sectors and social sectors.

### **Context & Constraints:**

§ There many projects/ programme aiming of encouragement of participation and empowerment of community and authorities, but delegation and resources are limited. The authorities are considered as only providing the facilitation roles to the projects/programmes implementation but not the key implementers at local levels. So, while the project phased out there are some concerns of sustainability and ownership to keep momentum of projects/programmes for longer term.

§ Even though, many projects or programmes are operating and implementing at community level, but the capacity of communities and authorities on disaster risk reduction are still limited at all levels, caused by inadequate initiative of establishment of sustainable mechanisms, for example, building up the core groups or group of trainer to ensure the long run of training. Besides, it is insufficient decentralizations and delegations to community and authorities to undertake the longer term projects or programmes

§ The disaster management works are more active and proactive only in the coverage areas of partner agencies, but there are no move in other disaster prone area where do not have presence of disaster management partner agencies.

### **Recommendations to Overcome:**

- To ensure the subsistence and comprehensive achievement of disaster management for all levels, the institutional strengthening of disaster management offices are needed.
- Capacity strengthening of institutions at all levels is required. National Disaster Management Secretariats have to play the lead roles in enhancing the capacity of sub-national levels and provide technical guidance and support in implementing the policy and legal framework on disaster management in the country.
- NCDM needs to coordinate and lead in incorporation of DRR into national development plans and strategies (i.e., CMDG, NSDP, NPRSP, rectangular strategy) as a cross-cutting development issues.
- To encourage community ownership and continuation of programmes, the partner agencies need to present clear and transparent exit strategies.

### **Core indicator 4**

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

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

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

### **Description:**

To ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of emergency relief and response operation, NCDM has established multi-sectoral working group. The working group composed of government ministries, NGOs, humanitarian agencies, UN agencies represent by WFP in the country and international agencies.

To address the implementation of the HFA in Cambodia, recently the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) and Ministry of Planning (MOP) established an inter-institutional task force to spearheaded the formulation of a “Strategic National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction 2008 – 2015” (SNAP) for the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC). Technical assistance was provided by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) with funding support from the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) and the Disaster Preparedness Programmes of the European

Commission Humanitarian Aid Department (DIPECHO). The compositions of national inter-institutional task force is attached.

### **Context & Constraints:**

It is a great initiative of establishment of the multi-sectoral working groups. It is also a good opportunity to mobilize the joint efforts from different actors. However, there are some critical challenges of the working groups are not well functioning, due to lack of management mechanism and appropriate planning and resources.

Recommendations to Overcome:

- The multi-sectoral working groups are the factors and catalysts. They will be functioned unless the appropriate management mechanism and planning are in place.
- The roles and responsibilities of the working group are needed to define clearly

Supporting document:

National inter-institutional task force [http://www.preventionweb.net/files/9323\\_cambodiaNPlist.doc](http://www.preventionweb.net/files/9323_cambodiaNPlist.doc) [DOC 36.00 KB]

## **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:**

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

### **Description:**

There is some statistical information of the national and local risk, multi-hazard data, vulnerability information, but the information and data is not periodically and regularly developed, updated, and disseminated widely to decision-makers, general public and communities. In generally, the hazard data and vulnerability information and data is developed, updated, and disseminated separately by individual national authorities and partner agencies to serve for their purposes respectively, for instance, the disaster risk reduction partner agencies, who is responsible to implement the disaster risk reduction measures at local levels, they usually conduct hazard, vulnerability and capacity assessment (HVCA) to collect information of hazards, vulnerabilities and capacities for formulating local disaster preparedness, mitigation and prevention plan, while local authorities are engaged in the process of assessment. In addition to this, most development agencies usually conduct the surveys or assessment to collect the relevant information or other references to design and implement the development plan, but the significant challenges and constrains is that it does not have mechanism to maintain, update, utilize and disseminate the data or information properly.

### **Context & Constraints:**

In general, there have been some critical constrains and challenges encountering by the country, national authorities and partner agencies on development, update, and dissemination of national and local disaster risk assessment in Cambodia, including:

- Mechanisms and systems to collect, maintain, update and utilize the data and information of hazards, vulnerabilities and other relevant information are recognized the limitation
- Limited human resources and equipments for maintaining and updating, and dissemination of data and information.
- Limited capacities and knowledge on disaster risk reduction concept while the national and local authorities consider that emergency relief is more important than risk reduction, preparedness, prevention and mitigation.

Recommendation to Overcome:

To ensure the regular and periodic development, update, collection and improved dissemination of statistical information of hazards and vulnerabilities to decision-makers, general public and communities, recommended suggestions should be considered to address by national and sub-national levels as following:

- Appropriate mechanisms to develop, update, collect, maintain and dissemination of statistical information of hazards, vulnerabilities and disaster risk should consider as one of the top priorities of national and sub-national levels
- Human resources and equipments at all levels to effectively serve for development, updating, record, analysis, maintaining and disseminating data and information of hazards, vulnerabilities and disaster risk should be implemented in the national context and needs.

## 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:

There is some political commitment to collect and archive the national and local risk, multi-hazard data, vulnerability information, but there has not been a standardized system to collect, maintain, update and utilize the hazard, vulnerability data and information properly. In generally, the hazard data and vulnerability information is collected individually by national authorities and partner agencies to serve for their purposes respectively, for instance, the disaster risk reduction partner agencies, who is responsible to implement the disaster risk reduction measures at local levels, they usually conduct hazard, vulnerability and capacity assessment (HVCA) to collect information of hazards, vulnerabilities and capacities for formulating local disaster preparedness, mitigation and prevention plan, while local authorities are engaged in the process of assessment. In addition to this, most development agencies usually conduct the surveys or assessment to collect the relevant information or other references to design and implement the development plan, but the significant challenges and constrains it does not have mechanism to maintain, update, utilize and disseminate the data or information properly.

### Context & Constraints:

In general, there has been some critical constrains and challenges encountering by the country, national authorities and partner agencies in Cambodia, including:

- Inappropriate mechanisms to collect, maintain, update and utilize the data and information of hazards, vulnerabilities and other relevant information
- Inadequate human resources and equipments for maintaining and updating data and information, due to the issues have not been considered as the top priorities

- Limited capacity and knowledge on disaster risk reduction while the national and local authorities consider that emergency relief is more important than risk reduction, preparedness, prevention and mitigation.

Recommendation to Overcome:

To ensure the regular and periodic development, update, collection and improved dissemination of statistical information of hazards and vulnerabilities to decision-makers, general public and communities, recommended suggestions will be considered to address by national and sub-national levels:

- Appropriate mechanisms to develop, update, collect, maintain and dissemination of statistical information of hazards, vulnerabilities and disaster risk should consider as one of the top priorities of national and sub-national levels
- Human resources and equipments to effectively serve for development, updating, record, analysis, maintaining and disseminating data and information of hazards, vulnerabilities and disaster risk should be implemented in the national context and needs.

### **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 establishments of early warning system and dissemination of forecast and early warning information with outreach to communities at all levels, including at national level, Ministry of Water Resource and Meteorology (MoWRAM) through its Department of Hydrology and River Work (DHRW) and Department of Meteorology, established, reviews, maintains and disseminate flood forecast, early warning system, information and weather forecast. The both flood and weather forecast and early warning information is disseminated to line ministries, partner agencies including humanitarian agencies, UN agencies, funding agencies, NGOs, and Provincial Department of Water Resource and Water Work through facsimile. In addition, the information is disseminated to the end users at communities through national and private TV channels, Radios and existing networks of partner agencies. At local levels, the flood and weather early warning, forecast system are established, reviewed, and disseminated by concerned partner agencies in collaborating with Ministry of Water Resource and Meteorology through Department of Hydrology and River Work (DHRW) and Department of Meteorology, for example, the Mekong River Commission partnered with the Cambodian Red Cross, Action Against Hunger (AAH) and Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC) to implement the Community Based Flood Early Warning System in only 58 villages in four flood prone provinces in the Mekong Lower Basin (Steung Treng, Kratie, Kampong Cham, Kandal and Prey Veng provinces), In addition to this, Oxfam GB in collaborating with Department of Hydrology and River Work (DHRW) established the same system in flood prone districts in Takeo province. However, some systems are still effectively operating while others are not well functioning due to financially and technically phased out and systems have not properly integrated into local development processes and the existing networks have not built into local authority systems.

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

However, the achievements are neither comprehensive and nor substantial due to national and local authorities and partner agencies are encountering some following challenges and constrain, including:

- Out of 58 villages in four flood prone province have not established the early warning system to effectively, timely and accurately disseminate forecast and early warning information to communities,

and decision-makers in those specific areas

- Dissemination mechanism of forecast and early warning to the end-users at community levels has not been well established and functioned. The forecast and early warning information from the national level usually outreach to existing networks at province, but do not to community levels, because of insufficient mechanisms and communication system and equipments.
- Existing systems and tools are not well regularly maintained and reviewed while technically and financially supports phased out, due failed of dedication of resource from the government to keep the momentum of implementation.

Recommendation to Overcome:

To ensure of early warning and forecast information would be effectively, timely and accurately outreached the communities and responsible agencies, the following recommendations should be addressed:

- The system should be made in place in other disaster prone areas out of the 58 villages. The existing systems are in only mainstreams could not much effectively, timely and accurately serve to the remote areas from long distance stations
- The mechanism to maintain the existing system and to review and disseminate information is considered as the priority consideration to take account
- The government should develop and review strategy and action plan, and allocate resources to extend the systems to other areas and maintain and the existing systems by including in development framework.

#### **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:**

The initiatives and activities have been initiating and implementing under framework of the Mekong River Commission's programmes, namely "Flood Management and Mitigation Programme (FMMP)" in collaborating with the members states of the Mekong River Commission, in which the Royal Government of Cambodia is one of the member states, is implementing the programme through its national line ministries and local authorities. There are five key components under MRC's FMMP programme, including:

Component 1 (C1): Establishment of Regional Flood Management and Mitigation Centre (RFMMC), under this component, four outputs are planned:

- An operational regional FMM centre under MRC to operate the regional flood forecast and dissemination early warning information in the riparian countries
- Improved monitoring, operational forecasting, warning and dissemination services
- Medium and long term forecast
- Risk assessment tools and flood risk analysis

Component 2 (C2): Structural Measures and Flood Proofing. There are two key outputs are implementing under this component.

- Guidelines for best practice design of the structural and flood proofing measures. It is primarily focusing on development of national guideline on practical of the structural and flood proofing
- FMMP implementation plan. It is focus on how to implement the of FMM plan

Component 3 (C3): Enhancing Cooperation in Trans-boundary Flood Issues

- Information generation
- Capacity & skills building
- Toolbox development

Component 4 (C4): Flood Emergency Management Strengthening

- Preparation and implementation of flood preparedness programmes
- Developed national capacities, regional knowledge sharing
- Facilitated trans-boundary emergency between provinces

Component 5 (C5): Land Management

- More reliable flood probability information
- Capacity of relevant line agencies in the area of land management
- Regional sharing of knowledge on improved land management

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

- There are existing and regular cooperation and collaboration agenda on socio economic, trades, and security between neighbouring countries, local authorities, but the cooperation on risk assessment and disaster risk reduction has not been initiated and established well and joint planning on disaster risk assessment and risk reduction between neighbouring countries and local authorities have not be developed and implemented.
- There are less efforts of local, international and regional organizations to provide technical and financial support to strengthen cooperation, collaboration, and mechanisms of regional cooperation on risk assessment and risk reduction

Recommendation to Overcome:

- Assessment on country framework to identify the gaps, needs and priorities for developing joint plan and mechanism to implement the plan and to develop procedures of cooperation on risk assessment and risk reduction
- Neighbouring countries and local authorities should include disaster risk assessment and risk reduction into regular and permanent agenda of cooperation and collaboration through joint plan and implementation.
- Increasing engagement and involvement of local, international and regional organizations to provide technical and financial support for strengthen regional cooperation on disaster risk assessment and risk reduction.

### **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:

There are establishment and implementation of network and partnership at the national level to serve as a Disaster Risk Reduction Forum (DRR Forum) through organization of regular events relating to disaster risk reduction practices, including consultative workshops or forums to share and exchange experiences, lesson learnt, good practices and innovative approaches etc. This initiative has been sponsored by DIPECHO partners, who are the disaster risk reduction actors and active involve from wider partners, lead by National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM). At sub-national levels the networks have not been in place yet, except where NGOs are working there

### Context & Constraints:

- The establishment and implementation of the network and partnership on disaster risk reduction is the great opportunity to share and exchange experiences, lesson learnt, good practices and innovative approaches, however, this mechanism has not become national institution mechanism yet and the mechanism has not widely outreached to sub-national levels yet
- National and sub-national systems and mechanisms of statistical and database management and sharing are not in place.
- No national mechanism for information access.
- Expand recommendation to build on mechanism itself: reassuring, training, collecting of data.

### Recommendations to Overcome:

- Institutionalization of DRR forum into national and sub-national mechanism is needed
- There is the need to provide technical support to National Committee for Disaster Management to set up the national and sub-national systems and mechanisms of statistical and database management on disasters in the country

## Core indicator 2

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

### Level of Progress achieved:

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

### Description:

There are increasingly consideration on mainstreaming disaster risk reduction measures into education sector in recently years through integration of disaster risk reduction into school curriculum, building capacity of school teachers and education officers on disaster risk reduction and organization of public awareness activities on disaster risk reduction to school children and institutionalization of school disaster safety programmes etc. This initiative is implemented by partner agencies in Cambodia, including ADPC, Action Aid, ZoA, Plan International, UNICEF and Save the Children etc.

This initiative is strongly recognized, supported and commitment from the national government, especially the Ministry of Education Youth and Sports.

**Context & Constraints:**

Even though much effort has been made to initiate mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into the education sector, however, it has not overcome the substantial and comprehensive achievements yet, due to:

- It does not have a standard curriculum on disaster risk reduction to be suitable to different grades
- Capacities of human resources in the education sector have been widely built up
- A disaster risk reduction concept in the education sector is too new.

**Recommendations to Overcome:**

§ There is a need to continue mainstreaming DRR into the formal educational system including health awareness and preparedness, and transport-related hazards.

§ There is a need to mainstream DRR into development plans of other key ministries in the country.

§ DRR training should be provided to provincial, city and district level department officials

§ Enhance NCDM coordination and monitoring of disaster management training provided by different organizations including development of standard training courses.

§ DRR forum to form a working group to standardize DRR information to be mainstreamed into curriculum

**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:**

There are some developments of practical, simple and applicable methods and tools for multi-risk assessments and widely utilized in the country such as Hazard, Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (HVCA), Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment (VCA), developed by the Cambodian Red Cross, and MRC is developing the series of methods and tools on flood risk management, including Risk assessment tools and flood risk analysis (C1), medium and long term model of flood forecast (C1), flood probability maps for land use management and user's guide (C5), guideline for the development and design of structural and flood proofing measures, guideline for integration flood risk management planning and impact evaluation, and guideline for flood risk assessment (C2 & C3).

The methods and tools have been used to train the practitioners and researchers on how to apply the methods and tools to conduct the disaster risk assessment and analysis the information and formulate action plans for disaster risk reduction activities.

**Context & Constraints:**

There are many new developments of tools, methods, guidelines and manuals; however, there are a lot of challenges of using these new products, due to many factors, including:

- The new products are looking comprehensive, but they have never been tested with specific related projects and planned for periodic review, especially the new products produced under Flood Management and Mitigation Programme of MRC.
- Capacities of users of new products are limited. In general, during the processes of development, there were some training courses provided by external experts to only a few national experts and/or users. Then, they were expected to continue and transfer knowledge to others, but the expectations have never been taken place.

- There are less participation of national experts, users and especially community and authorities during the processes of development methods, tools, guidelines, manuals. They have a slim chance to learn and absorb knowledge, experience, competencies and expertise from the external experts

Recommendations to Overcome:

§ There are needs to test and plan to periodically review to ensure that methods, tools, guidelines and manuals are contextual and applicable

§ There are needs to strengthen capacities of users, including government agencies, authorities, communities, and national experts and needs to involve them in the processes of development of the tools, methods, guidelines, and manuals, enable them to have opportunities to learn and absorb knowledge, experiences, expertise from national and external experts.

§ Coordinate/standardize the article made by government and NGOs

§ Share/map data being collected (researches)

§ Link new information produced and integrated with other issues

## **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:**

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

### **Description:**

Under implementations of various projects of local, international and regional organizations in the country, they have their own public awareness strategies to raise public awareness to urban and rural communities to simulate a cultural of disaster resilience, for example, ADPC, LWF, CWS, Action Aid, CRC, World Vision, Plan International etc developed Information Educational Communicational materials (IEC materials) and public awareness materials, such as posters, booklets, leaflets, brochures, and billboards, films on “Living with Flood”, film on “Mekong River Rise” and Radio Spots etc . In addition to IEC materials and public awareness materials, raising public awareness activities on disaster risk reduction measures and activities have been implementing by those partner agencies at community level, for example, cultural performances, folk songs and shadow dramas etc.

### **Context & Constraints:**

Even though, there are many types of IEC and public awareness materials have been developed and utilized for conducting public awareness activities, however, those materials have been distributed and disseminated widely in only coverage areas of those partner agencies are working, while other prone communities out of the coverage areas are not available and raising public awareness activities are in not in place.

Capacity of national government agencies at all levels are challenging in term of human resources, funding, and taking into account in taking over the implementation of activities by themselves, for instance, there are still limited participations of media and private sectors in raising public awareness on DRR.

Recommendations to Overcome:

§ In order to ensure the sustainability, long term running and wider outreaching to disaster prone communities in the country, the government agencies at all levels should take into account in taking the lead role in development and implementation of extensive disaster awareness campaign and promote

the formulation and implementation at all levels, especially disaster-prone communities in the country.  
§ There are some more advocacy works to be considered including, encourage and convince the mass media and private sectors to undertake in implementing the initiatives, enable the message would be widely coverage to all disaster prone communities  
§ Centralized/standardize IEC material production  
§ Coordinated IEC, dissemination strategy

## 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:

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

#### Description:

There are some efforts made by the national government and other local, international and regional organizations to address concerns related to environment, land use, natural resource management and climate change, for example:

§ Under national legal framework of social-economic development plan, environment and natural resource management is one of the five priority components.

§ Ministry of Environment developed and implementing the National Adaptation Programme of Action to Climate Change (NAPA) in aiming to implement the high priority activities of non-health and health related issues identified in the NAPA and lead ahead to address policies and legal frameworks on environment, land use, and natural resource management and climate change.

§ A few NGOs are now working on climate change mitigation and adaptation at national and local levels.

§ The royal of Government of Cambodia, established Tonle Sap Basin Authority (TSBA) for sustainable use of lake ecosystem with support of ADB

§ There are much consideration from funding agencies to support the Royal Government of Cambodia and other local, international organizations to implement food security projects, forestry and fishery conservation projects, include those related to community forestry and fishery protection in Kampong Speu, Rattanakiri, Mondul Kiri, Steung Treng, Kratie, Kampong Chhnang, Pursat, Banteay Mean Chey, Odor Mean Cheay, and some other provinces along the Tole Sap and the Mekong River Basin

§ MRC implementing long term Flood Mitigation and Management Programme (FMMP) for lower Mekong basin in aiming to contribute to sustainable development and environment management as well.

#### Context & Constraints:

However, there are many emerging challenges and constraints to achieve the directions and efforts, such as:

- Inconsistency with technical and financial support to implement the initiatives and plans
- Human resources and the capacity of partner agencies is limited
  
- In a certain extent development and implementation of the comprehensive policies, guidelines and plans
- There are critical challenges of achieving the sustainability and ownership.
- Linkages between climate and DRR programme are no yet strong enough.

## Recommendations to Overcome:

- There are needs to develop the comprehensive policies, guidelines, and plans to support implement the policies and plans
- There are needs the high commitment from national government agencies to implement the initiatives, policies and plans, there are needs to the contribution from local, international and regional organizations in term of technical and financial support and to build up the capacity of human resources, enable the efforts, policies and plans would be effectively and efficiently implemented and achieved directions and goals.
- There are needs to initiate and develop the comprehensive guidelines and mechanisms on sustainability and ownership.
- Ministry of Environment and NCDM should be link climate change and DRR together.

## Core indicator 2

*Social development policies and plans are being implemented to reduce the vulnerability of populations most at risk.*

### Level of Progress achieved:

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

### Description:

There are many development policies and plans are being implementing in over the country, including food security, food aid through Food for Work (FFW) programme targeted towards poorest communities. The projects are mainly under the projects of UN World Food Programme (WFP) and other International development organizations.

European Commission and ECHO also funded food security projects in most food insecure provinces of Ratanakiry, Kampong Speu, Odor Mean Cheay, Pailin, Takeo and Prey Veng, Battambang, Banteay Mean Cheay, through international NGOs, for example ECOZORN

FAO providing technical advisory services to MAFF for community level rice brown plant hopper and associated viral disease management in over the country.

Moreover, Programme Support of Development for Democratic Decentralization and Deconcentration (PSDD) under support fund from DANIDA, UNDP and other donors is focusing on socio-economic development and local empowerment and decentralization at commune levels.

Several NGOs are implementing on social development to reduce the vulnerability of populations most at risk so that please mention them in detail.

### Context & Constraints:

However, the disaster risk and vulnerability reductions have not been substantially and comprehensive achievements, due to:

§ There are the critical challenges of human resources, who have knowledge and competencies on disaster risk reduction and vulnerability reduction working for the development sectors.

§ Capacity of population at high risk on disaster risk reduction and vulnerability reduction and culture disaster resilience is limited.

§ There is increasing of climate change which contributes to increase consequence of climate hazards and its impacts-flood, draught, windstorm, diseases, etc. The increasing of natural hazards are the

critical challenges of socio-economic development and contribution to increasingly poverty of populations at high risk.

§ Lack of funding allocated to local authority for implementing DRR

Recommendations to Overcome:

§ There are needs to build capacity of multi-sectors, enable them to have the common understanding on integration of disaster risk reduction and vulnerability reduction into development plan and other sectors. In addition, there are needs to develop the comprehensive guideline and policies on integration and include into the national legal framework.

§ There are needs to build up and enhance capacity of national government line agencies at all levels and development agencies as well, enable them to have common understanding on disaster risk reduction and vulnerability reduction.

§ There are needs to capacity of populations in high risk areas through public awareness raising activities and campaigns etc.

§ Allocate funding to local authority for implementing DRR.

### **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:**

At the moment, there are efforts from all sectors to initiate and achieve the goals of multi-sector integration, including socio-economic development, disaster risk reduction, humanitarian aid, gender etc which those efforts are to contribute to reduce disaster risk reduction and vulnerabilities of the population in the high risk.

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

§ There is no common understanding of multi-sector integration approaches and lack of comprehensive understanding of disaster risk reduction and vulnerability reduction of development agencies.

§ The capacity of economic sector on DRR is limited at all levels.

Recommendations to Overcome:

§ There are needs to build up and enhance capacity of national government line agencies at all levels and development agencies as well, enable them to have common understanding on disaster risk reduction and vulnerability reduction.

§ There are needs to build up and enhance capacity of national and local.

§ The capacity on DRR to the economic sector should be built.

### **Core indicator 4**

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

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

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

**Description:**

There are some considerations and projects management of human settlements implemented by partner agencies, who are working on disaster risk reduction activities, for example, various small-scale village road repairing, raised houses, safety boats, safe area development etc. The projects are serving for human settlements during the flood seasons

There are also considerations from the national government agencies to implement the project related to disaster risk reduction measures (flood and drought), for example, Ministry of Water Resource and Meteorology (MOWRAM) are implementing flood protection structures (dikes and dams) to protect cities and provinces from river and flash flood. Moreover, Ministry of Public Work and Transportation are also implementing the road protection from flood in the flood prone areas. The projects are usually funded by World Bank and Asian Development Bank (ADB). The projects are also used as the human settlements during flood seasons as well.

**Context & Constraints:**

§ There are critical challenges in managing and maintaining the projects, due to insufficient mechanism, policies and plans to maintain, while the projects handed over to communities and authorities.

§ There are inadequate human and animal settlements in the flood prone communities, and there are challenges of facilities on safe areas (latrines, clean water facilities, and drainage systems etc) are not available and/or are not functioning, due to lack of maintaining mechanisms.

§ There have not been initiatives and progresses of developments of Building Code or policies related to human settlements.

§ DRR in post recovery reconstruction has not been integrated into any strategy yet.

§ Most vulnerable people are located in slum and high risk areas, especially who are living along the river.

**Recommendations to Overcome:**

§ There are needs to have the comprehensive management and maintaining mechanisms the projects, such as policies and plans. The operation and maintaining mechanisms need to integrate with local development policies and plans.

§ There are needs of technical and financial support from partner agencies and funding agencies to implement the projects related to human and animal settlements, especially in the high risk areas. Meanwhile, the national government agencies at all levels also need to consider as one of the priorities within its programme and project cycle and mobilize the resources to implement these activities as well.

§ There are needs to provide technical and financial support to develop and enforce the Building Codes and develop the related policies and plans to ensure the implementations.

§ City planning and settlement planning at local levels should be integrated DRR and social land concession.

**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:**

There are considerations from national government and local and international agencies in making interaction and complement between disaster risk reduction measures and post disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes.

However there is much effort from local and international agencies on enhancement of disaster resilience of populations at high risk, strengthening capacity of national disaster management offices at all levels and improvement of systems and mechanisms to cope with disasters through implementation of capacity development and public awareness campaigns programmes and implementation of small-scale projects such as construction of safe areas, latrine, wells, water reservoirs, early warning systems, canal restoration, etc those local and international organizations are: Oxfam GB, Oxfam America, Oxfam Australia, LWF, CWS, CRC, Concern Worldwide, Care International, ZOA, ADPC, MRC, Plan International etc.

For the national government is also considering on both activities-disaster risk reduction measures and post disaster recovery/rehabilitation processes. But there is much focusing on only playing the coordination roles to local and international partner agencies to implement the disaster risk reduction, while there are more concentrations on post disaster recovery and rehabilitation activities. Ministry of Water Resource and Meteorology (MoWRAM), Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT) and Ministry of Rural Development (MRD) are responsible to implement the post disaster recovery and rehabilitation projects such as constructions of rural and national roads, irrigation systems, dikes, dames, bridges, water gates, water reservoirs etc.

There are more considerations from the funding agencies as well to provide financial support (grants and loans) to national government agencies and local and international agencies to implement the disaster risk reduction measures and post disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes, such as World Bank, ADB, DANIDA, AusAID, DFID, JICA, etc.

**Context & Constraints:**

However there are still challenges encountering for integration disaster risk reduction measures into post disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes, because of the comprehensive norms and standards has not been established. In addition, the disaster risk reduction and poster disaster recovery and rehabilitation have not been integrated into any strategies yet.

Recommendations to Overcome:

§ There are needs to support in terms of technical and financial to develop the comprehensive norms and standards on disaster risk reduction measures and post disaster rehabilitations processes.

§ There are needs to push ahead on integration of disaster risk reduction into development policies, legal frameworks and plans.

§ There are needs to push ahead on integration of DRR including post disaster recovery and rehabilitation process into development policies, legal framework and plans.

**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 are developments of procedures, guidelines and methods to assess the flood risk impacts on major development projects, especially infrastructures. For instance, under Component (2) “Flood Proofing and Structural Measures” and Component (5) “Land Use Management” of Flood Management and Mitigation Programme of MRC, some procedures, guidelines and methods are being developed, including:

- Risk assessment tools and flood risk analysis, medium and long term model of flood forecast (C1),
- Guideline for the development and design of structural and flood proofing measures, guideline for integration flood risk management planning and impact evaluation, and guideline for flood risk assessment (C2 & C3).
- Flood probability maps for land use management and user’s guide (C5) etc.

There are some training are provided national experts and users on how to use the procedures, guidelines, tools and methods to assess the flood risk impacts on development projects, especially infrastructures

**Context & Constraints:**

There are a few new developments of procedures, tools, methods, guidelines and manuals; however, there are a lot of challenges of using these new products, due to many factors, including:

- The new products are looking comprehensive, but they have never been tested with specific related projects and planned for periodic review, especially the new products produced under Flood Management and Mitigation Programme of MRC.
- Capacities of users of new products are limited. In generally, during the processes of development, there were some training courses provided by external experts to only a few national experts and/or users. Then, they were expected to continue and transfer knowledge to others, but the expectations have never been taken place.
- There are less participation of national experts, users and especially community and authorities during the processes of development methods, tools, guidelines, manuals. They have a slim chance to learn and absorb knowledge, experience, competencies and expertise from the external experts

Recommendations to Overcome:

§ There are needs to test and plan to periodically review to ensure that methods, tools, guidelines and manuals are contextual, applicable

§ There are needs to strengthen capacities of users, including government agencies, authorities, communities, and national experts and needs to involve them in the processes of development of the tools, methods, guidelines, and manuals, enable them to have opportunities to learn and absorb knowledge, experiences, expertise from national and external experts.

**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:**

There are subsistent efforts and considerations from various local, international and regional partner agencies who are working on disaster risk reduction projects in the country such as LWF, CWS, ADPC, MRC, ZOA, Save the Earth, Concern Worldwide, Care International, Oxfam GB, Oxfam America, CRC, World Vision, Plan International, Action Aid and others on technical and institutional capacities and mechanisms for disaster risk management. They are mainly aiming at strengthening the institutional capacities and mechanisms of National Disaster Management Offices at all levels - national, provincial, district and commune levels through various programmes, including:

- Capacity development programmes,
- Development and implementation of Strategic National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction (SNAP) at national level.
- Development of Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction/Management Strategies (CBDRR/CBDRM)
- Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management into Education Sectors
- Institutionalization of School Flood Safety Programme in school curriculum at all levels
- Flood and Drought Early Warning Systems
- Facilitation to integrate disaster risk reduction measures into sustainable socio-economic development policies, strategies, programmes and plans etc.

**Context & Constraints:**

There are still challenges of technical and institutional capacities and mechanisms for disaster risk reductions, including:

- There are big challenges of limited capacities of National Disaster Management Offices (National Disaster Management Secretariat) at all levels in terms of human resources, finance, strategies, plans and function.
- There are still big challenges of sustainability and ownership
- There are also big challenges of implementations of policies, strategies, plans, he comprehensive policies, appropriate strategies and plans has not fixed and inadequate financial and human resources.
- Capacity of local authority on disaster risk management is limited and capacity on planning and implementing programmes/projects on disaster risk reduction is also limited.
- There are still challenges of achieving initiatives of integration disaster risk reduction measures into sustainable development, strategies, policies, programmes and plans, due to policies, guidelines and appropriate approaches has not fixed.

Recommendations to Overcome:

- There are needs to strengthen the technical and institutional capacities and mechanism, including strengthening capacity of human resources, development and revision of national strategies, policies, plans, enable the institution to be able to mobilize the resources to effectively and efficiently implement the disaster risk reduction measures in the country.
- There are needs to provide technical and financial support to develop and implement the policies and approaches to ensure the achievement of sustainability and ownership.
- There are needs to provide technical assistances and facilitation to achieve initiatives of integration disaster risk reduction measures into sustainable development, strategies, policies, programmes and plans, including development and implementation of policies, guidelines and capacity development programmes etc.

**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:**

There are some efforts and considerations from various local, international and regional partner agencies who are working on disaster risk reduction projects at sub-national level such as ADPC, Care International, CRC, Action Aid and others on disaster preparedness and contingency plans and regularly provide training drills and rehearsal to test the plans at provincial, district and commune levels and enhancement of institutional capacities and mechanisms for implementation of the plans as well. They are mainly implementing the following projects related to disaster preparedness and contingency plans:

- “Flood emergency management strengthening” and “strengthen and implement food preparedness programme at provincial, district and commune levels in the Lower Mekong Basin”, the both projects are under Component (4) of flood management and mitigation programme of the Mekong River Commission (MRC) funded by GTZ and DIPECHO
- Community based disaster preparedness and mitigation under action plans of DIPECHO
- Community based flood early warning system under Component (4) of flood management and mitigation programme of the Mekong River Commission (MRC) funded by GTZ
- National comprehensive avian human influenza preparedness plan and provincial avian human influenza preparedness plan, support of WHO and funded by World Bank

**Context & Constraints:**

There is still limited consideration on strengthening and implementing disaster preparedness and contingency plans at all levels, due to:

- There are only few projects are focusing on strengthening and implementing the disaster preparedness and contingency plans at provincial, district and commune levels. So, there are limited coverage areas, while there are more focus on physical structural mitigation projects at community levels
  - The disaster preparedness and contingency plans have not become systematic mechanisms, because of insufficient capacities, human resources, finance, strategies, plans and function.
  - There are still big challenges of sustainability and ownership
  - There are also big challenges of implementations of policies, strategies, plans, the comprehensive policies, appropriate strategies and plans has not fixed and inadequate financial and human resources
  - Capacity of local authority on disaster risk management is limited and capacity on planning and implementing programmes/projects on disaster risk reduction is also limited.
- 
- There are still challenges of achieving initiatives of integration disaster risk reduction measures into sustainable development, strategies, policies, programmes and plans, due to policies, guidelines and appropriate approaches has not fixed.

**Recommendations to Overcome:**

- There are needs to scale up the projects related to disaster preparedness and contingency plans to other areas and there is need to institutionalize disaster preparedness and contingency plans into national and sub-national levels, enable the disaster management committee at all levels to have regular allocation resources to implement the plans by themselves
- There is needs to strengthen the technical and institutional capacities and mechanism, including strengthening capacity of human resources, development of national strategies, policies, plans; enable the institution is able to mobilize the resources to effectively and efficiently implement the disaster risk

reduction measures in the country.

- There is need to provide technical and financial develop and implement the policies and approaches to ensure the achievement of sustainable and ownership.

### **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:**

There are some progresses of preparedness and contingency mechanisms and plans, including there are some development and implementation of preparedness and contingency mechanisms and plans, there is effort from national level in developing disaster emergency policies, for example, NCDM has developed a draft of National Emergency Management Policy, and the Cambodian Red Cross has its own disaster emergency response policy. Moreover, there is the regular allocation of national financial services to serve for disaster response and emergency relief and the National Committee on Disaster Management established a multi-sectoral working group to be responsible for disaster emergency response and emergency relief. However, there is minor progress of implementation of mechanisms and policies, due to lack of mechanism to use financial service to support the implementation the mechanism.

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

However, there is minor progress of implementation of mechanisms and policies, due to lack of proper mechanism to use financial service to support the implementation the mechanism and resource mobilization if required and the financial services and mechanisms at sub-national levels are not in place yet

Some line departments and others stakeholders (CRC, INGOs) have some reserve and contingency – but NCDM still has limited fund.

#### **Recommendations to Overcome:**

There are needs to strengthen the mechanisms to use the available resources and there are needs to establish financial services and mechanisms at sub-national levels, in order to support effectively implementation the emergency response and rehabilitations.

### **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:**

There are some achievements in terms of planning to exchange the relevant information during hazard events, including a draft National Policy for Emergency Management formulated by NCDM; Disaster Emergency Response formulated by the Cambodian Red Cross, Disaster Preparedness Plan formulated by Provincial Committee for Disaster Management in Svay Rieng province, Flood Emergency

Management Strengthening (FEMS) programme of MRC/ADPC in provinces of Prey Veng, Kandal and Kratie; Ministry of Health formulated plan of action for control of cholera and other epidemic diarrhoea diseases; Avian and Human Influenza Control and Preparedness Plan formulated by NCDM with technical support from WHO and funded by WB;

**Context & Constraints:**

There are challenges of implementation of policies and plans, because of insufficient technical and financial resources.

Recommendation of Overcome:

There are needs to strengthen the mechanisms to use the available resources and there are needs to establish financial services and mechanisms at sub-national levels, in order to support effectively implementation the emergency response and rehabilitations.

## 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?:**

No

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

There are much efforts and initiatives to address the emerging issues caused by multi hazards such as flood, drought, windstorms, diseases, avian influenzas etc through identifications and implementation of multi hazard integrated approach to disaster risk reduction and development. The emphasis should be placed on the following efforts:

- The government of Cambodia has to play active roles, along with support from NGO's and other partner agencies to implement the disaster risk reduction projects, capacity development, public awareness campaign and strengthening institutional and mechanism capacities at national, sub-national and community levels in order to reduce people's vulnerability to hazards at all levels, especially at community level.
- The government of Cambodia has to play active roles in initiating and pushing forward the integration disaster risk reduction into sustainable development policies, strategies, programmes and plans through development of integration policies, guidelines and legal frameworks etc

### **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):**

There is much consideration and efforts on promotion and empowerment of gender perspectives in

different sectors such as sustainable development, involvement in political platforms, social affairs, human rights etc, while there is less consideration and effort in engagement of gender perspectives in disaster risk reduction and recovery. In Cambodia, there are only a few partner agencies are focusing on promotion gender perspectives in disaster risk reduction and recovery such as:

- There are needs to provide technical and financial support to the gender focused government agencies to build their capacities on disaster risk reduction measures, in order them to take into account to include the disaster risk reduction and recovery into the existing policies, strategies, programmes and plans.
- There are needs to active involve woman representatives particularly in related works such as Damage and Need Assessment, HVCA, Humanitarian Aid assessment and distribution, planning, decision making process, implementation of related activities, in order to be well heard to the voices of women.
- There is still a need to integrate gender, disability and cultural sensitivity training modules in regular CBDRR awareness and capacity building programmes
- Gender disaggregated data is available with some NGOs and being applied to decision-making for risk reduction and recovery activities but there is still a need for NCDM to develop a gender sensitive tool for DRR.

### **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):**

There are needs to develop capacity and strengthen institution capacity of disaster management offices at all levels for disaster risk reduction and recovery. As of now, the Strategic National Action Plan (SNAP) for Disaster Risk Reduction of the Government of Cambodia has been developed. So, there are needs to be implemented the action to achieve the capacity development and strengthening institution capacity of disaster management offices at all levels for disaster risk reduction and recovery. Financial and technical support for NCDM is really needed to implement the capacity development plan

### **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):**

NGOs, UNDMT; government agencies and Red Cross always focus their assistance to the most vulnerable groups in order to ensure that the most vulnerable are protected from existing and emerging environmental risks, and that those most affected are reached through disaster response and recovery programmes.

Several organizations who work in Cambodia target specific vulnerable communities at the sub-national level and address specific hazards and risk reduction activities. In addition, many NGO and INGOs are putting special focus on the development of CBDRM projects in Cambodia with a vision of successfully implementing effective DRR programs to build local capacity.

### **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):

The National Committee on Disaster Management (NCDM) is a coordination network, which is playing the coordination roles for various government agencies, and local, international, Regional organizations and UN agencies in managing emergencies and implementing disaster risk reduction to reduce the impact of disasters on life, livelihoods and infrastructure.

At the moment, NCDM is coordinating a number of local and international non-government organizations such as LWF, CWF, CRC, Concern Worldwide, Care International, Oxfam GB, Oxfam America, Plan International, ADPC, Action Aid, Save the Earth, ZOA, World Vision to implement Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction activities in 13 of Cambodia's 24 provinces. The Strategic National Action Plan (SNAP) for Disaster Risk Reduction has been developed but NCDM still need financial and technical to implement the plan.

## f) Contextual Drivers of Progress

### 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):

Not Reported

## 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:

Several DRR programmes implemented in Cambodia, one of the important lessons learned is that CBDRM methodologies do work in communities and need to be continually used as a core concept in all future DRR programmes. Results of DRR projects revealed a need for a broader information sharing and partnership focus, with an emphasis on having good linkages with the government sector.

Training and capacity building is effective at the community-level. However, this can only be so true with the support from the NCDM and the Provincial /District Committee on Disaster Management. The cooperation and coordination between the three pillars of disaster management–national, provincial and district–in the country is critical to successful DRR programmes. As in the case of the Takeo province CBDRM programme, villagers learned what to do in disaster preparedness and mitigation. With effective government support at all levels, this experience can happen in all of Cambodia's rural and most vulnerable communities.

Another key lesson learned is that projects implemented through the government and local partners

have proved to be good models for CBDRM and can enable communities to bond in such a way that gives them ownership and empowerment in their community. The CRC programmes implemented in several Cambodian villages have highlighted this special lesson.

With regards to failures or less than adequate DRR programmes, some noteworthy lessons learned are:

- Funding is a common problem that cuts programmes short or long-term objectives and needed sustainability
- There is a general low-capacity among the provincial, district and commune level disaster management committee, this has slowed the mechanism for better disaster preparedness and response at the community level
- There has been a lack of feedback committees at all levels, thus effective monitoring and evaluation of DRR programmes have been difficult to achieve
- There is a lack of community-based resources for CBDRM programmes and thus initiatives for projects are often hindered due to lack of funds. It has been brought forward that villagers in communities need to learn how to allocate outside resources to initiate projects
- In the context of CBDRM, risk mapping needs to be incorporated into community planning over a continuous period through training and practical application. Furthermore, it should be noted that risk mapping is not the panacea to all problems of risk identification

#### **Future Outlook Statement:**

A key role in the establishment of a national platform for DRR in Cambodia would have to be played by the NCDM. At the level of a “national platform”, this would have to be based on a revitalized and strengthened NCDM playing a wider risk reduction role with the establishing of a suitable additional mechanism to bring together all stakeholders to have a shared vision and a concerted programmatic approach to implementing DRR in the country. Here UN Agencies, donors and NGOs would be key associate agencies to be formally brought into the mechanism. For development and implementation of a national programme on DRR, the NCDM 2001 strategy would still remain as a framework within which to initiate a programmatic approach to DRR. There is need for a revitalized and revised national strategy together with solid procurements of energy and resources. This would be a useful first step for the success of future DRR in the country.

Some key recommendations to consider are:

- Ensure community participation and government linkages, including communications with authorities and DM focal points
- Focus projects more on sustainable livelihoods and strengthening capacity
- Mainstream DRR into national and local development planning rather than “stand alone” DRR projects
- Access to more resources and longer funding cycles to enable DRR initiatives to be fully integrated into development plans
- Address food security issues for rural households when constructing DRR projects at community level, this is a primary concern for most rural households

## **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 Cambodia, local, international and regional organizations are playing the key role in implementing disaster risk reduction projects at all levels. While disaster management committees at all levels are coordinating to those NGOs.

Among those actors, some are emphasizing on direct implementation of disaster risk reduction projects at communities, and some are emphasizing on development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities of disaster management committees at all levels, national, provincial, district and commune levels, for example, ADPC is mainly focusing on development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels through various activities including, assist national level to develop the Strategic National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction, Development of National Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy, providing the capacity building to disaster management committees at all levels, development and implementation of flood preparedness programme at provincial and district etc.

However, there are still challenging to achieve substantial and comprehensive achievements, due to the following issues:

- Capacities of Disaster Management Committees at all levels are limited in term of policies, capacities, human resources, institution, strategy, programmemes, and plans.
- Inconsistency of financial and technical support to develop and strengthen institution, mechanisms, and capacities of disaster management committees at all levels
- There is a need to form a group of DRR trainer with in the country especially with NCDM

#### **Future Outlook Statement:**

Cambodia remains to be a less developed country that is impacted by natural hazards such as annual floods, drought, poverty and health issues such as HIV/AIDS epidemics. Though the economy has slightly grown over the years, the country continues to be faced with the many challenges that have great impact on its future development.

Despite these ill issues and the unsightly consequences they constitute, the government continues to support mechanisms for effective DRR from national to district levels of authority. It has been noted that some DRR programmes have achieved considerable success and improvements with regards to DRR and building capacity within the country's most vulnerable communities. Collaboration and building solid partnerships with regional institutions such as ADPC and UNDP has significantly played a big part in helping the country to achieve its MDGs under the HFA 2005-2015. With continued regional and international support, it is likely that Cambodia will improve its current low HDI ranking and achieve the prescribed MDGs as adapted by the Cambodian government. However, the reality of the complex internal circumstances should not be underplayed by external leaderships.

### **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:**

While there are much emphasis on disaster risk reduction activities from partner agencies, local, international, regional organizations, the national government is also concentrations on post disaster recovery and rehabilitation activities such as, Ministry of Water Resource and Meteorology (MoWRAM), Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT) and Ministry of Rural Development (MRD) are responsible to implement the post disaster recovery and rehabilitation projects such as constructions of rural and national roads, irrigation systems, dikes, dames, bridges, water gates, water reservoirs etc. Meanwhile, there are still much challenges of implementation of the post disaster recovery and rehabilitation projects, due to several factors below:

- DRR knowledge and skill for officer in the disaster management institutions.

- DRR concept was not understood and prioritized by key government agencies and NGOs.

**Future Outlook Statement:**

NCDM needs to have enough support to strengthen its own capacity to work on DRR

NCDM need to have enough support to fully implement the SNAP

DRR country network need to be maintained