



DISASTER MANAGEMENT: POLICIES AND PRACTICES IN NEPAL

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Ministry of Home Affairs

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1.Nepal at a Glance

Total Area: 147181 Sq Km(848 km L and 193 km B)

Elevation: 70 M to 8848 M High

Administrative division: 5 Region, 14 Zones, 75 Districts, 3913 VDCs and 58 Municipalities

Demography: 27.5 Million population, 1.94 Per cent average growth rate, 102 ethnicity, 92 languages, 6 religion

Socio- economic: 63.69 Year Life expectancy, 86.5 Per cent Literacy rate, 25.4 per cent poverty, 3.3 Per cent GDP growth, 13 per cent Inflation, HDI 0.428, GDP per capita US \$ 536

2. Disaster Profile in Nepal

Nepal falls in:

- **20th topmost disaster prone in the world**
- **4th rank in climate change vulnerability**
- **11th rank in earthquake vulnerability**
- **30th rank in flood vulnerability**
- **Kathmandu valley is exposed to high risk among 21 megacities in the world**

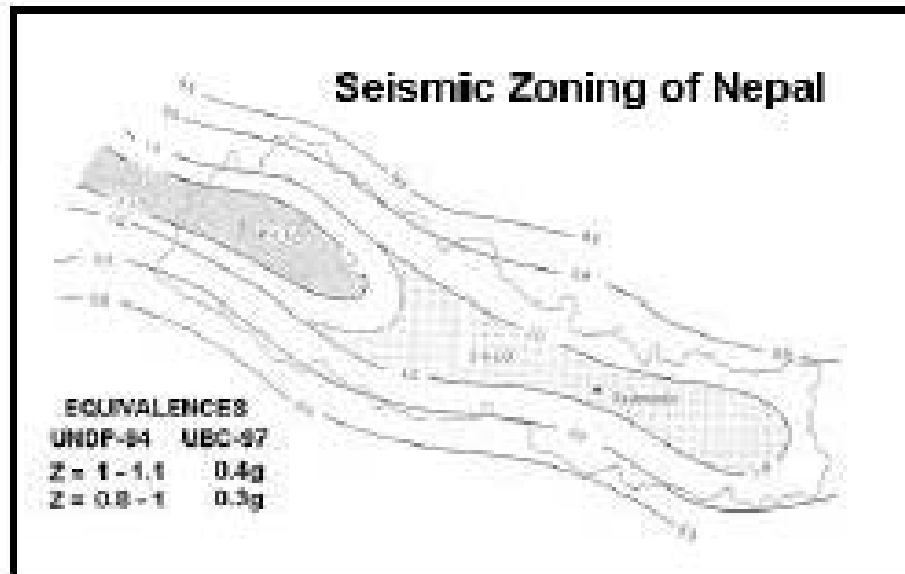
3. Major recurrent disasters in Nepal

- **Flood**
- **Landslide**
- **Earthquake**
- **Fire**
- **Hailstone**
- **Windstorm**
- **Thunderbolt**
- **Cloudburst**
- **Drought**
- **GLOF**
- **Avalanches**
- **Epidemics**

4. Disaster Scenario of loss of lives in Nepal(2000-2009)

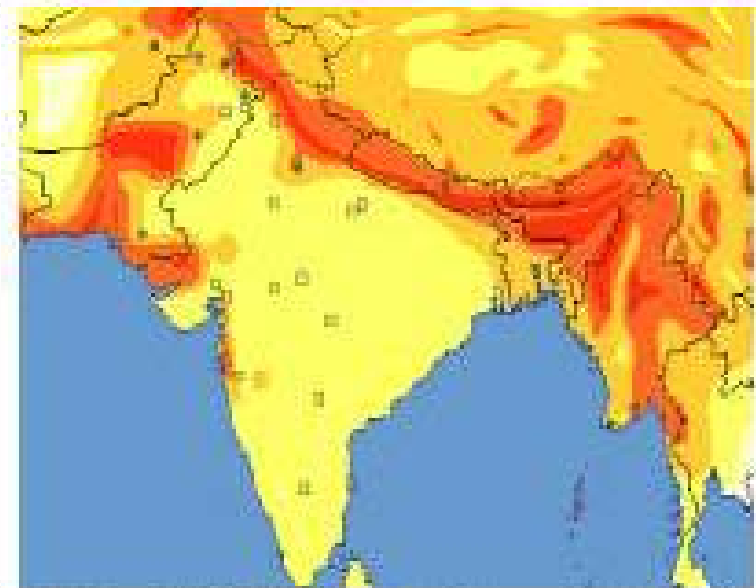
year	Flood & landslide	Earth-quake	Thunder-bolt	fire	Hails-tone	Wind-storm	epidemic	avalanche	total
2000	173	0	23	53	1	2	141	-	393
2001	196	1	39	26	1	1	154	-	418
2002	441	0	3	14	0	3	0	-	461
2003	232	0	42	16	0	20	-	-	310
2004	131	0	10	10	0	0	41	-	192
2005	141	0	18	28	0	0	34	21	242
2006	141	0	17	28	1	0	34	-	221
2007	216	0	35	34	18	1	9	9	322
2008	134	0	14	11	0	2	10	0	171
2009	135	0	7	35	0	0	462	2	641

5. Sesmic Maps of Nepal



Source: *Building Code of Nepal*

Seismic Hazard Map of Nepal



Seismic Zone	Modified Mercalli Intensity	Peak ground acceleration (%g)
Zone - 0	MMI = V	< 3
Zone - 1	MMI = VI	3 - 10
Zone - 2	MMI = VII	10 - 20
Zone - 3	MMI = VIII	20 - 30
Zone - 4	MMI = IX	> 30

Source: *Munich re, 2001*

7. Major Policies Related to Disaster Management

- **Natural Calamity (Relief)Act, 1982**
- **Prime Minister Natural Calamity Rescue Fund**
- **Local Self Governance Act, 1999**
- **Three Year Interim Plan 2007-2010**
- **National Strategy for DRM 2009**
- **Sectoral Laws and Policies: Health, Environment, Building, etc**
- **District Disaster Preparedness Plans**

8. Natural Calamity Act, 1982

8.1 Preamble of the Act, 1982

- **Arrangement for relief operations**
- **Protection of lives and properties**

8.2 According to Act, Natural Calamity (disasters) includes

- **Earthquake**
- **Fire outbreak**
- **Storm**
- **Flood**
- **Landslide**
- **Drought**
- **Famine**
- **Epidemic**
- **Industrial Accident**
- **Explosion, etc.**

8.3 Natural Calamities Relief Work Means

- **Any relief work to be carried out in the area affected or likely to be affected**
- **To ease people's grief and inconvenience**
- **Rehabilitation of disaster victims**
- **Protection of life and property of people**
- **Preparation and adoption of preventive measures**

8.4 Government Institution, Procedures...

- **The Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) is designated as the lead agency responsible for implementation of the Natural Calamity (Relief) Act, 1982**
- **Central Natural Disaster Rescue Committee (CNDRC), chaired by the Home Minister, is accountable for preparing and ensuring implementation of national policies**
- **MoHA's Disaster Management Section and National Emergency Operation Centre are under the Planning and Special Services Division**

.....Government Institution, Partners

- **MoHA is also responsible for rescue and relief works, data collection and dissemination of funds and resources.**
- **Currently, various Government of Nepal agencies are assigned with different aspects of Disaster Risk Management.**
- **There is increasing involvement of the academicians, researchers, UN agencies, INGOs, local bodies and civil Society in disaster response.**

8.5 Present Institutional Arrangement



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9. Three Year Interim Plan (Major Policy)

- **3-Year Interim Plan (2007-2010) recognizes disasters as one of the major impediments of national development process, and addresses DRM tasks in chapter 26**
- **The Plan recognizes the need to foster collaboration and coordination among key DRM players and institutions active in different sectors of the national economy**

10.National Strategy for DRM 2009

10.1 Background ,vision and objective

Background: HFA 2005

Vision: Disaster Resilience Nepal

Objectives:

- Integration of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) into sectoral development policies and planning
- Development and strengthening of institutional mechanism and capacities to build resilient communities
- Systematic incorporation of different approaches into Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery programmes

10.2 Directive Principles of DRM Planning

- **Mainstream DRM into development plans**
- **Ensure life safety and social security**
- **Emphasize gender and social inclusion**
- **Adopt decentralized implementation**
- **Follow a holistic approach**
- **Prioritize staff safety and security**
- **Follow one-window policy and cluster approach**
- **Work with participation and coordination**

10.3 Sectoral Strategies for DRR

- **Agriculture and Food Security**
- **Health**
- **Education**
- **Shelter, Infrastructure, Physical Planning**
- **Livelihood Protection**
- **Water and Sanitation**
- **Information, Communication, Coordination and Logistics**
- **Search and Rescue, and Damage and Needs Assessment**
- **Forest and Soil Conservation**

10.4 Proposed Institutional Arrangement

National Disaster Management Council -Chaired by Prime Minister

National Disaster Management Authority

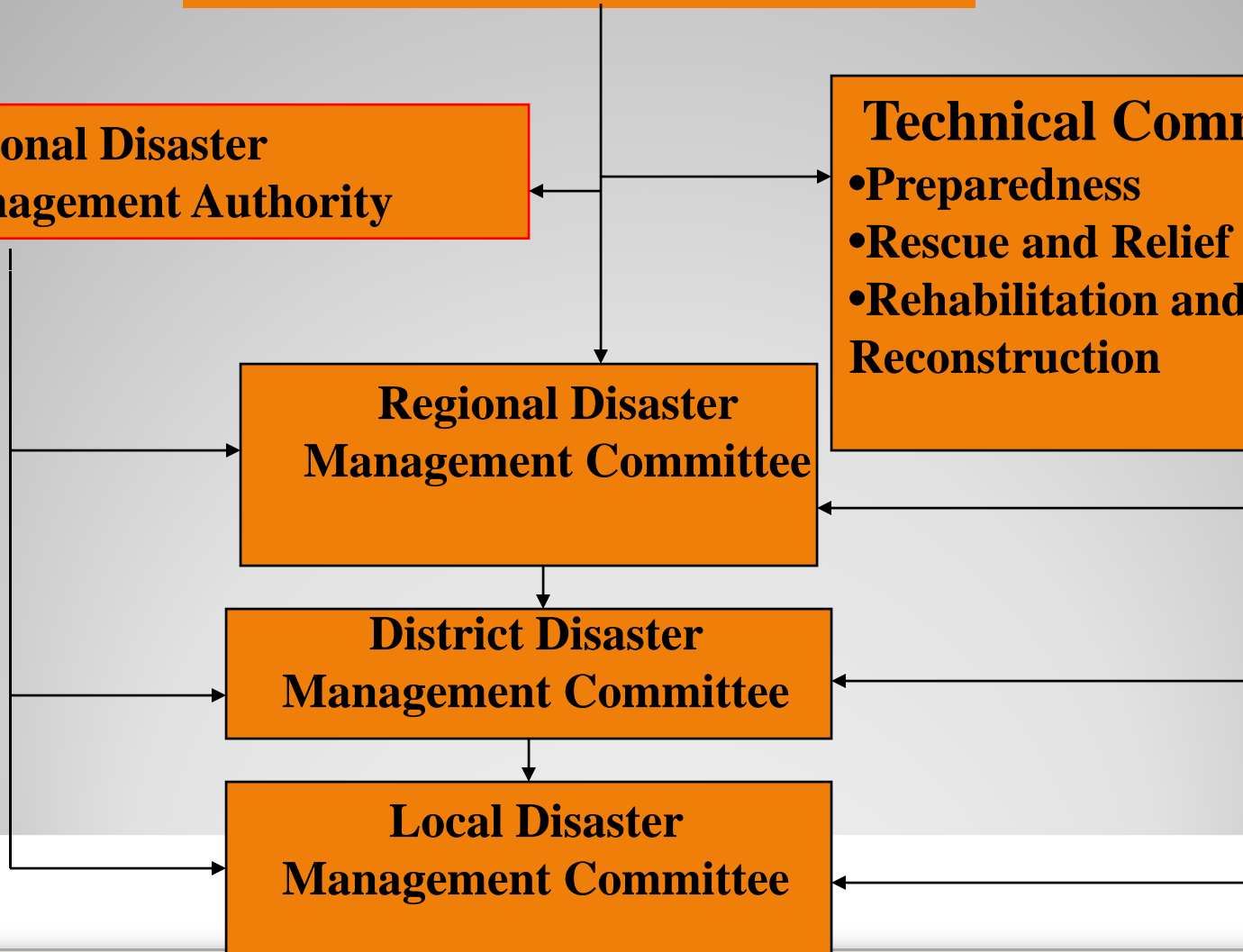
Technical Committees

- Preparedness
- Rescue and Relief
- Rehabilitation and Reconstruction

Regional Disaster Management Committee

District Disaster Management Committee

Local Disaster Management Committee



11. Sectoral Policies Related To Disaster Management

- **National Building Act, 2007, Building Code 1994**
- **Local Self Government Act, 1999**
- **Soil and Water Conservation Act, 1982**
- **Environment Protection Act, 1996**
- **National Agriculture Policy, 2004**
- **National Shelter Policy, 1996**
- **National Urban Policy, 2006**
- **National Water Resource Strategy, 2002**
- **Water Induced Disaster Management Policy, 2006**
- **Health Related Policies**
- **Other Policies**

12. Flagship Approach

Five Flagship Program endorsed on 2009 October

- **School and Hospital Safety**
- **Emergency Preparedness and Response Capacity**
- **Floods Management in the Koshi River Basin**
- **Integrated Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction Management**
- **Policy/ Institutional Support for Disaster Risk Management**

13. Proposed New Disaster Management Act

- Develop and strengthen **new institutional mechanism**; especially **National Disaster Management Council (NDMC)**
- Cover **full cycle of DRM**; prevention, mitigation, emergency preparedness, response and recovery program
- **Decentralize** disaster management at the local level
- Wider coverage of disaster types both **natural and non-natural disasters**

14. Disaster Preparedness initiatives

- **Lessons Learned and Disaster Preparedness workshop** at the central level has been held based on the recommendation of district level workshop (Bottom-Up approach).
- The national workshop has identified and **recommended 21 issues** to MoHA
- MoHA forwarded these issues to CNDRC and **got approval for implementation**
- Regional level workshop was held at 5 development regions and developed SOP
- District disaster preparedness plans have been made in **67 districts**

.....Disaster Preparedness initiatives

- Earthquake Simulation Exercise (**INSARAG**) has been conducted in 2009.
- **Model agreement** between GON and UN to expedite import/export and transit of relief consignments in the event of disasters and emergencies, 31 May, 2007
- **64 open space** for evacuation during emergencies identified within Kathmandu valley

.....Disaster Preparedness initiatives

- **Program for Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER)** trainings has been initiated since 1998, includes:
 1. **Medical First Responder (MFR)** to Fire Department, Red cross, Police, Rescue Organizations
 2. **Collapsed Structure Search & Rescue (CSSR)** to Fire, Department, Red Cross, Police, Search and Rescue group associate with Local and national emergency Response System
 3. **Hospital Preparedness for Emergency (HOPE)** to Hospital Administrators and Leaders, Doctors, Nurses, Hospital Engineers, and other medical and Management Staff

.....Disaster Preparedness initiatives

- **Get Airport Ready for Disaster (GARD)** is being done
- **Nepal Hazard Risk Assessment** has been made which covered Earthquake, Drought, Flood, Landslide and Epidemic. It also analyzed projected economic losses from hazard
- **National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA)** on climate change has been prepared and launched
- **National Early Warning Strategy** is being developed

15. Coordination Mechanism.....

- Established a **DRM Focal Points** in Different Ministries , Departments including PM Office NPC and security sectors. Monthly meeting in MOHA.
- Established a National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (**NPDRR**)
- Established a **Risk Reduction Consortium** to coordinate Five Flagship Program.
- **CNDRC meeting** is held as and when necessary under the chairpersonship of Home Minister.

....Coordination Mechanism

- Established National Emergency Operation Centre (NEOC) in MOHA to coordinate emergency rescue and relief during disaster.
- One window policy and UN Cluster approach has been adopted to implement DRM in a coordinated way.
- At the district level, DDRC - chaired by Chief District Officer (CDO) - is responsible for coordination and implementation of DRM .

16. The way forward.....

- To implement **NSDRM 2009** in an effective , efficient and collaborative way
- To enact **New Disaster Management Act** in line with **NSDRM 2009**
- To develop a scientific and comprehensive **Relief Standard**
- **Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)** into national and local level planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation frameworks

..... The way forward

- **Strong institutional base** for effective implementation of DRM: networked, decentralized, entrepreneurial, collaborative, professional and virtual
- **Strengthening prevention and preparedness:** systems, mechanisms, methodologies and actions
- **Scientific, educational and technological interventions**
- **Behavioural-change** : Awareness raising
- **Strengthening sub-regional, regional and international cooperation and collaboration:** SDMC, ADPC, ADCMC and UNISDR

KNOW DISASTER = NO DISASTER



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**Thank You Very Much for Your
Kind Attention**



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