

PROCEEDINGS & PRESENTATION

Briefing cum Consultation Workshops
on

'Initial Steps to Support the Development of a
Comprehensive Multi-hazard Programme and
Action Plan on Disaster Risk Reduction
in Myanmar'



adpc

Briefing cum Consultation Workshop
on
Action Plan on Disaster Risk Reduction
in Myanmar

18 - 19 DECEMBER 2008

CHATRIUM

BAGO HALL, CHATRIUM HOTEL, YANGON

18-19 DECEMBER 2008

Jointly Organised by . . .

adpc



With Funding Support from . . .

DFID Department for International Development

Background

Asian Disaster Preparedness Center [ADPC] in collaboration with the Relief and Resettlement Department [RRD], Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement organized Consultation-cum-Briefing Workshops on 'Initial Steps to Support the Development of a Comprehensive Multi-hazard Programme and Action Plan on Disaster Risk Reduction in Myanmar'. The workshops were organized at Bago Hall, Chatrium Hotel, Yangon on 18–19 December 2008. The participants were from Government Departments, UN Agencies, ASEAN and I/NGOs and in total 60 (approx.). The objective was to discuss the project activities, progress so far, implementation and possible partnership and linkages with the ongoing Disaster Risk Reduction initiatives in Myanmar.

Inaugural Session

On behalf of Relief and Resettlement Department, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief & Resettlement and Asian Disaster Preparedness Center [ADPC], Mr. Sudhir Kumar, Program Coordinator, ADPC welcomed the participants. He briefed about the project background, its objective and scope. He also emphasized on the consultative process and partnership in this project. He thanked U Than Aye, DDG, Agriculture Planning Department and Tripartite Core Group [TCG] Member and U Myint Thein, Director, Department of Social

Welfare, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement for attending the inaugural session.

U Myint Thein appreciated the Myanmar Action Plan on



Disaster Risk Reduction initiative in his opening remark. He mentioned that the post-Nargis is the apt moment and this plan would help in long-term risk reduction. He

suggested that MAPDRR should be integrated with the ongoing DRR interventions by different stakeholders and long-term recovery. While mentioning the DRR arrangement in the country, he briefed about National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee constituted under the Honorable Prime Minister at national level. At Division and State level, Division and State Disaster Preparedness Committees have been constituted. The committee is headed by the Chairman of the Division and State Peace and Development Council at Division and State respectively. Also similar arrangements have been made at sub Division and State levels. He mentioned that MAPDRR should be actionable, thus help in reducing risk.

In his key note address, U Than Aye mentioned about the DRR initiatives of the Ministry of Agriculture. He briefly mentioned the initiatives regarding Food security and Storm shelter embankments. While elaborating the storm shelter embankment interventions, U Than Aye mentioned that it helps in checking salinity thus leading

to increase in productivity, reducing the impact of cyclone and also act as shelter from storm surge. Such embankments were constructed in Rakhine State in the aftermath of 1968 cyclone and were found to useful during the 1974 cyclone. He mentioned that Ministry of Agriculture has constituted a Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Committee for ministerial/departmental level disaster preparedness. Also,



department has issued guidelines which includes roles and responsibilities of department in different phases of Disaster Management namely, before, warning phase, during and after disaster.

Mr A J Rego, Dy Executive Director [DED] thanked Government of Myanmar including Ministry of Social



Welfare, Relief & Resettlement and RRD for providing ADPC the opportunity to work jointly on Myanmar Action Plan

for Disaster Risk Reduction [MAPDRR]. He expressed sincere thanks to Department for International Development [DFID] for supporting the project. He mentioned that Union of Myanmar is committed to international and regional declaration and committees on DRR. He thanked the TCG members present in the workshop.

Project Briefing

The project brief by Mr Rego started with the rationale of the project which includes the commitment and/or endorsement of international and regional declarations and committees on DRR. While elaborating, he mentioned that the Union of Myanmar is committed to the Hyogo Framework for Action [HFA], Asian Ministerial Conferences, Asean Committee on Disaster

Management [ACDM], Asean Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response [AADMER], Asean agreement on Disaster Management, Asean Regional Program on Disaster Management [ARPDm], etc. He also mentioned that to achieve the HFA priorities, several countries have prepared their national plan such as Strategic National Action Plan [SNAP] for Disaster Risk Reduction {2008-2015} of Cambodia, Towards a safer Sri Lanka : Road Map for Disaster Risk Management, Indonesia National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction 2006-2015, etc. The Post Nargis Joint Assessment Report [PONJA] also emphasized on the need of DRR. In light of the afore-mentioned, commitments and reports, there is a need of national action plan.

Mr Rego mentioned that the project titled '*Initial Steps to Support the Development of a Comprehensive Multi-hazard Programme and Action Plan on Disaster Risk Reduction*' is a step towards the MAPDRR.

The project objectives are:

- Facilitate efforts to help that disaster risk reduction is a national-level and a local-level priority
- Facilitate the building blocks of the development of a comprehensive Action Programme on Disaster Risk Reduction

- Build institutional capacity in disaster management issues at national and sub-national level
- Coordinate with UNDP on township level capacity assessment and capacity building initiatives

The six major activities envisaged under the project are:

- I. Review exercise of risk profiles and past National DRR interventions
- II. Study on institutional arrangements and Disaster Management planning processes and capacities
- III. Initiate a DRR Forum through promoting a multi-stakeholder consultative process
- IV. Initiating development of an Action Plan and programme for DRR
- V. National and Divisional consultation workshops
- VI. Support the development of a detailed plan for developing an Action Programme on DRR and Standing Order

Activity: I Review exercise of risk profiles and past National DRR interventions

Review exercise of risk profiles envisages profiling hazards related data, studies, and maps prepared under disaster risk reduction or other developmental interventions by different agencies including government departments. It would give a comprehensive picture of hazard status of

the country based on the secondary data. It will include nine hazards namely Earthquake, Floods, Fire, Forest Fire, Cyclone, Storm surge, Tsunami, Landslide and Drought. It would try to document recorded past events of above-mentioned hazards, which includes date and time of the event, place of occurrence, damage and losses due to the disaster, etc.

The past National DRR interventions include analysis of institutional arrangements in Myanmar for DRR at National level. It will try to study and document the



composition of DRR committee/group, their roles and responsibilities in different phases of disaster management, techno-legal regime/backup for the

institutions, linkages and coordination, current capacities, future plans, etc. The profiling of DRR setup will be based on reports and studies undertaken in the past by Government, UN agencies, I/NGOs, Academic institutions, etc. It will include discussion /interview of stakeholders at national, division/state and township levels.

Activity II Study on Institutional Arrangements and Disaster Management Planning Processes and Capacities

It envisages to profile the Disaster Risk reduction arrangement in selected 9 townships across 5 Divisions/States. The selected townships are from Nargis affected and non-affected regions and also vulnerable to different hazards namely earthquake, fire, cyclone, floods, etc. The study townships are at table: 1.

Table: I Study Townships

State/Division	Township/s
Yangon Division	Kungyangone
Ayeyarwady Division	Laputta, Maubin, Bogalay, Ngapudaw, Phyarpone,
Magwe Division	Magwe Township
Mandalay Division	Mandalay City
Rakhine State	Sittwe Township

The objective is to understand the existing DRR system at township level, the current composition, structure and

roles of state, division, district and township-level disaster preparedness committees and their members. It also envisages studying the processes for disaster management planning and current capacities and needs.

Activity III Initiate a DRR Forum through Promoting a Multi-stakeholder Consultative Process

The key objective is to initiate a Disaster Risk Reduction Forum by either strengthening the existing similar forum or establishing a new forum. The forum shall be actively engaged in consultations to verify findings of the paper, to suggest next steps to advance the formation of an Action Plan for DRR, and to identify challenges for follow-up activities. The Forum will act in close coordination with the Technical Working Groups (TWGs) of the Early Recovery Cluster and the Post Nargis Recovery and Preparedness Plan.

Activity IV Initiating Development of an Action Plan (AP) and Programme for DRR

It envisages to constitute an *adhoc* Task Force with the support of Relief and Resettlement Department along with Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development, Ministry of Health, Myanmar Red Cross Society, Department of Meteorology & Hydrology, Social Welfare Department and other stakeholders. The *adhoc* Task Force will facilitate the preparation of the Myanmar Action Plan on Disaster Risk Reduction. It can constitute

technical working group/s on different themes of DRR or sub-heads of the MAPDRR, if required.

The *ad hoc* Task Force and other concerned agencies shall undertake self assessment on gaps and needs of their respective sectors for disaster prevention, preparedness



and mitigation. Similar assessment shall be undertaken by sub-national agencies who are members of the Disaster Preparedness Committees at various levels including Division, State and Township. Based on the self assessment, a draft report comprising stocktaking of past activities, gaps and needs will be prepared.

Activity V National and Divisional Consultation Workshops

The stocktaking exercise will be process oriented and results of stocktaking will be shared with all concerned agencies. Workshops shall be organized at national and sub-national [Division/State, District and Township] levels to discuss the findings of the stocktaking and formulate initial Action Plan for next steps.

Activity VI: Support the Development of a detailed Plan for developing an Action Programme on DRR

Based on the initial five activities, the detailed plan for Myanmar Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction will be developed. Tentatively MAPDRR will have four chapters namely:

1. Disaster Management and Disaster Risk Reduction in Union of Myanmar
2. Stocktaking of past and ongoing work on Disaster Management and Disaster Risk Reduction in Myanmar : Status, Gaps, and Priority Needs
3. Myanmar Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction
4. Implementation arrangements and funding

Disaster Management and Disaster Risk Reduction chapter will have four sub-heads namely

- *Risk profile of Union of Myanmar* will include hazard profile of the country and vulnerability

analysis. It will capture nine major hazards namely earthquake, floods, fire, forest fire, cyclone, storm surge, tsunami, landslide and drought. It will also try to capture the trend of disaster risks.

- *Institutional arrangements for Disaster Management and Disaster Risk Reduction in Union of Myanmar* section will contain overview of the DRR institutional arrangement at different levels including National, Division/State, District and Township. It will also capture vertical and horizontal linkages, roles & responsibilities and capacity.
- *Global and Regional DRR Commitments/Partnerships of Government of Myanmar* section will capture endorsements/declarations by the Government of Myanmar for Disaster Risk Reduction. It includes Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015, ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (ADMER) 2005, Declarations of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Asian Ministerial Conferences on DRR (AMCDRR) in Beijing (2005), Delhi (2007) and Kuala Lumpur (2008) and Regional Consultative Committee (RCC) on Disaster Management - Dhaka RCC-4 and Hanoi RCC-5 Statements on Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction in Development in Asia.

- *Key opportunities and challenges* will include windows of opportunities in the post Nargis milieu to implement the Disaster Risk Reduction



activities. It will also capture some challenges which are likely to be faced in achieving the HFA Priorities.

Chapter 2 will be summary and compilation of the information provided by different agencies under the stocktaking process. It will include DRR gaps identified on the basis of DRR priorities, past, current and future activities of different departments and agencies. This will help in identifying projects for the gap areas.

Myanmar Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction chapter will have tentatively following seven sub theme based on the HFA priorities.

- i. Policy, Institutional arrangements and further institutional development
- ii. Hazard, vulnerability and risk assessment
- iii. Multi-hazard Early Warning Systems
- iv. Preparedness and Response Programs at National, State/ Division, District and Township levels
- v. Mainstreaming of DRR into Development and Mitigation
- vi. Community based Disaster Preparedness and Risk Reduction
- vii. Public Awareness, Education and Training

These sub themes will include Strategy and key interventions for achieving the priority. The interventions shall be mentioned in terms of projects including tentative budget.

Chapter 4 will include the implementation arrangement along with funding requirement for the interventions identified in chapter 3. It will also spell out the monitoring and evaluation mechanism and inclusion of the DRR in the ongoing and planned development interventions.

Consolidated Feedback

UN Agencies/ASEAN

Agency	Feedback
UNESCO	Landslide may be included in the hazard profiling report as landslide cases occur in Mandalay Division, Chin State and upper Myanmar region.
UNOCHA	The 7 sub themes of MAPDRR are comprehensive.
MIMU	MIMU has been established in 2007 and would support the MAPDRR project in terms of management of data or mapping exercise.
UNRC Office	MAPDRR is important and it will be help in achieving the HFA Priorities.
ASEAN	MAPDRR may include Township level planning. Pyapon may be selected on pilot basis and this will be act as a reference for other townships.
WHO	The Questionnaire and template needs to be analyzed at length and WHO will give feedback after consultation.

INGOs/NGOs

Agency	Feedback
MRCS	MRCS is working on DRR in Magwe, Mandalay, Sagaing, Yangon and Ayeyarwady Divisions on Disaster Risk Reduction and related issues.
MES	Bago township and Mandlay are prone to seismic risk and these may be part of the project.
Action Aid	MAPDRR is important intervention and some I/NGOs may be involved in the Adhoc Task force or Working Group/s.
Pact	Sintgaing township is prone to seismic risks and in MAPDRR it may be given due focus. Pact is working in some of the township identified for profiling of township DRR arrangement under MAPDRR and it will assist in this activity.
World Vision	The process of MAPDRR shall be inclusive for better higher acceptance.
Mingalar Myanmar	Multi-stakeholder partnership is important in developing MAPDRR.

Government Ministries / Departments

Agency	Feedback
Ministry of Health	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ministry of Health has an Action Plan for Avian Influenza preparedness.2. It has identified 48 flood prone cities.3. Early warning system for epidemic / mass communicable diseases in MAPDRR may be included.
Department of Agriculture Planning	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Agriculture Department has prepared 'Disaster Preparedness Plan for Drought'.2. It has undertaken Storm shelter embankments and tanks in past and planning to similar interventions.3. It is working on drought resistant variety to improve productivity and thus food security.4. Drought may be included in the hazard profiling activity.
Ministry of Forest	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. It has prepared Action Plan for coastal areas after Nargis which envisages Community involvement in mangrove plantation, capacity building of community on mangrove protection and preparation of hazard maps.2. It has partnership with JICA and in planning to partner with Mangrove for Future [MFF].

Dept of Meteorology and Hydrology	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is in process of revising the flood hazard map. 2. Multi-hazard early warning system shall be set up. End-to-end early dissemination system using SMS , TV, etc are being discussed. 3. The feasibility of setting up a FM station for early warning dissemination is also being discussed.
Distance Education	ADPC may assist in developing the distance education material on DRR.
Relief and Resettlement Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RRD is planning to revise the ToT program on DRR with the technical assistance of ADPC. 2. It is also considering the feasibility of setup a Disaster Management Training Unit with the technical assistance of ADPC, which may be later converted into a Disaster Management Training School.
Education Department	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Two periods one each on Natural and Human-induced disasters were in the curriculum of Std VI. 2. It is planning to include Disaster Management from Std VI to VIII. It will include community service for safer community and reading material using cartoon characters. 3. It is also planning to introduce mock

	<p>drill and distribute Disaster Kit in schools across country.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. UNICEF is assisting in these activities.
National Commission for Environmental Affairs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Environmental issues are important and it should be part of the MAPDRR. 2. the role of women is important in DRR and Myanmar Women Affairs Federation [MWAF] shall be part of the MAPDRR processes. 3. National action Plan for Adaptation [NAPA] shall be referred in the MAPDRR.
Ministry of Social Welfare	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ministry of Social Welfare is the nodal Ministry for DRR. 2. The Standing Order is under revision and it includes roles and responsibilities of community. 3. The MAPDRR process is important and this is apt time to prepare it.

List of the participants

UN Agencies and ASEAN

SN	Name	Position	Contact Details
1	Dr. Maung Maung Lin	National Professional Officer	World Health Organization
3	Dr. Myint Myint San	Liaison Officer	UNESCO
4	David Dallah	Asst. Res. Rep.	UNDP
5	William Affif	Emergency Convey	WFP
6	Tinago Chikato	Information Management Officer	MIMU
7	Edmore Tondhlaua	Humanitarian Affairs Officer	OCHA
8	Eva Vognild	Information Management Officer	MIMU
9	Anggiet	Hub Officer	ASEAN
10	Wanna	Coordinator	ASEAN
11	Natthinee Redrdisa	Operations Manager	ASEAN
12	Philipp Danao	Hub Officer	ASEAN

INGOs/NGOs

SN	Name	Position	Contact Details
1	Daw Aye Aye Thant	Deputy Head of Department (DM)	Myanmar Red Cross Society
2	Dr. Wynn Thane	Relief Manager	PACT
3	Nayeem Wahra	Advisor	Save the Children
4	Ngwe Thein	Project Manager	Capacity Building Institute
5	U Than Myint	President	Myanmar Engineering Society
6	U Han Zaw	Vice President	Myanmar Engineering Society
7	James Tumtuan	Country Rep.	World Vision
8	Khual Tawne	Relief Coordinator	World Vision
9	Sithu Wai	Project Officer	CWS
10	Tet Nay Tun	Project Coordinator	Tdh-It
11	Daw Yuza	Director	Mingalar Myanmar
12	Dr. Phone Win	Director	Mingalar Myanmar
13	Suzanna Lipscombe	Project Coordinator	Malteser International

14	Bobby	Chief Executive Officer	Nargis action Group [Myanmar Egress]
15	Florence Lepaululier	DRR Coordinator	French Red Cross Society
16	Soe Thura Tun	Secretary	Myanmar Engineering Society
17	Collin Fernandez	DRR	Action Aid
18	Shital Kumar	DRR	Action Aid
19	Charlotte Lejeune	Chief Finance Officer	ACTED
20	Kareff Rafisura	Institutions & Policy Specialist	ADPC

Government Ministries and Departments

SN	Name	Position	Contact Details
1	U Bo Ni	Assistant Director	Forest Department
2	Dr Thein Tun	Deputy Director General	Department of Meteorology and Hydrology
3	U Aung Ye Tun	Assistant Director	Department of Transport
4	Dr. Than Htein Win	Deputy Director	Department of Health
5	U Than Aye	Dy. DG.	MOAI
6	U Myint Thein	Director	Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement
7	Daw Khin Mar Oo	Prog. Officer	Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
9	U Zaw Win	Staff Officer	Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
10	Dr. Zaw Myint	Professor	Ministry of Education
11	Daw Khin Thin Phyu	Assistant Director	Department of Education Planning & Training
12	Daw Htwe Nyo Nyo	Deputy Director	National Commission for Environmental Affairs
13	Daw Aye Aye Myint	Deputy Director	Department of Human Settlement & Housing Development
14	Dr. Kyaw Nyunt Sein	Dy Director General	Department of Health

15	U Kyaw Ywe	Deputy Director	Fire Services Department
16	U Kyaw Naing	Staff Officer	Fire Services Department
17	U Aung Khine	Director	RRD
18	U Nyi Nyi Naing	Assit. Director	Relief and Resettlement Department
19	Nwet Yin Aye	Staff Officer	RRD



BAGO HALL, CHATRIUM HOTEL, YANGON

18-19 December 2008