

Cambodia Disaster Risk Reduction

CAMBODIA IMPLEMENTATION OF DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (DRR)



**IN THE CONTEXT OF
HYOGO FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION**

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Kingdom of Cambodia

**In the heart of the
ASEAN**

Bordered by Thailand, Laos, Vietnam and The Gulf of Thailand

Area: 181,035 sq. Km.
Capital: Phnom Penh, 3 municipalities and 20 provinces



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Primary Natural Disasters...

Mekong River: world's 12th longest river system. Total length of 4,500 km, a drainage area of 795,000 sq. km and an average annual runoff of 475,000 million cubic meters.

500 km of Mekong River bisects Cambodia

85% of Cambodia's land is in lower Mekong basin



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CLIMATE: The Monsoon

Annual rain fall varies from 1,100mm to more than 4,000mm per year

Southwest Monsoon mid May to end of Oct. brings 75% to 80% of the annual rainfall

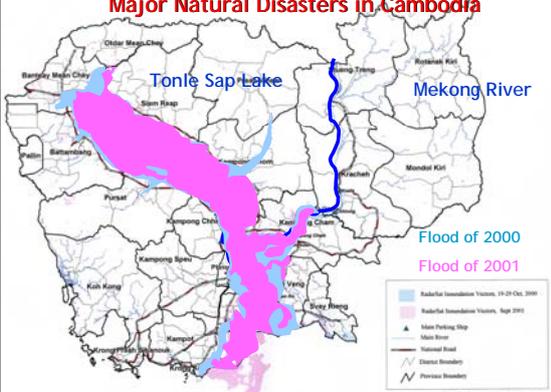
Northeast Monsoon Beginning of Nov to end of Apr with dry wind called hot season



Monsoon usually swell up the Mekong Basin

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Major Natural Disasters in Cambodia



Flood of 2000
Flood of 2001

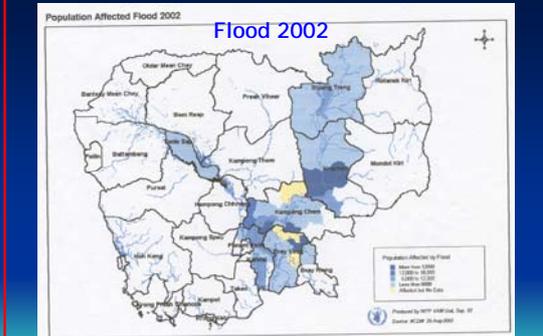
Legend:
 - Pink: Rainfall Exceeds 100mm, 19-20 Oct, 2000
 - Blue: Rainfall Exceeds 100mm, Sept 2001
 - Triangle: Main Parking Stop
 - Square: Mark Stone
 - Dashed Line: National Road
 - Dotted Line: District Boundary
 - Solid Line: Province Boundary

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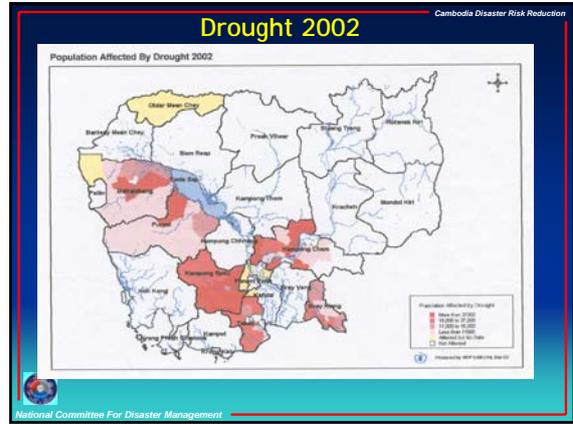
Population Affected Flood 2002

Flood 2002



Legend:
 - Blue: More than 100,000
 - Yellow: 50,000 to 100,000
 - Green: 10,000 to 50,000
 - White: Below 10,000

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2. Drought

- In recent years, there has been an imbalance in the distribution of monsoon rainfall which has resulted in drought in some parts of the country
- A short dry spell of 20 to 30 days during the rainy season (May - November) can result to extensive damage to crops
- Prolonged drought was experienced in 1997 to 1998 and consecutive drought in 2001, 2002, 2004 and 2005

of about 132,110 families included 522,073 people are needy of food

The Royal Government of Cambodia

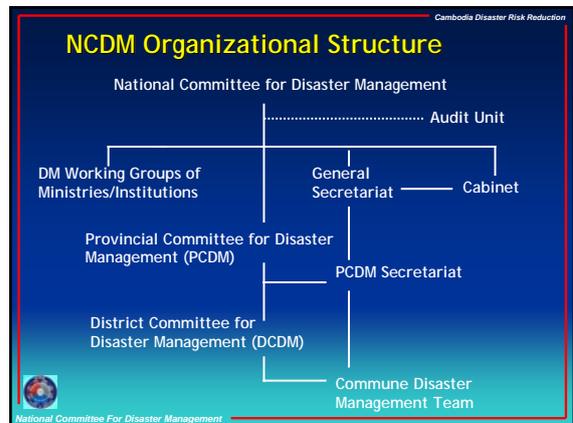
NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT (NCDM)

Ministerial level Agency, chaired by the Prime Minister that formed to assist the Royal Government in:

Mission
To lead the Disaster Management in the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Functions and Responsibilities:

1. Manage data of disaster risk and develop report on the disaster situation;
2. Proposal on reserves of resources for Disaster intervention in Emergency Response;
3. Capacity Building and human resource development on disaster management;
4. Coordination in implementation of disaster management policies;
5. Exchange and sharing information;
6. Coordination and mobilization of resources for disaster response;



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Plays role in Coordination and Cooperation for:

1. **Capability Building Activities** - Trainings and capacity building to Government Officials (Provincial, district, commune and village level) and staffs of IOs, NGOs Partners collaborating with NGOs, IOs and some Regional Agencies (ACDM, ADPC, ADRC...);
2. **Emergency Relief Assistance** - Mobilization of resources and provision of relief goods to affected people working with Ministries, authorities, IFRC, UNDMT, OCHA, IOs and some NGOs;
3. **Disaster Risk Reduction** - Community based disaster risk management in collaboration with NGOs Partners: Training, education, dissemination and micro non-structural mitigation projects; as integral part of community based development



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Coordination in Relief and Emergency Response




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Disaster Risk Reduction (Government's mitigation Programs)




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Keys to Effective Coordination in DRR

- Policy Framework** - a mechanism that will provide NGO/IO participation in the national disaster management processes.
- UN, IOs, NGO Representation** - in government disaster management organization such as working on disaster coordination response and recovery.
- Establishment of formal Institutional Partnership** - execution agreement of cooperation and understanding with various NGO organization.
- Information Sharing** - a mechanism that will provide an open and consultative process of information sharing.
- Dynamic and Creative Leadership** - flexible yet determined political leadership that is responsive to current and emerging needs of the disaster management institution.
- Strong Political Support** - clearly defined role and function of the organization in close cooperation with the political leadership for political and legislative support.



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Impact of Effective Coordination

- Effective Risk Reduction Strategy
- Maximization of Limited Resources
- Focus Beneficiary Targeting
- Clearly Defined Roles and Responsibilities
- Effective and Efficient Utilization and Dissemination of Information
- Identified actors on different aspects of Disaster Management



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Disaster Risk Reduction DRR- What is it? and why do we need it?

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) measures are designed to protect livelihoods and the assets of communities and individuals from the impact of hazards by:

- **Mitigation:** reducing the frequency, scale, intensity and impact of hazards.
- **Preparedness:** strengthening the capacity of communities to withstand, respond to and recover from hazards, and of government, implementing NGO partners and Concern to establish speedy and appropriate interventions when the communities' capacities are overwhelmed.
- **Advocacy:** favourably influencing the social, political, economic and environmental issues that contribute to the causes and magnitude (scale) of impact of hazards.



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DRR integration into Livelihood/community Development Programme

- DRR is often a complementary or integral part of other programmes such as food security, promoting agricultural diversity, or capacity building.
- DRR can be included within project concept notes, programme cycle management and conceptually sits comfortably within the livelihoods model.



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Why DRR integration is important?

- A disaster results when a hazard occurs and **impacts on a community, overwhelming its capacity to cope.**
- **Disasters affect people, their livelihoods and their environment.** The magnitude of impact is directly related to the intensity and scale of a hazard and the vulnerability of individuals and communities.
- DRR is a means of bridging the gap between development and humanitarian programmes and can be seen as a means of strengthening **livelihood security.**
- DRR interventions seek to assist in the development of this understanding, to support livelihoods and to protect assets.



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How did we start DRR?

- Providing Training to Key Leaders for Improving Emergency Preparation for Communities.
- Strengthening existing partnerships between service providers (such as Local Authorities/LNGOs) and communities.
- Introducing Livelihoods Security Approach to all partners and using it in the project design including DRR as project component started with HVCA.
- LH Model: **Hazards, Shocks and Stresses** influence **Capital Assets**. Identify **Livelihoods Options** to implement activities to achieve **Improved Livelihoods Security** thus protecting the assets.



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Disaster Management Capacity Building and Training Activities




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What is our experience?

- LNGO partners and Local Authorities understood and increased confidence in disaster management, and included the disaster preparedness plans in their projects.
- Communities increased ownership for their projects jointly implemented with LNGO partners and CCs (e.g. community canal, dams, community ponds, planting drought resistant grasses, etc)
- LNGO partners and Local Authorities increased awareness on accountability and increased skills on how to use of Concerns' funds in supporting the most vulnerable in communities.
- Strengthened links response and rehabilitation with preparedness and mitigation (FFW and CFW) and work through partners projects and implemented by community.



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Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (adapted living with flood through a development project)



Cash for Work for a home stage raising



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Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (adapted living with flood)

Home gardening during flooding

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Disaster Risk Reduction

Family boats distribution Family boat usage

Pump well raising Flood mitigation oriented School

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Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (adapted living with flood)

Community Safe area construction

Community Safe Area Inauguration Evacuated livestock on Safe Area

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A STEP FORWARD ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DISASTER RISK REDUCTION Strategic Plan

5-year Strategic Plan for Disaster Management, 2006-2010, inline with HFA, integrated into National Strategy Social Economic Development

Goal 1:
Reduce the severity of impact of disasters in Cambodia through improving the capacity of the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) as a credible agency and focal point for multi-disaster-related efforts and issues in Cambodia;

Goal 2:
Institutionalize the National Policy for Disaster Management and provide implementation procedures related to Disaster Management

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Goal 3:
Establish an alternative or a reserve program on National Disaster Management that will effectively carry out immediate response to natural disasters and calamities at all levels of NCDM: commune , district, municipalities, cities and provinces;

Goal 4:
Establish an effective Management and Information System to Cope with disasters and calamities;

Goal 5:
Develop an understandable and user friendly risk management system to cope with disaster at the commune level;

Goal 6:
Build a national strategy of educating citizen and mainstreaming disaster management in reducing vulnerability of people with disaster;

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SUGGESTED FUTURE ACTION PLAN

I. Long-term Institutional Development of NCDM

1. Development and enactment of Law on Disaster Management;
2. Development of the National Policy on Disaster Management;
3. Strengthen Government's DRR structure and improve its functions;

II. Comprehensive Disaster Emergency Management

1. Formulation of National Disaster Management Plan;
2. Line Ministries and stakeholders' Operation Plans;
3. Local Disaster Management Plans (Provincial, District and Commune);

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SUGGESTED FUTURE ACTION PLAN (Cont'd)

III. Mainstream/integrate DRR into Social-economic Development Activities;

A. Community scale (for immediate actions)

- Support the approach of DRR-Community Development Cross-cutting activities of NGOs and Local Authorities;
- Form consistent Local Mechanisms to join implement the DRR-Community Development Cross-cutting activities ;
- Joint DRR Forum: sharing lessons learnt on DRR-Community Development Cross-cutting activities;



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SUGGESTED FUTURE ACTION PLAN (Cont'd)

III. Mainstream/integrate DRR into Social-economic Development Activities (Cont'd);

B. National scale (for long-term action)

- Develop policy guidelines for integration of DRR into National Social-Economic Development Programs;
- Link National DRR Institution with Sectoral Agency of Government through Donor/stakeholder projects via formal partnership agreement (tri-party agreement) social-economic development program implement;
- Form consistent Working/Advisory Group (triad of DRR Institution, Donor and Sectoral Agency) to monitoring and evaluation;



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What are the key challenges?

National...

- Absence of a national policy on disaster management in general;
- Absence of disaster management acts;
- Lack of appreciation on disaster risk management institutions;
- Lack of understanding of role and responsibility of stakeholder (the line-ministries members of Government);
- Lack of guidelines for collaboration at both political and technical level;
- Inadequate resources, manpower, professions and skills;
- Educate DRR to different level stakeholder (politician, technical planner and workers)



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What are the key challenges?

Community...

- DRR is **new concept** to integrate into individual sectors.
- Stakeholders/partners still have **limited capacity** and need to learn more from field experience.
- Communities **awareness on DRR** need to be raised in order to understand the important of DRR integration in livelihoods and other development activities.
- Working with communities to identify **development activities** that mitigate flood/drought impacts and protect all their assets.
- **Advocating for DRR** to be prioritized in politician, planner and the duty bearers to prioritize DRR especially for flood/drought prone areas



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Recommendations

- Donor Commitment to the implementation of DRR;
- Supports from national and regional institutions on the process of integration of DRR in Social-Economic Development;
- Ensure DRR is a government's agenda;
- Build a strong Government's institution for DRR;
- Support the DRR institution with technical, financial and materials;
- Building DRR legal foundation and policies;
- Providing training to LNGO partners and Local Authorities on development and DRR to improve partner understanding DRR as integral to Development and not just a stand-alone activity.



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Recommendations (Cont'd)

- Service providers support the post-disaster livelihoods activities to protect the vulnerable community people.
- Service providers must increase allocated resources to support the integration projects implemented by partners.
- Extension materials on DRR awareness to be developed by partners for target extreme poorest (e.g. visual posters).
- Establish/Strengthen Network on DRR and Development to involve all relevant stakeholders to share experience and learning.
- Relevant government technical departments need to involve to support DRR as required from communities.



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