

Technical Working Group

Inclusive Community Based Disaster Management Framework

Terms of Reference

Background

Since the approval of the National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management (NSDRM) in 2009, there have been several disaster management planning guidelines formulated to organize and address the disaster management issues at both the district and VDC / municipality levels. This has been led by the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development who both have a role in disaster management at the local level.

Over the last three years the Ministry of Home Affairs has organized 75 districts of Nepal to undertake planning and complete the Disaster Preparedness and Response plans (DPRPs). These plans focus primarily on preparedness and response activities at the district level in readiness for a disaster and are to be reviewed annually.

The Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development finalised disaster risk management planning guidelines for local Government in 2012. All guidelines aim to provide direction to government agencies and non-government organisations at district and VDC / municipality level on how to formulate and implement disaster risk management plans, with the aim to include identified priority actions for disaster risk reduction / management into district development plans and budgets. Specifically these plans include:

- Local Disaster Risk Management Planning guidelines (LDRMP) which aims to link disaster risk management planning, and subsequent identified priorities, with existing Government planning and budgeting processes such as the district development plan.
- Community Disaster Management Committee (CDMC) terms of reference provides guidance to local Government on how to formally establish a disaster management committee at ward level in a municipality.
- District Disaster Risk Management Plan (DDRMP) provides guidance on how to develop a disaster risk management plan at the district level.

During 2013, the Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development have led the process of development of the Inclusive Community Based Disaster Management (CBDM) framework. This framework aims to harmonise existing DRM Policy in Nepal, encourage DRM mainstreaming into district and sectoral development plans, strengthen the disaster response mechanism and align DRM actors to support the Local Government and district authorities. In addition, other organizations supporting the implementation of DRM plans at the local level have lessons and experience to add to this process. Furthermore the NRRC review conducted in July 2013 highlighted the need to develop appropriate sustainability strategies to ensure that the investment currently being made at both the district, VDC and lower levels is able to be sustained once external resources have been withdrawn.

In recognition of the need to harmonise their respective DRM strategies at district level and below, MoHA and MoFALD agreed in August 2013 to establish the Government's Multi-stakeholders Policy Task Force. The objective of the task force is to build on the draft Inclusive Community-Based Disaster Management Framework developed by the respective

Ministries by further examine other DRM polices and approaches. The Task Force will produce a formal policy document that will guide government actors and other DRM organizations; defining clear processes, outlining mainstreaming, capacity building and resourcing strategies. Strategies need to align with and capitalize on existing structures and systems, avoiding any duplicitous processes.

Objective

Primary objective of the technical working group is to support the Policy task force in their function of building on the draft Inclusive Community-Based Disaster Management Framework developed by the Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development.

It is the working groups responsibility to research all DRM and local government processes that may inter-relate with the CBDM framework and incorporate any lessons learnt into the final design. The final CBDM framework aims to act as a cohesive policy document that capitalizes on existing local structures, is built into planning and budgeting processes, and in turn is institutionalized into local government.

Deliverable

- The technical working group will produce a Final Inclusive Community Based Disaster Management Framework that is applicable to both districts and VDCs/municipalities.

Note. The final CBDM framework will be discussed with other Line Ministries and approved by the CNDRC (Central Natural Disaster Relief Committee).

Scope

The final CBDM framework, must include the following

- Incorporation of experience of current implementation of draft framework and other examples of successes / innovations that are able to replicated
- Harmonizing district and VDC level disaster plans. This includes integrated coordinated response, such as early warning systems
- Mainstreaming DRM into District and Sectoral Plans, including how to access funding through existing government mechanisms
- Integrating capacity building into every stage to ensure sustainability of investment
- Integrating information management and monitoring systems into planning processes

The integration of LAPA / NAPA component into this process is outside the scope of the policy framework during the first stage. However consideration needs to be given to how they could possible integrate in the future.

Timeframe

It is estimated that the Government policy task force will run for 6 months, which will in turn be the approximate time frame for the policy task force.

Working group structure

The technical group will need to be available to meet frequently and be able to invest time into research and producing a policy. No consultant will be hired to do this work, but it will be shared between the group members, who have a wealth of knowledge and experience

developing and implementing disaster risk management plans at the local level both in Nepal and internationally.

Flagship 4's advisory committee members were asked to identify and nominate people to be involved in the working group, with the condition that all members needed to produce work to be involved. Membership includes:

- Flagship 4: Becky-Jay Harrington (chair)
- UNICEF: Asim Shrestha
- DIPECHO: Alex Berzosa
- UNDP: Deepak K.C
- Oxfam: Rajan Ghimire
- Practical Action: Dinanath Bhandari
- Save the Children: Kedar Dhungana
- Plan International: Shyam Jnavaly
- NRCS: Prakash Aryal
- WHO consortium: to be confirmed
- Handicap International: Kiriti Ray

Responsibilities of members

- To commit time to meetings
- Undertake research and produce work, as per the work plan
- Bring examples of replication successes of DRM from the field
- Discuss the work of the group more widely, both within their organizations and representative bodies they are associated with
- With existing ministry partnerships discuss the framework; including presenting and incorporating feedback from those ministries on framework with their respective focal persons.

Final delivery of the document to the Government policy task force would be presented by all members of the technical working group.

Relationship with Government Policy task force

The NRRC Flagship 4 Coordinator will represent the "Technical Working Group" comprised of DRM specialists.

Figure 1. Outline of how the Government policy task force and technical working group will be working together. The task force designed the initial structure of the harmonized guidelines into 6 chapters. It was agreed that each chapter would form a sub-committee comprising of 1 Government lead and 2 working group members. Mr Pradip Koirla and Ms Laxmi Pandey will act as the lead Government facilitators for this process. Flagship 4 coordinator, Becky-Jay Harrington will act as the non-government facilitator for the sub-committees and technical working group.

