

An Overview of Disaster Risk Management in Nepal

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Nepal: Country profile

Full Name: Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal

Population: 26.49 million (Urban Population: 17.07%, CBS, 2011)

Capital: Kathmandu

Area: 147,181 sq km

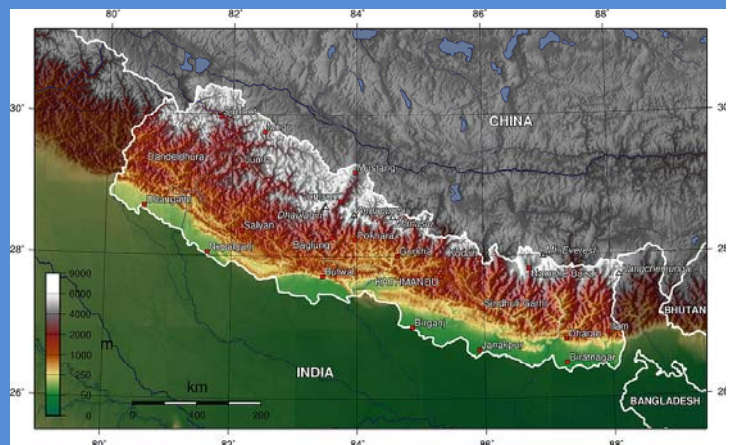
Major religions: Hinduism, Buddhism

Literacy: 65.9%

Life expectancy: 67 years (men), 69 years (women) (UN)

Main exports: Carpets, clothing, leather goods, jute goods, grain

GNI per capita: US \$770 (World Bank)



Hazard Profile

Causes for Natural Hazards

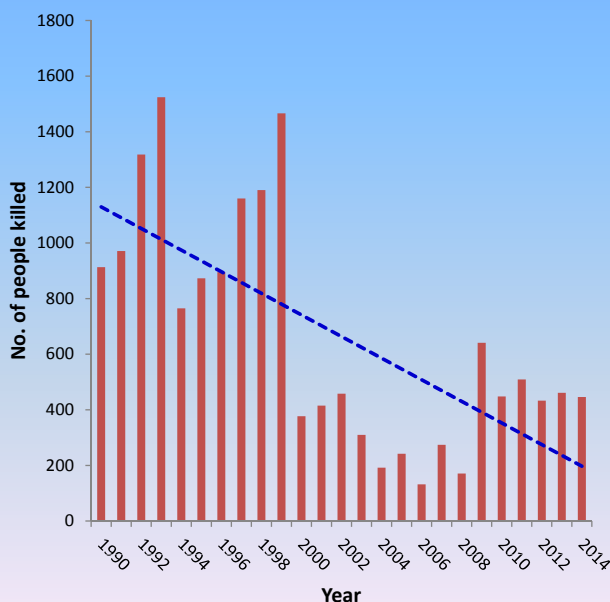
- Rugged topography with drastic variation of altitude from 60 m to 8848 m (Mt. Everest)
- Location in the active collision mountain belts
- Intense rainfall with cloud burst
- Concentrated impacts of global climate change
- Sub-standards practice of building construction and haphazard urbanization
- Low-level awareness
- Population growth, widely spread poverty
- Political instability

Major Natural Hazards

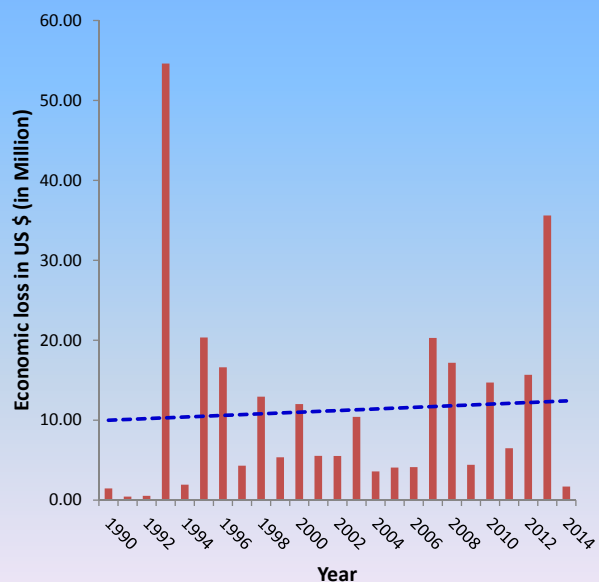
- Earthquake
- Flood
- Landslide,
- Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOFs)
- Avalanche and snow storm
- Fire and forest fire
- Thunderbolts
- Cold and heat waves

Disaster Profile

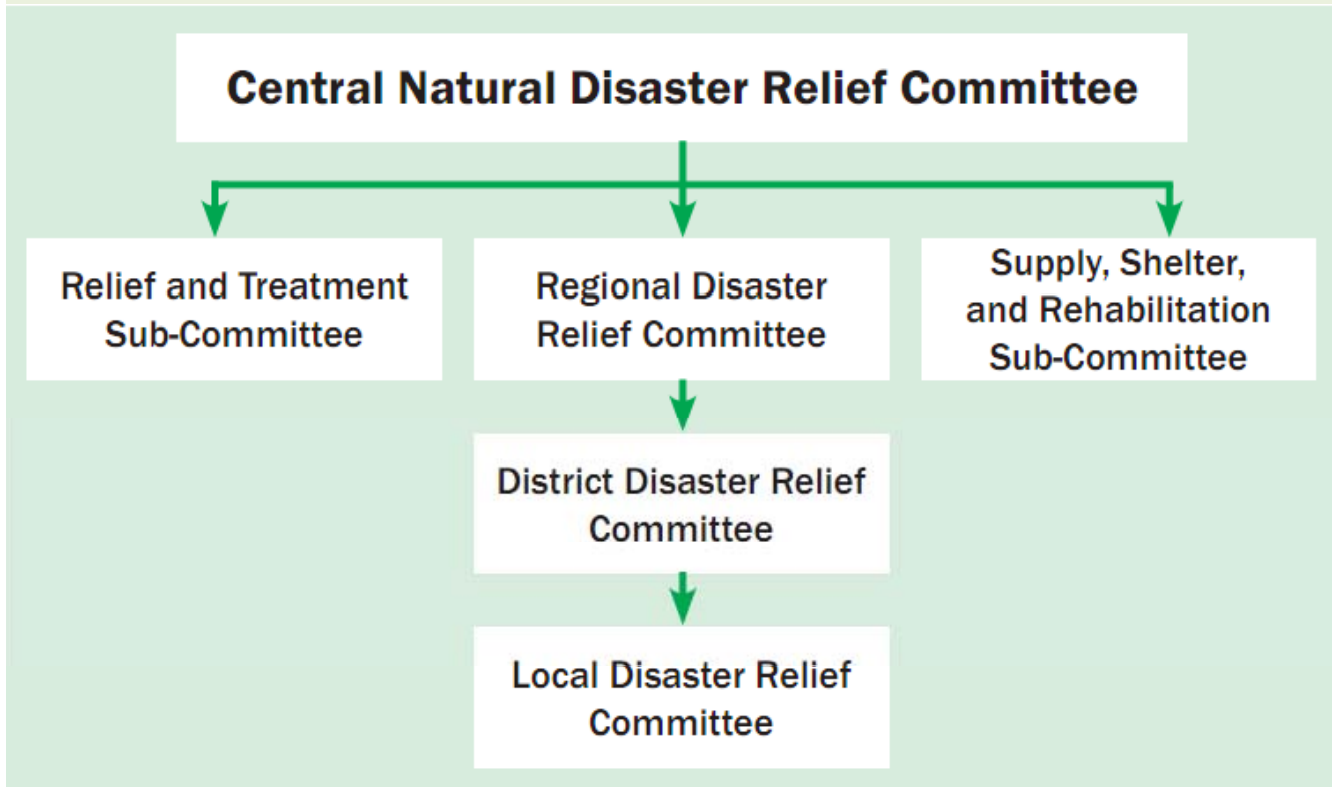
People Killed



Economic Loss



Existing Structure of DM in Nepal



Nepal's Progress on HFA Implementation

Hyogo Framework For Action 2005-2015

Priority 1

Make Disaster Risk Reduction a Priority

Priority 2

Know the Risk and Take Action

Priority 3

Build Understanding and Awareness

Priority 4

Reducing Underlying Risk Factors

Priority 5

Be Prepared and Ready to Act

HFA PROGRESS IN NEPAL

Priority for Action 1: Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation

- Natural Calamity Relief Act (1982) and new Bill on DM Act is in pre-parliamentary process
- Local Self Governance Act (1999)
- Inception of DRM since 10th five year plan (2002-2007)
- Water Induced Disaster Management Policy (2006)
- District level DPRP in all 75 districts
- National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management (NSDRM) (2009)
- Climate Change Council under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister
- National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA) and Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA)
- National Risk Reduction Consortium with 5 Flagship Programs (2011)
- Established Disaster management institutions in NA, NP and APF
- Created Disaster Management Sections in different line ministries

Priority for Action 2: Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning

- Early warning system for flood in 7 major river systems, 2 GLOFs, 3 landslides and 5 comprehensive early warning systems have been developed
- 21 seismological centers, 29 GPS stations, 7 accelerometers have been installed
- Multi hazard maps of 6 municipalities have been prepared, 5 undergoing
- Development of seismic hazard map for Nepal is completed
- Landslide zonation maps for 10 urban/rural settlements
- NEOC, 5 regional EOCs, 42 District level EOCs, 5 EOCs in Municipal level
- 50 hydrological stations disseminate information regarding precipitation, river discharge etc
- 350 Meteorological stations provide weather data
- HKH-HYCOS, trans-boundary flood early warning system
- Multi-hazard risk assessment has been conducted and stocktaking on risk assessment is being done

Priority for Action 3: Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels

- SAHANA and DisInventar database system for disaster data
- High school level curricula has been developed and implemented with regard to DRM/CRM
- Undergraduate/graduate level programs developed and implemented in the universities
- Armed Police Force, Nepal Army and Nepal Police Training has incorporated DRM issues in their basic courses. Advance courses are also running in the Disaster Training Academy of Armed Police Force
- Staff College and Local Development Training Academy has been imparting DRM courses to the government officials
- Yearly observance of National Earthquake Safety Day (Magh 2, usually January 15/16)

Priority for Action 4: Reduce the underlying risk factors

- Few Micro-financing, micro-insurance has been implemented through community organizations and micro-credit
- WASH support groups are active throughout the country
- Development and implementation of sectoral policy, e.g. National shelter policy (1996), National Agricultural policy(2004), National Urban policy (2006), National land use policy (2012)
- Earthquake Risk Reduction and Recovery Project (ERRRP) implemented 5 major urban areas
- Hub Hospital Network established for emergency medical facilities all over the country
- National Trauma Center has been established and Retrofitting of Patan and Bheri Zonal Hospital has been completed
- 20 municipalities have endorsed building codes and other 24 are underway
- Risk Sensitive Land Use Planning (RSLUP) is being gradually introduced under the National Land Use Policy

Priority for Action 5: Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels

- Safe School Policy (SESP) has been developed and adopted
- Schools from 26 districts have been assessed with regard to seismic vulnerability
- Earthquake vulnerability of school building is being assessed and retrofitting work is being carried out for the vulnerable building
- Initiative has been taken to prepare school disaster preparedness plan
- Hospital Preparedness and Safety programs is being running
- Disaster data acquisition and dissemination system is in place through EOCs
- 83 open spaces identified in Kathmandu valley and established HSA in 3 big open spaces with prepositioning
- Common assessment tools for emergency need assessment has been developed

Keys to Achievements

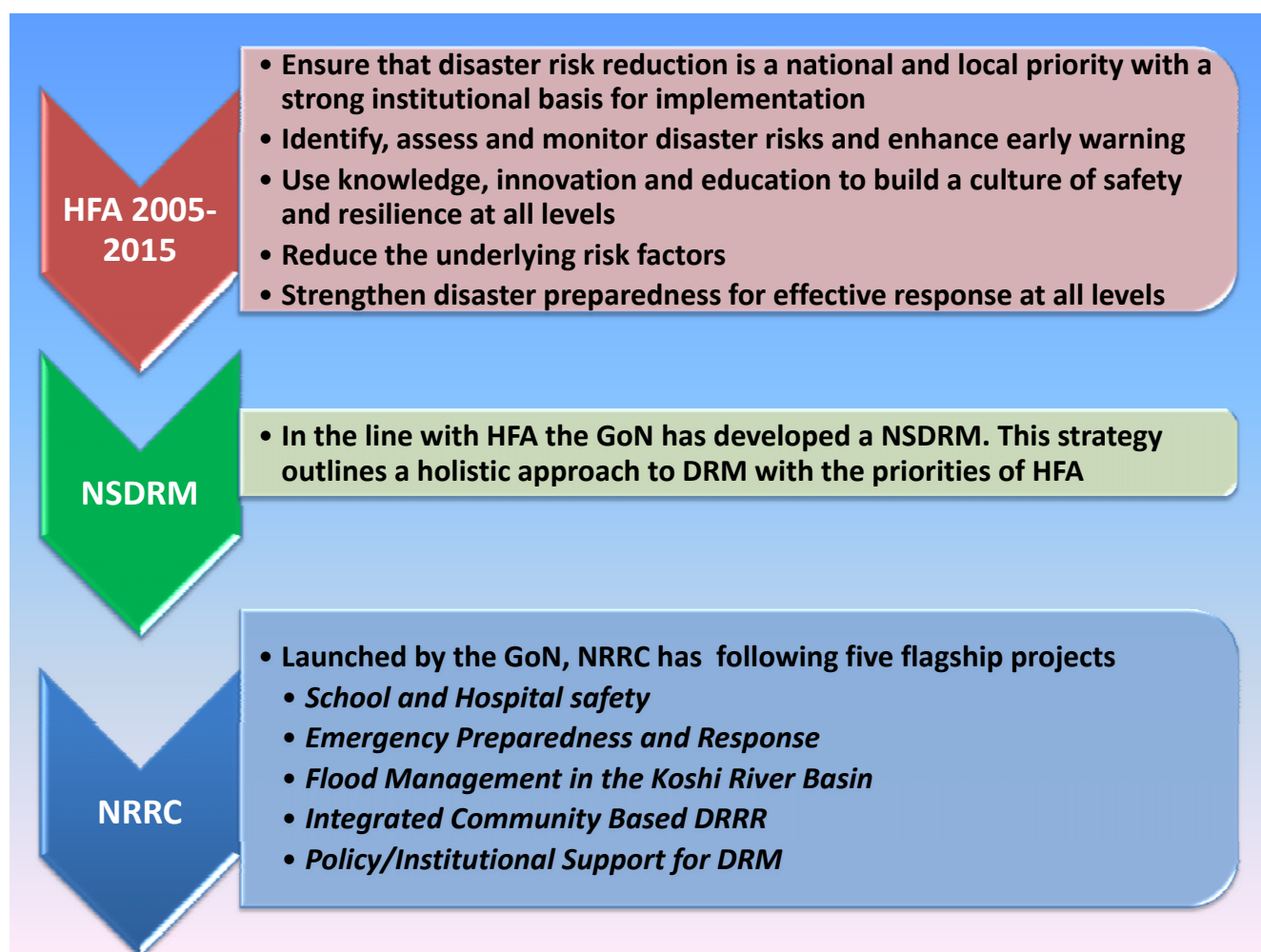
- ✓ **Inclusion of DRM issues on National Plan since 10th five year plan (2002-2007)**
- ✓ **National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management, 2009 with following priorities**
 - ❖ *Put a vibrant institutional framework in place for its implementation by prioritizing DRR at both the national and local levels*
 - ❖ *Strengthen assessment, identification, monitoring, and early warning system on potential disaster*
 - ❖ *Make use of knowledge, new ideas, and education for the development of safety and disaster resilient culture at all levels*
 - ❖ *Minimize existing risk factors and*
 - ❖ *Make Disaster Preparedness strong enough for effective response*

✓ Nepal Risk Reduction Consortium (NRRC)

Established in February 2011 launched the NRRC, a unique body that unites the GoN, the international financial institutions of the ADB, WB, development partners and donors, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and the United Nations as a members.

Objectives

- * To support GoN to implement a long term DRR Action Plan Building on 2009's NSDRM**
- * To initiate a multi-stakeholder participatory process with the GoN and civil society organizations**
- * To identify short-to medium-term DRR priorities as a Flagship programmes**



Structure of the Ongoing NRRC Flagship Programmes

Flagship	Government Lead	Coordinator
School and Hospital safety	Ministry of Education & Ministry of Health and Population	ADB & WHO
Emergency Preparedness and Response	Ministry of Home Affairs	UNOCHA
Flood Management in the Koshi River Basin	Ministry of Irrigation	World Bank
Integrated Community Based DRRR	Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development	IFRC
Policy/Institutional Support for DRM	Ministry of Home Affairs	UNDP

Other factors that contribute to national achievement

- ✓ Establishment of National Platform of different stakeholders
- ✓ Provision of National Focal points in line ministries and security sectors
- ✓ Mainstreaming DRR into sectoral development plan and policy
- ✓ Multi-stakeholders engagement in DRR/M activities
- ✓ Mandatory DRR financing at the local level through LSGA

Regional Cooperation in DRM

a) SAARC Disaster Management Centre

- a) Development of SAARC Disaster Vulnerability Atlas (DVA)
- b) Development of South Asian Disaster Knowledge Network (SADKN)
- c) SAARC Framework for Rapid Response
- d) SAARC Road Maps for DRR

b) International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG)

- a) Assist to the process of formation of trained SAR group for all hazard

c) Asian Disaster Reduction Centre (ADRC)

- a) Provide training and fellowship to strengthen Government capacity- VR program
- b) Provide technical support to develop Early Warning System to hydro-meteorological disasters

Conclusion

- Nepal has developed and promulgated important policies, yet implementation needs huge budget, manpower and solidarity.
- Despite the efforts, Nepal still has to do more to reach the community in developing resilience
- Experiences have shown that there is need to bring community based programmes for better resilience development
- Nepal expects solidarity and support from participating agencies and development partners with regard to finance and technology on DRM

Suggested Post HFA Priorities

Nepal has been prioritizing the following both in the *National* and *Local levels*

- *Understanding Disaster Risk*
- *Strengthening Governance to Manage Disaster Risk*
- *Preparedness for Response, Recovery and Reconstruction – “Build Back Better”*
- *Investing in Social, Economic and Environmental Resilience*

Implementation Strategy

- DRR trust fund may be established in the central level to execute DRR/M activities with support of donor agencies
- Wider platform of stakeholders will be developed up to local level
- Private sector engagement will be materialized through Private-Public partnership in DRR
- Strengthening multi-stakeholders engagement in DRR/M



Thank You!

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