

## Civil Society Organizations' Outlook on Effectiveness of Humanitarian Disaster Governance in 2020 Monsoon Disaster Response

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Keywords: Disaster governance, Disaster risk reduction, Humanitarian response, Policy, Nepal

### ABSTRACT

*This study situates humanitarian disaster governance primarily within the broader framework of organizing, planning, and application of measures preparing for, responding to, and recovering from disasters. The study consists in the assessment of key major disaster response policy instruments and practices in Nepal in the context of the 2020 monsoon disaster response amid the COVID-19 impacts. The analysis demonstrates that stakeholder's opinion on the quality of policy documents is relatively high whereas the implementation of the same is low. This research creates a message that policy review must take place through a whole of society approach where the role of humanitarian CSOs is critical. Therefore, there need deep consultations with CSOs in the policy and plans review process to make policy documents more implementable. The study also suggests that role of NDRRMA shouldn't be circumvented, rather it needs to be equipped to manage all kinds and scales of future disasters without creating other parallel structures like CCMC.*

### 1. Introduction

Governance is an inclusive concept and it relates to power. In disaster management, the concept of governance emerged from the recognition that disaster management activities that would formerly have been carried out by government entities are now often dispersed among diverse sets of actors that include not only governmental institutions but also private-sector, civil societal entities (Tierney, 2012). Thus, humanitarian disaster governance is the emerging paradigm that accords the interactive interface between authorities, implementing agencies including civil society organizations, and communities (Hilhorst, Desportes, and Milliano, 2019). The humanitarian disaster governance aims to secure the welfare of the population, improve their condition, increase their wealth, longevity, build their resilience to future climate change impacts, and geohazards (Barnett, 2013).

Nepal is a multi-hazard high-at-risk zone in the global disaster map that consists of anthropogenic climate change and natural geohazard scenarios. Earthquakes, floods, landslides, glacial lake outbursts, avalanches, forest fire & settlement fire, drought, and windstorm are major hazards (GoN, MoHA, 2015) which cause a significant scale of economic loss annually in Nepal (Adhikari and Adhikari, 2019). At the same time, in Nepal, floods induced loss, and damage remained proportionately higher over the 20<sup>th</sup> century (Aryal, 2012). The disaster dataset demonstrates that incidents of hazards and associated impacts have been rising, and the flood and flood induced hazards continue to be a leading cause for economic fallout worth NRs 18310 million and loss of human lives at 1655 between 2011 and 2019 (Khanal, 2020). In this background, humanitarian disaster governance has been an emerging discourse in the DRRM and climate change regime in Nepal.

Humanitarian disaster governance largely implies an application of disaster preparedness and response policies, strategies, and plans of action at the time of disaster events and post-events. Thus, this study

situates humanitarian disaster governance primarily within the broader framework of organizing, planning, and application of measures preparing for, responding to, and recovering from disasters in the context of 2020 monsoon disasters in Nepal. The scope of this study consists in the analysis of key major disaster management policy instruments and assessment practices against those existing policy instruments.

Humanitarian disaster governance can broadly be subsumed under the rubric of risk governance that consists of the application of governance norms, policy, principles, and strategies (Tierney, 2012). However, the concept of governance or humanitarian disaster governance is not so common yet; though disaster management, disaster risk management, and disaster risk reductions are common ideas used often in disaster literature. Disaster governance makes up acts, bylaws and regulations, practices, and policies that guide disaster and post-disaster response (Daly, et.al.,2017). Outcomes of humanitarian activities are enabled with effective outcomes only in the functional presence of inclusive disaster governance that promotes state and societal governance framework for disaster and humanitarian interventions (Tierney,2012; Barnett, M.N., 2013).

In terms of policy and institutional arrangements in Nepal, the humanitarian disaster governance is guided by the constitution 2015, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Act 2017, DRRM (work division) Regulations 2017, National Policy for Disaster Risk Reduction 2018 (NPDRR), Local Government Operation (LGO) Act 2017, National Disaster Response Framework (NDRF) 2013 (revised 2019), Disaster Preparedness and Response Planning Directives 2020, Guidelines for the Relocation and Rehabilitation of High Risked Settlements, 2018, and Public Health Act 2018. According to the constitution 2015, the DRRM is the sole onus of the local governments as well as the shared area of work to the three tiers of the government in a newly established federal structure.

For effective humanitarian disaster governance, the DRRM Act 2017 outlines the institutional arrangements in a range of central through local levels. The arrangements seem to be inclusive that promote the engagement of all sectors including non-state humanitarian actors such as humanitarian civil society organizations and the private sector. District, municipal and rural municipal level Disaster Management Committees chaired by the respective head, DRRM Council chaired by the Prime Minister at the central level, and the provincial DRRM Council led by the Provincial Chief Minister to principally provide overall guidance endorse DRRM related policy, plan, strategies and monitoring of the outcomes. Similarly, DRRM Executive Committee headed by the Minister for Home Affairs; establishment of National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (DRRMA) to take charge of disaster risk management, three specialist committees to provide with technical advice on DRRM planning, response, and recovery, and Disaster Management Fund (DMF) dedicated to the resource pooling and investing in disaster risk management and response are the important mechanisms within the disaster management regime in the country. Disaster Risk Reduction National Strategic Plan of Action (2018-2030) is an important governance initiative that intends to bring collaborative actions in various stages of humanitarian disaster governance. Keeping consistency with the federal and provincial legal provisions, provincial and local governments are free to enact laws and make decisions to cater to the local needs and disaster and climate change impact resilience building.

However, it is critiqued that DRRM Act 2017 and other legal provisions have not been able to reflect the prevailing intention of the constitution; rather, it has created a cloud of confusion in terms of responsibilities and accountability sharing between the three layers of governments following the nature of hazards, intensity, and scale of disasters events (Bhandari, et al., 2020). Bhandari, et al. (2020) in the study entitled ‘ Inter-Governmental Coordination in the Response and Relief to Windstorm Disaster in Bara and Parsa’ argues that it is most likely that no government body would be held responsible and

accountable for a failed DRRM due to a lack of clarity of roles as witnessed during the 2017 and 2019 floods and the 2019 windstorm induced disaster management. At the same time, all provinces lack proper structures and coordination mechanisms in place, and local governments are institutionally not in a better state of catering to the disaster management at the scale of needs and minimum requirement either (Bhandari, et al., 2020).

Though it is principally agreed that the engagement of the local governments in disaster risk management with the established devolution of the authority would create an enabling milieu resulting in effective humanitarian disaster governance, the role of local governments is often confined to the emergency response and is sidelined in the post-disaster response (DRC, 2019). Likewise, the engagement of non-state actors in the post-disaster recovery and reconstruction after the mega-disaster such as the 2015 earthquake, the 2017 flooding is often slowed with a lengthy process of the government bureaucracy at the central level. Considering these facts this study tried to figure out the opinion of DRRM stakeholders on the quality of the humanitarian policy and its gaps in implementation.

## **2. Objectives**

The study was designed with the general objective of assessing the effectiveness of humanitarian disaster governance in the context of the 2020 monsoon disaster in Nepal.

The specific objects were:

- a) To assess the opinion of the CSOs on the existing humanitarian policies.
- b) To explore the experiences of the CSOs on the use of the humanitarian policies in the context of the 2020 monsoon disaster response.
- c) To assess the opinion of CSOs on the establishment of CCMC in the COVID-19 monsoon disaster scenario.

## **3. Methodology**

This study adopted the following tools to fulfill the objectives of the research study.

### **3.1. Sampling design**

While designing sampling, both probability and non-probability sampling techniques were applied. The study had adopted the quota sampling technique for the questionnaire survey and simple random sampling was used to select respondents for key informant interviews and in-depth interviews.

#### **3.1.1. Questionnaire**

To obtain a sample for the study, all the responders associated with Disaster Preparedness Network-Nepal (DPNet-Nepal) had been considered. DPNet-Nepal is an umbrella organization of national and international organizations primarily working in the field of disaster management in the last 25 years in Nepal. It has 111 members including 64 member NGOs. As per the statute of DPNet-Nepal, member organizations must have one of its objectives to work in the field of disaster management. Considering this provision, the study has assumed that most of the NGOs primarily working in the field of disaster management are associated with DPNet-Nepal. Out of these 64 NGOs, 20 samples have been taken with a 95 % confidence level, with an 18.3 confidence interval.

#### **3.1.2. Key Informant Interview**

As in the questionnaire tool, Technical Advisors of DPNet-Nepal were taken into consideration. Out of 15 listed technical advisors, 5 technical advisors were taken as a sample using judgmental sampling to make the respondents inclusive.

#### **3.1.3. In-depth Interview**

Out of the six advisory members of DPNet-Nepal, two advisors were taken as a sample using a simple random sampling technique.

#### **3.1.4. Content Analysis**

To achieve the research objectives, secondary data were collected from published books, journals, working papers, news, and various reliable and authentic web portal to enrich the study.

### 3.1.5. Findings analysis

The findings of the study have been analyzed graphically. Statistical analysis has been applied using a weighted average score to make explanations about the effectiveness of the existing key disaster management legal provisions concerning the 2020 monsoon disaster response.

### 3.2. Tools and sampling summary

Tools →	Questionnaire	IDI	KII	Content Analysis
Sampling Method →	Quota Sampling	Simple Random Sampling	Simple Random Sampling	Convenience Sampling
Universe →	64 NGOs	6 Advisors	15 Technical Advisors	N/A
Sample →	20 Member NGO of DPNet	2 Advisors of DPNet	6 Technical Advisors of DPNet	Various Available Relevant Materials

### 3.3. Assumptions

The main assumption of this study was that the respondents selected were a representative sample in the study area. It was assumed that the respondents were cooperative, did not have any political and reporting bias in their responses.

### 3.4. Limitations of the study

The study has tried to generate ideas on humanitarian disaster governance for effective 2020 monsoon disaster. This study is based on the small sample size of selected stakeholders with limited variables. There might be some weaknesses and data gaps due to these constraints. This study was conducted with limited time and resources with a low sample size so the confidence level i.e. 18.3 is comparatively high. Thus, the finding of the study may not be strongly generalized. Nevertheless, it paved the stone to do more studies to find out the gap between DRRM policy and implementation.

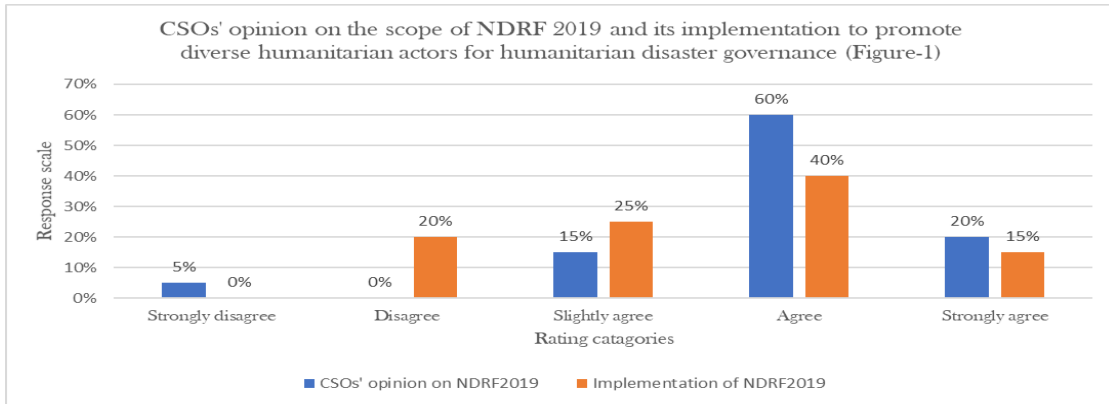
## 4. Results and Discussion

**Humanitarian Civil Society Organizations-CSOs’ understanding and opinion on the legal arrangements and their implementation in connection with the 2020 monsoon disaster response—** Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Act 2017, National Policy for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR) 2018, Local Government Operation (LGO) Act 2017, National Disaster Response Framework (NDRF), 2019, National DRR Strategic Plan of Action (NDRRSPA) 2018-2030 are the umbrella legal arrangements in humanitarian disaster governance. National Disaster Response Framework-NDRF (2013, revised 2019), Monsoon Preparedness and Response Plan of Action (MPRPA) 2020, and Rescue and Relief Standards (DVSRS), 2020 are the framework that direct the humanitarian disaster response at the time of low, medium, and high scale disasters. In general, the legal framework is largely guided by the principles of accountability, transparency, and partnership with the engagement of diverse stakeholders including humanitarian SCOs, donor organizations, private sector; in the process, the considerations of gender and social inclusion are crucial.

NDRF 2013 (revised, 2019) accords clarity over approaches and mobilization of the international humanitarian organizations and communities during the rescue, relief, and response times of the large-scale disasters. Likewise, the framework guides the response preparedness and emergency response at all levels from federal to local governments. Also, in anticipation of the big disasters that

are likely and common at the local level such as recurring flooding and flood induced disasters, the framework legally enables the local governments to prepare the local level preparedness plan. This provision is an important part of promoting a whole-of-a-societal approach based on humanitarian disaster governance at the local level where the role of humanitarian CSOs is equally important.

In this background, 60% of the humanitarian CSOs argue, as shown in figure-1, that NDRF 2013 (revised 2019) recognizes that humanitarian CSOs’ engagement in humanitarian response is critical. Similarly, 20% of the organizations strongly agree while 15% of them slightly agree in this regard. At the same time, 5% of the respondents say that the NDRF requires further clarity, therefore strongly disagree on the same matter.



Though NDRF 2013 (revised 2019) has comprehensive provision for the management of the international humanitarian agencies during the time of large-scale disaster response for rescue and relief operation, the framework, as part of improving the humanitarian disaster governance, also encourages the local governments to formulate the disaster preparedness plan. In the anticipation of the likely disaster in the local context— the 2020 monsoon disaster being in close sight—the two-fifths (40%) agree that local governments were ready to tackle the big loss that the monsoon disaster could have caused, and the 15% strongly agreed in this regard while one-fourth (25%) slightly agreed that the local governments had prepared to respond the monsoon disasters. In contrast, one-fifth completely disagreed.

Vetting statistically, as the table 1 and table 2 demonstrate below, the NDRF 2020 with the weighted average score at 67.5% demonstrates that the scope of framework is fairly comprehensive in terms of promoting humanitarian disaster governance where the role of humanitarian CSOs is significantly promoted. However, as for the implementation concerning the monsoon 2020 disaster response, the framework receives the average weighted score at 61.25%. Ideally, though the weighted average score for both scope and implementation of the framework is higher; a lower score for implementation calls for the improvement in the implementation.

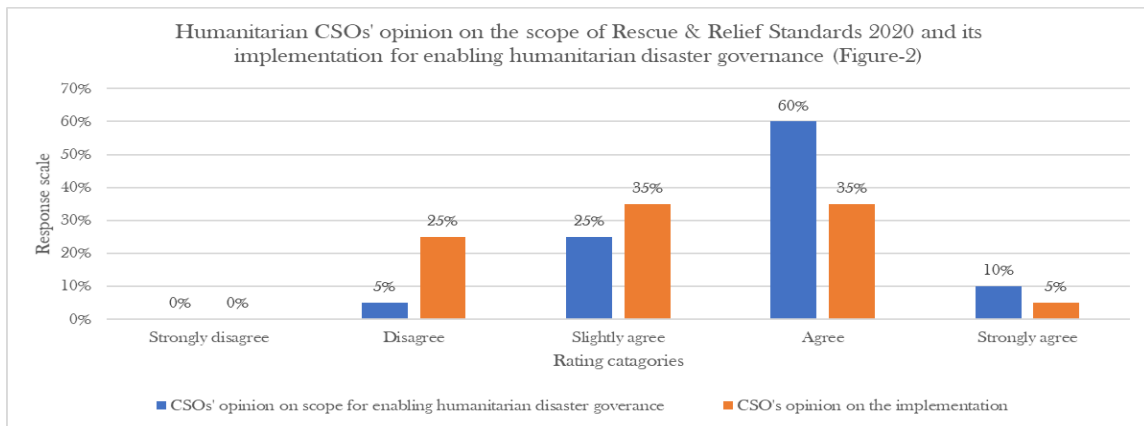
Table-1

NDRF 2013 (revised 2019)-statistical analysis of its scope along with the promotion of CSOs for humanitarian disaster governance											
Rating category	Value distribution										Weight
Strongly disagree	0	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
Disagree	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
Slightly agree	2	2	2	2	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
Agree	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	30
Strongly agree	4	4	4	4	4	x	x	x	x	x	16
										Total	54
Explanation note										Weighted average score in %	
With weighted average score of 67.5%, NDRF 2019 promotes humanitarian disaster governance for better response.										$(100 * 54) / 80 = 67.5$	

Table-2

NDRF 2013 (revised 2019)-statistical analysis of its implementation to enable humanitarian disaster governance along with the promotion of CSOs role											
Rating category	Value distribution										Weight
Strongly disagree	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
Disagree	1	1	1	1	x	x	x	x	x	x	4
Slightly agree	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	x	x	12
Agree	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	21
Strongly agree	4	4	4	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	12
										Total	49
Explanation note										Weighted average score in %	
61.25% is the implementation success rate of NDRF 2019 in terms of promoting humanitarian disaster governance along with the promotion of the CSOs' enagement										$(100 * 49) / 80 = 61.25$	

Rescue and Relief Standard, 2013 (revised 2020) is another important instrument to strengthen the humanitarian disaster governance with the engagement of CSOs for its effectiveness. According to figure-2 below, 10% of the respondents strongly agree that the scope of the Rescue and Relief Standard, 2020 is improved, three-fifth (60%) of the respondents agree while 25% of them slightly agree and 5% disagree in this regard.



As given in Table 3 below, the statistical analysis shows that the Rescue and Relief Standard 2013 (revised 2020) with a score of 68.75% has now improved provisions for effective rescue and relief works during the disaster response. It is argued that the provision of putting 25 skilled human resources at the minimum on stand-by to be mobilized for search and rescue, pre-positioning of search and rescue materials under a Chief District Officer, an increased amount of relief amount to the families who have lost a family member or houses, among other things, make it more progressive.

As table 4 shows, however, the average weighted score for implementation of the same standard is 60%. The Rescue and Relief Standard 2013 (revised 2020) requires the local governments to formulate the preparedness plans, but it is found that local government does not have such preparedness plan with anticipation of facing both extensive and intensive disasters including monsoon induced disasters (IDI-1). CSOs find that implementation of the standards requires a boost up to at the local level; the collaboration with the humanitarian SCOs is suggested to be an important strategy to further the localization of the standards thereby improving the humanitarian disaster governance. Also, KII-1 recommends that the SPHERE standards need to be considered while designing the relief standards by the local governments.

Table-3

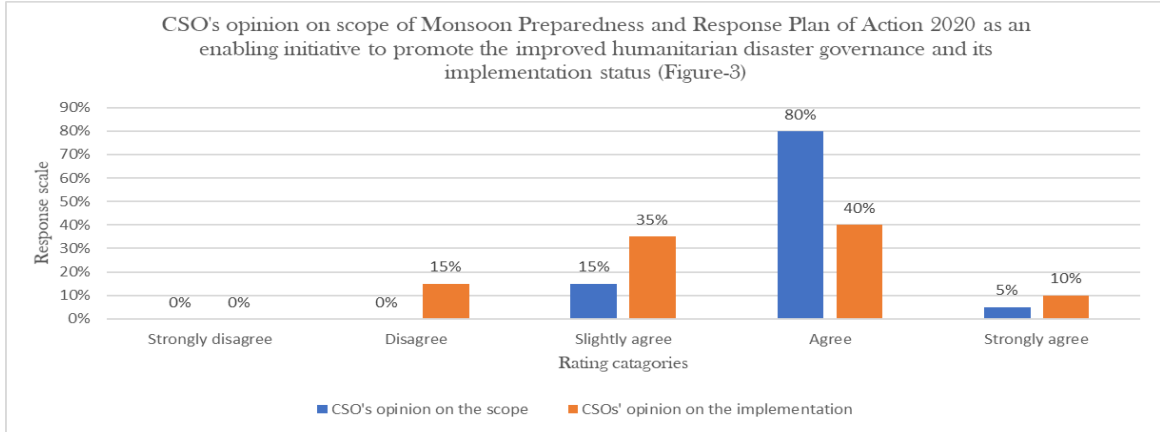
Statistical analysis of the opinion of the scope of Rescue and Relief Standards 2020 for improved humanitarian disaster governance														
Rating category	Value distribution												Weight	
Strongly disagree	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
Disagree	1	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	1
Slightly agree	2	2	2	2	2	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	10
Agree	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	36
Strongly agree	4	4	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
													55	
Explanation note													Weighted average score in	
With the weighted score of 68.75%, Rescue and Relief Standards 2020 is comprehensive to improve the humanitarian disaster governance at local level													$(100 * 55) / 80 = 68.75$	

Table-4

Statistical analysis of the implementation of Rescue & Relief Standards 2020 for effective humanitarian disaster governance in the 2020 monsoon disaster response									
Rating category	Value distribution								Weight
Strongly disagree	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
Disagree	1	1	1	1	1	x	x	5	
Slightly agree	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	14	
Agree	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	21	
Strongly agree	4	4	x	x	x	x	x	8	
									48
Explanation note									Weighted average score in %
With the weighted score of 60%, the Rescue and Relief Standards 2020 is found to have been fairly effective in the 2020 monsoon disasters in improving humanitarian disaster governance									$(100 * 48) / 80 = 60$

As part of the humanitarian disaster governance, Monsoon Preparedness, and Response Plan of Action, 2020 is regarded as one of the most important initiatives for enabling response during the 2020 monsoon disasters. According to the figure-3, 80% of the CSOs find that the Plan of Action was adequately broad-based in terms of making an effective response in the times of 2020 monsoon

disasters. Similarly, 10% of the respondents strongly agree, while 15% of them slightly agree in this regard. However, looking at the implementation scale of the same plan is comparatively lower as 40% of the respondent organizations agree on the effective implementation, the 5% strongly agree while 35% of them slightly agree. There is also a case that 15% of the respondent organization disagree and find that the plan was not followed during the 2020 monsoon disaster response.



Analyzing statistically in table 5 and table 6, with the weighted average score of 77.5%, the response provisions at the plan are found to have been of a wide range. However, the implementation which has gained the weighted average score of 61.5% is not on a par with what has been provisioned in the plan. There is a visible gap between what should be done and what has been done during the 2020 monsoon disaster response. KII-5 confirmed that finding with the argument that the mobilization of the humanitarian SCOs during the 2020 monsoon disaster response was lower than what had been expected. The capacity building of the local government to formulate the monsoon disaster preparedness plan is a critical issue to be addressed for a better monsoon disaster response, KII-1, and IDI-2. Disaster financing is a great challenge that local governments are struggling to manage, KII-4.

Table-5

Statistical analysis of the Monsoon Preparedness and Response Plan of Action 2020 for promoting humanitarian disaster governance																	
Rating category	Value distribution															Weight	
Strongly disagree	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
Disagree	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
Slightly agree	2	2	2	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	6
Agree	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	48
Strongly agree	4	4	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
																Total	62
Explanation note																Weighted average score in %	
The provisions of promoting humanitarian disaster governance within the Monsoon Disaster Preparedness Plan 2020 has been found encouragingly at 77.5%.																$(100 * 62) / 80 =$ <b>77.5</b>	

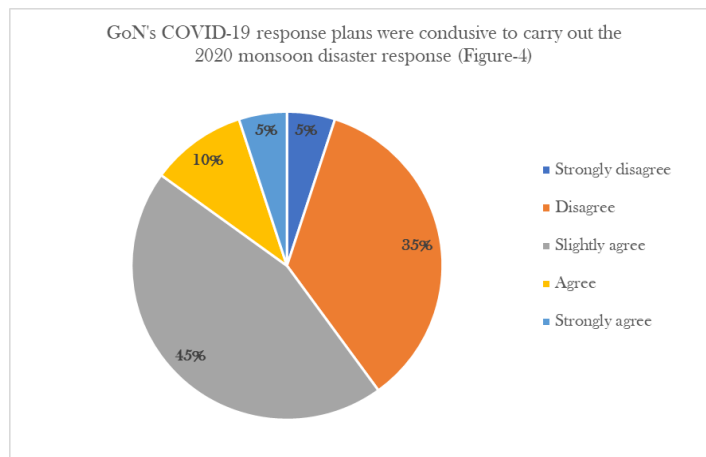


Table-6

Statistical analysis of the implementation of Monsoon Preparedness and Response Plan of Action 2020 to promote humanitarian disaster governance									
Rating category	Value distribution								Weight
Strongly disagree	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
Disagree	1	1	1	x	x	x	x	x	3
Slightly agree	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	x	14
Agree	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	24
Strongly agree	4	4	x	x	x	x	x	x	8
Total									49
Explanation note									Weighted average score in %
The score at 61.5% demonstrates that implementation of the plan was lower than what had been provisioned.									$(100 * 49) / 80 = 61.5$

Though the Monsoon Preparedness and Response Plan of Action 2020 was a working document to adhere to, the study finds that the government’s ‘one door approach’ still confounds the response during the relief operation, So, the often-cited ‘one door approach’ of GoN at the operation level requires further clarity to improve the engagement of the humanitarian SCO during the monsoon disaster response. It is suggested that coordination mechanisms between District Disaster Management Committees and municipal level Disaster Management Committees need to be institutionalized to avoid responsibility overlapping, better response, and effective monsoon disaster response monitoring (KII-1). It is also argued that there needs a capacity for the strengthening of the local governments in humanitarian disaster management with a dedicated disaster financing system in place.

Humanitarian disaster governance is focused on all kinds of disasters, be it extensive disasters such as flooding, landslides; geohazards induced disasters such as earthquakes or health pandemic—COVID-19. To manage the health emergency which is part of humanitarian disaster governance, the Government of Nepal issued several COVID-19 safety directives and plans including Health Sector Emergency Response Plan, COVID-19 Nepal: Preparedness and Response Plan (NPRP), 2020, among others. However, as the figure-4 demonstrates, 45% of the CSOs slightly agreed, 10% of them agreed and 5% strongly agreed that the COVID-19 health response plans were supportive for effective in the 2020 monsoon disaster response; while 35% of the CSOs opined and 5% of them strongly said that the health response plans were not conducive to make the 2020 monsoon disaster response effective.

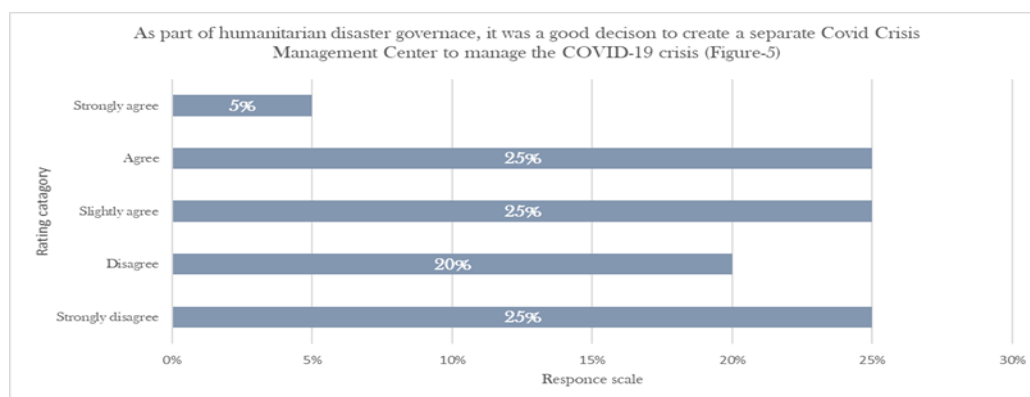


The disaster response experts (KIIs & IDIs) suggest the engagement of CSOs and the private sector is crucial to make the pandemic management result-oriented and conducive to make the other disasters including monsoon disaster response more effective. Thus, GoN should have ensured adequate participation of the humanitarian CSOs and private sector during the health emergency response planning process. The table-7 demonstrates statistically the level of conduciveness of the COVID-19 health emergency response plans in the context of the 2020 monsoon disaster response phase. The weighted average score of a little more than 56% implies the health emergency plans could have improved the level of ownership on part of the civil society and private sector, particularly to make them more monsoon disaster response friendly.

Table-7

Statistical analysis of the conduciveness of COVID-19 health emergency response plans in the context of 2020 monsoon disaster response										
Rating category	Value distribution									Weight
Strongly disagree	0	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	0
Disagree	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	x	x	7
Slightly agree	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	18
Agree	3	3	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	6
Strongly agree	4	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	4
									Total	35
Explanation note									Weighted average scope in %	
In the context of the 2020 monsoon disaster response, the COVID-19 health emergency response plans were conducive at 56.25% on scale of 0-100.									$(100 * 35) / 80 = 43.75 - 100 = 56.25\%$	

The DRRMA Act 2018 is a legal set-up to enable humanitarian disaster governance, and NDRRMA is the institutional base to flourish even at the time of the current health emergency. The NDRRMA is responsible for all kinds and scales of disasters and disaster risk management. The policy provisions and establishment of the NDRRMA reflect an improved state of disaster management in Nepal. However, to tackle and manage the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of Nepal created a high-level ad hoc committee—Covid Crisis Management Center (CCMC). As shown in the figure- below, given the scale of a health disaster, 5% of the respondents strongly agreed, and 25% agreed, another 25% of the respondent organizations only slightly agreed with the decision for the creation of CCMC. In contrast, 20% of the CSOs disagreed and another group of 25% of respondents strongly disagreed with the CCMC creation. The DM professionals (KII-2,3,4,5,6) argue that such a decision would only undermine the NDRRMA and narrow down its legitimate scope of the work. They add that such ad-hoc action would often weaken the humanitarian disaster governance.



According to the table-8 below, the decision has scored the average weighted score of 41.25%, while a big number of CSOs still assert that the CCMC creation to manage the COVID-19 crisis is a

disempowering act for the nascent NDRRM Authority. Instead of creating a separate ad hoc entity, the DM scholars and practitioners would argue, NDRRMA should have been equipped and well-resourced to manage the pandemic in the country (IDI-2). It was a great opportunity that GoN has missed the opportunity to expand the humanitarian disaster governance down to the municipal level through the NDRRMA. It is claimed that there might be the case that institutional memory of such an ad hoc committee is likely to be lost for lack of ownership; and institutional learning is hardly transferred and applied for evidence-based policy and development programming (IDI-2).

Table-8

Statistical analysis of the decision to create CCMC to manage COVID-19 pandemic with 2020 monsoon disaster scenerio						
Rating category	Value distribution					Weight
Strongly disagree	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disagree	1	1	1	1	x	4
Slightly agree	2	2	2	2	2	10
Agree	3	3	3	3	3	15
Strongly agree	4	x	x	x	x	4
					Total	33
Explanation note						Weighted average score in %
For the humanitarian CSOs, the acceptance level of the decision to create the CCMC has been found at 41.25% while the rest proportion indicate that the decision would have been made to promote and strengthen the existing NDRRMA to manage the COVID-19 crisis.						$(100 * 33)/80 = 41.25$

## 5. Conclusion and recommendations

This study has reviewed humanitarian disaster governance analyzing the opinion of the stakeholders on the effectiveness of the existing humanitarian policy and its gap in implementation. In the background of broad humanitarian disaster governance set-up, and with a closer investigation into three important humanitarian disaster governance policy it is found that there is a visible gap in implementation vis-à-vis what has been provisioned at the disaster response plans.

The constitution 2015, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Act 2017, DRRM Regulations 2017, National Policy for Disaster Risk Reduction 2018 (NPDRR), and Local Government Operation (LGO) Act 2017, Disaster Preparedness and Response Planning Directives 2020, and formation of NDRRMA form a legal base upon which humanitarian disaster governance flourishes. The analysis demonstrates that the quality of policy documents is relatively high whereas the implementation of the same is low. For example, Monsoon Preparedness and Response Plan of Action 2020 has been found robust while the implementation of the same has been lower at the score of 61.5%. Likewise, the implementation of other plans is found to have been of little satisfaction. Policies should always be living with adequate room for change and to adjust the learning and needs that arise in the course of their implementation. This research creates a message that policy review must take place through a whole of society approach including CSOs to refine the policies to make them more effective and implementable.

Similarly, SPHERE standards should be considered when local governments make disaster preparedness plans. The institutional capacity of the local governments should be reviewed and enabled with dedicated humanitarian disaster management financing sources with a clear strategy in place. Coordination mechanism between District Disaster Management Committees and Local Disaster Management Committees need to be institutionalized to avoid responsibility overlapping, better response, and effective response monitoring. Similarly, the roles of NDRRMA shouldn't be circumvented in times of big disasters, rather it needs to be equipped to manage all kinds and scales of future disasters without creating other parallel structures like CCMC.

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