



eBulletin

MAY-JUNE 2022



Summary

This report highlights activities and discussions in the DRRM sector in Nepal from May to June 2022, emphasizing collaboration and strategic planning among various stakeholders. A key event was the virtual discussion program organized by DPNet on May 11, 2022, on the Zero Draft GPDRR Position Paper, which was prepared in support of the GPDRR Preparatory Task Group and attended by notable figures including Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Executive Chief of NDRRMA, and Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala, Chief of Disaster and Conflict Management Division, Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA). This discussion aimed to consolidate a position paper reflecting Nepal's stance on disaster vulnerability, management strategies, and the integration of climate actions with sustainable development goals, emphasizing a no-one-left-behind approach.

Feedback from various participants highlighted the need for inclusiveness, with suggestions for making the report more reader-friendly, emphasizing gender responsiveness, and including successful case studies in disaster management. The meeting resolved to form a seven-member committee to refine the position paper further. Moreover, the formation of a DPNet Province Level Committee in Gandaki Province on May 27, 2022, aimed at enhancing regional collaboration in DRRM efforts, showcasing DPNet's initiative towards decentralizing disaster risk reduction strategies.

The participation of Nepal in the 7th session of the GPDRR 2022 in Bali, Indonesia, from May 23 to 28, coordinated by DPNet as the secretariat of National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR), marked Nepal's active engagement on the global stage. It offered an opportunity to share Nepal's achievements, learn from global practices, and engage in strategic discussions on enhancing disaster resilience. The event emphasized the critical role of early warning systems, community-based approaches, and the importance of integrating disaster risk reduction with climate change adaptation.

The 26th Anniversary of DPNet-Nepal on June 8, 2022, reflected on the year's achievements, including partnerships, projects, and the role of DPNet in coordinating efforts towards a more disaster-resilient Nepal. It also highlighted the importance of media engagement in disaster risk communication, as discussed in the orientation program for journalists on the hydro-meteorological forecast system on June 19, 2022. Finally, the preparation for the APMCDRR 2022, discussed in a meeting on June 20, 2022, illustrated a strategic approach towards showcasing Nepal's DRRM initiatives. It highlighted the significance of collaborative action, inclusive participation, and the development of a unified position paper to effectively represent Nepal at the conference.

GPDRR Position Paper Discussion Program



The virtual discussion program on Zero Draft GPDRR Position Paper organized by DPNet on 11th May, 2022. The zero draft position paper was prepared by Mr. Gehendra Gurung in support of GPDRR Preparatory Task Group. The program was attended by 62 participants including Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Executive Chief of National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA), Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala, Chief of Disaster and Conflict Management Division Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), representatives of NPDRR thematic group, various DRRM stakeholders and experts

Major Highlights:

Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair of DPNet (Program Facilitator)

The official statement was finalized with the help of many stakeholders under the

supervision of MoHA and NDRRMA and formally uploaded in the GPDRR system on 1st May, 2022. This zero draft position paper is the elaborated form of the same official statement. When Nepal participates in global platforms, it usually shares a position paper. In order to have a wider ownership, DPNet as a Secretariat of NPDRR coordinates all DRRM stakeholders, bringing them in a wider meeting to sort out contentious issues to prepare a widely accepted position paper.

Mr. Gehendra Gurung shared the zero draft position paper

The zero draft position paper was the elaborated form of official statement and the past experience of position paper which included various GPDRR themes. Beside this while developing the position paper, conclusion of first historic National Conference

on Disaster Risk Reduction (NCDRR) and GPDRR theme were also taken into consideration. The draft tried to give the glimpse of Nepal disaster vulnerability that includes hazard, exposure, vulnerability, loss and damages, economic loss was classified by economic loss, hazard wise economic loss, vulnerable groups, age group, house damages, number of incidents and total number of deaths occurred by various disasters in graphs.

The position paper comprises of the status of Nepal in pandemic response, its learning, risk informed development, policy and legal frameworks development, risk governance, information communication and dissemination, investing in disaster management, response in build back better, about the synergy between disaster risk reduction, climate actions and sustainable development goals and leaving no one behind approach. The paper centered on one leave behind principle emphasizing the challenges in disaster management and the way forward

Open discussion and comments

Ms. Chadani Joshi

The paper was drafted with a lot of comprehensiveness and thoughtfulness with good studies and best practices. While representing Nepal in such platforms it should go in a holistic way. To make this paper many realistic things have been added such as SDG, leaving no one behind, Sendai Framework and so on but this paper seems gender neutral. Women's issues should be cooperated in existing scenarios and a way forward for both. Disaster's impact is different in women and men. We follow 'no one leaving behind' so it's very important to understand that women, girls, minors, disable people are highly vulnerable and need to be included in mitigation. Further, we need to focus on reconstruction, rehabilitation, recovery along with rescue and relief. The examples of positive changes in

plans, policies and acts should also be included.

Mr. Nilkantha Pandey

The structure of the report should be updated to be reader friendly. Each six thematic areas, its key achievements in terms of policy and actions, its progress in terms of gender responsiveness and inclusiveness, its challenges and way forward should be separately managed.

Dr. Dharam Uprety

We should be clear about what we are keeping in the international platforms. The key achievement of Nepal ought to be included in the position paper. Risk transfer mechanisms, risk finance mechanisms, anticipatory action should have good space in the paper.

Mr. Amrit Sharma

We need to focus on the consistency of the document. The climate induced disaster should also be on priority list. We need to invest in data generation to justify our work.

Mr. Ram Prasad Bhandari

The challenges and way forward are realistic but we should not over praise our work. Risk informed development is included both in gaps and strong points, this should be clarified. Attention should be given to target international audiences who are not familiar with Nepali context.

Ms. Durga Sob

Women's perspectives should be highlighted. Disaster affects individuals differently, so diversity perspectives should be enhanced and elaborated. Marginalized community's voice must be addressed.

Mr. Pradip Khatiwada

Youth contribution in various disasters including 2015 earthquake, flood, COVID

pandemic should be highlighted and our progressive achievement in disaster information management system should be reflected somewhere.

Ms. Renu

Dalit and marginalized community, women and disable community should be identified. Good innovations should be included in the way forward.

Ms. Rajin Rayamajhi

We are working more on response but there is a lack of preparedness. Youth, women groups and communities that worked in pandemic need to be addressed.

Mr. Deepak Paudel

We have to go forward in an ecosystem wise approach. We have a strong early warning system, so if there are any gaps it needs to be solved but our achievement in this field should be reflected. As Local Governments are the first responder, our effort to strengthen their capacity should be reflected.

Dr. Dilli Prasad Poudel

We have to focus on challenges such as poor coordination. COVID section is quite more, and needs to be summarized.

Mr. Tulsi Prasad Dahal

There should also be focus on urban fire management. Policy legal framework and DRR governance should be merged. Promulgation of DRRM policy is not a duty of a single government institution so DRRM policy formulation process should not be misguided. It would be better to highlight the climate funds to work on climate induced disasters in the forum. The earthquake safety day, DRR day celebration and other messaging campaigns need to be highlighted. The challenges and way forward should be

harmonized.

After collecting the feedback from various stakeholders, meeting decided to formed seven-member committee comprising Ms. Chandani Joshi, Mr. Ram Prasad Bhandari, Mr. Dinanath Bhandari, Mr. Tulsi Prasad Dahal, Mr. Sajan Neupane, Dr. Dharam Raj Uprety and Mr. Nilkantha Pandey to finalize and refine the position paper.

Other comments:

- It is important to include role of civil society, real life achievements, women and child-sensitive/centered approaches to minimize vulnerabilities, empowering women and children, and increasing their capacities with knowledge, technology and skills.
- It is critical to incorporate and continue to protect service holders from any forms of violence, particularly sexual exploitation and abuse by service providers abusing their power position, in order to improve risk-informed or safer response programming for emergency and disaster situations.
- DRR Governance section presents institutional arrangements. Hence, better to change the section title to "institutional arrangements". Otherwise, we can put together policy and legal frameworks and institutional arrangement into DRR Governance.
- It would be better to include the challenge to link local and conventional technology to bring bottom-up approaches and involve the vulnerable group of society and individuals in resilience part.
- Focusing on women's meaningful participation should be appreciated.
- While reviewing progress, we should take the reference of targets set by DRR National Strategic Plan of Action

- It's better to share that there are many preparedness initiatives as best practices.
- Should include how vulnerable community is engaged and brought to leadership position for decision making and showcase strong element of accountability towards the communities on the front lines of risk and crises.
- Include the process ensuring women leadership, particularly of young women in locally led risk reduction, and climate action for a process facilitating transformative resilience.
- Nature based solutions for DRR and climate change should be included, if Nepal wants to work on NBS then we should also add this.

Concluding remarks

Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala, Chief of Disaster and Conflict Management Division MoHA

Thanked Mr. Gehendra Gurung, GPDRR Preparatory Committee, AINTGDM and all stakeholders who provided feedback to bring the position paper in this shape. The disaster background in the paper should be related to Nepal's disaster. There is a similar climatic condition from Bay of Bengal to Himalayan region, so we comprise the same kind of

disaster in our region, this line also suits in the background of position paper. This position paper must show the status of Nepal and lessons learned for the other parts of the world. Our effort to increase disaster funding, search and rescue capacity should be well articulated.

Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Executive Chief of NDRRMA

Climate change issues, vulnerability and climate change linkages, forest fires and other disaster topics should be shaped up. It's necessary to be clear where we stand, where our big successes are and where our priority should be. The success stories should be highlighted and focus on the way forward. We have been adopting the coordinating mechanism and successions on reconstruction and recovery, inclusiveness, and these also should be highlighted in the position paper. The topics that should be included in papers are about risk information and data management, about mobilizing volunteers, concepts of multi hazard early warning systems, about changes in governance, about whole of the society approaches and other ways forward. He thanked Dr. Raju Thapa and DPNet team for continuous coordination and all concerned stakeholders including AINTGDMCC, CARE, Mercy Corps, Practical Action for the necessary financial and technical support.

GPDRR Pre-Departure Meeting – 2022



The pre-departure meeting for the GPDRR-2022 was organized on 16th May, 2022 in Hotel Himalaya, Lalitpur. The program comprises of GPDRR preparatory updates, discussion about the proposed activities by Nepal in GPDRR event, upcoming APMCDRR, finalization of position paper and formation of joint management efforts. The program was coordinated by DPNet and attended by Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Executive Chief of NDRRMA, Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala, Chief of Disaster and Conflict Management Division, Chief of NEOC Mr. Khumkanta Acharya and other representatives from NPDRR Thematic Committee, NGO, INGO, Academia.

Major Highlights:

Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair of DPNet

Nepal has unique practice of preparing position paper in a common consensus to participate in regional and international events. Such position paper usually prepares in a rigorous consultative process, accommodating all concerned DRR stakeholders. Any contentious issues can be sorted out in a meeting and prepare a common position paper that represent a voice of all stakeholders. Position paper guides every individual and intuition that attend such international platform to maintain the uniformity on Nepal voice in DRR. This year

we have also conducted rigorous consultative process to prepare a zero draft of the position paper and official statement too. We will conduct other consultative meeting to bring out final position paper so that it would be accepted by all. We also need to prepare for the the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR) going to be organized from 19-22 September, 2022 in Australia. There should be 'joint management effort'(basket fund) to get wider ownership of the stakeholders.

Mr. Gehendra Gurung (Position Paper Zero Draft Producer)

The position paper is the elaborated form of official statement, conclusions of NCDRR, previous position papers, NPDRR meeting minutes, guidance of Mr. Anil Pokhrel and Mr. Pradip Koirala, NPDRR Thematic Committees and feedbacks from wider meetings. The paper included Nepal's background, disaster scenario, COVID-19, vulnerability, multi hazard risk assessment, exposure, climate change, and loss and damages due to disaster. Similarly, paper contains major achievements on response, recovery, lesson learnt and Nepal's progress on disaster. The paper is more

about the SFDRR priorities, governance structure, DRR institution, climatic action policy and DRR financing. The paper cover about DIMS, EOC, DEOC, LEOC, CAP and other risk informed communications and about building code, DRR fund, social security, micro insurance capacity building, its focus and need in province and local level, innovative approaches and build back approaches all in inclusive nature.

GPDRR Prospective Participants

Mr. Ramesh Tuladhar and Ms. Nisha Shrestha from NSET will be sharing the voices of Global Network of Civil Society Organization (GNDR) and participating in innovative booth, side events and round table discussions. Mr. Hasta Bahadur Sunar from Tearfund will be sharing about the emergencies and globalization.

Mr. Sajan Neupane from Mercy Corps will be participating in PEDRR side events and nature based solution- "Blue Bonds" for Ocean Preservation.

Mr. Nilkanta Pandey from CARE Nepal will be sharing about learning and networking. DR Dr. Dharam Uprety from Practical Action will the share poster presentation about flood multi hazard system, nature based solutions, talking about loss and damages in side events and 'tomorrow city' about risk, climate and disaster information.

Mr. Pallav Pant from Atullya Foundation will be participating as Atullya Foundation Private Limited has been shortlisted in top 5 of 'Sasakawa Award 2022 organization category'

Other Highlights

- AINTGDMCC will support financially and technically.

- The official statement will be shared by Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala, and Mr. Anil Pokhrel, will present in some sessions of the GPDRR.
- DPNet Secretariat will update the Google calendar and create whatsapp group for the event for better coordination.

Major Comments about paper

- The progress of Nepal in global commitments, treaties and signatures should be highlighted.
- Earthquake should be showed case in outlier format and data should be shown statically. DRR Strategic Plan of Action has data of 45 years; this should be taken as baseline information. The table draft of verified data may be a better version for data showcase.
- It's better to add PEOC and HEOC in risk information communication and dissemination.
- Cash transfer should be replaced with Cash based interventions (CBA).
- Local government's positive responses, local level achievements, LAPA and LDCRR need to be added.
- There are many innovations such as applications related DIDRR, NTC and NCELL sending mass SMS as Early Warning Systems, other global and national innovations, INGO sector collecting the data base, DIMS should be added.
- DRR financing could be a better wording than DRR funding.
- Internal weakness should not be widely shared. The challenges should be wide and global such as challenges in

reporting system, risk forecasting science tools, access to global funding in developing countries, funding to DRR channel and Himalayan crisis.

- If the solution is not in our hand, these should be included in the challenges part.
- The challenges faced during the midterm review of SFDRR should be included in challenges part.
- It will be better if the position paper is more structural, focus on language improvement and concise form.
- The way forward part should be related to challenges and capacity strengthening.

Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala, Chief of Disaster and Conflict Management Division

The position paper is the elaborated form of official statement. The official statement has been already uploaded in GPDRR system. While participating in global platforms there should be common voice from Nepal and the achievements of Nepal should be widely shared. Would like to give thanks to all stakeholders to prepare official statement, position paper and other preparatory work. Special thanks to DPNet for wonderful coordination. As APMCDRR is approaching we must start joint management effort (basket fund) to move forward the preparatory

activities. DPNet should initiate joint management effort as soon as possible to meet the deadline. As 22nd May is the final deadline to book for the 'market place and ignite stage', DPNet should apply for it officially on behalf of Nepal Team.

Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Executive Chief of NDRRMA

The position paper is not produced by every country but Nepal has taken this initiation for a long time. NPDRR along with wider stakeholders collectively supported to succeed this. COP like conferences where the sessions are more organized and various stakeholders from journalists, professionals, representatives from private sector and other government departments participate. Since everyone is focusing on global climate change, DRR platforms should also be encouraged. He thanked Mr. Gehendra Gurung for preparing the zero draft and Seven-member Committee comprising Ms. Chandani Joshi, Mr. Ram Prasad Bhandari, Mr. Dinanath Bhandai, Mr. Tulsi Prasad Dahal, Mr. Sajan Neupane, Dr. Dharam Raj Uprety and Mr. Nilkantha Pandey for drafting the position paper. He further thanked Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair of DPNet and entire DPNet for coordinating and AINTGDMCC, CARE, Mercy Corps, Practical Action for the necessary financial and technical support.

Formation of DPNet Province Level Committee in Gandaki Province



The DPNet's Province Level Committee formation meeting was organized by DPNet Nepal in support of INF Nepal, Pokhara on 27th May, 2022. The program was chaired by Mr. Harshaman Maharjan, Deputy General Secretary of DPNet. He highlighted the objective of the DPNet and explained the importance of the Province Level Committee. After the various discussion, the meeting decided to form a committee comprising

Coordinator - Mr. Hari Bandu Aryal, Technical Coordinator, INF Nepal
Co-Coordinator - Mr. Sita Ram Shrestha, SSCIDC, Gorkha
Secretary – Asal Chimeki, Nepal
Treasurer – BYC, Baglung

13 Members including Sagol, Society for Social Service, Andha Andhi Community Development Center, SANGAM, Himalayan Initiatives for Sustainable and Resilient Society, JEYCA.

And 5 advisors from NGO Federation- Kaski, Nepal Red Cross Society- Gandaki Province, NGO Federation- Gandaki Province, Manav Adhikar Alliance- Gandaki Province and INSEC- Gandaki Province.

Mr. Hashaman Maharjan thanked everyone for participating and helped in formation of DPNet Province Level Committee in Gandaki Province and then he formally closed the program.

Nepal Participation in Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) -2022



The seventh session of Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR)- 2022 was organized by the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) from 23rd to 28th May, 2022 in Bali, Indonesia. The platform was hosted by the Government of Indonesia. The participants from different parts of the world participated in the event.

As a secretariat of National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR), DPNet Nepal coordinated Nepal's GPDRR preparatory works and entire events. The Chief of Disaster and Conflict Management Division, Executive Chief and Joint Secretary of NDRRMA along with representatives from various organizations participated in GPDRR – 2022. Dr. Raju Thapa along with DPNet Team had coordinated virtually through various online platforms.

First Day 23rd May

Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Executive Chief of National Authority of National Disaster Risk Reduction

and Management Authority (NDRRMA) was the speaker of WRC5: Plenary session: social, infrastructural and economic recovery from disaster - An opportunity to reset the development pathway towards a greener and more resilient future'. Mr. Rajendra Sharma from Department of Hydrology and Metrology (DHM) presented about the 'Impact Based Forecasting (IBF) and Anticipatory Action'. The participants from Nepal participated in various events like state of play on early warning systems, women and gender sessions and so on. Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala, Chief of Disaster and Conflict Management Division delivered the 'Official Statement' on behalf of the Government of Nepal.

The events on GPDRR Platforms were related to lessons in building resilience - over the past 3 years and plans and opportunities for the future of SEM. There were parallel events on constituency sessions of NGOs, disability, women and gender, private sector and

communities separately. The other parallel sessions were about constituencies on children and youth, IFRC and media. There were mingle events with the stakeholders. There were booths from Nepal throughout the event such as ‘Innovation Early Warning System – by Mercy Corps’, ‘Visualizing Risk (Vis Risk) – by Youth Innovation Lab’.

Second Day 24th May

Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Chief Executive of NDRRMA on high panel shared the perspective of Nepal on ‘Multi Hazard Early Warning Conference (MHEWC) Thematic perspectives: preparedness, early action, anticipatory action: humanitarian angle’. The parallel events organized were about the gap between DRR science and technology with practice at local level, DRR financing – An ESG+R approach, scaling up local implementation of Sendai Framework for DRR and constituency sessions: displacements. Other parallel events were also organized which were related to disaster governance - engagement of stakeholders in national DRR strategies, integrating DRR into climate change policy & action and Sendai Framework midterm review. The key messages reported back from parallel sessions, whole society approach and constituency feedback sessions were also conducted.

Ms. Anita Niraula, Joint Secretary of NDRRMA won the surprise prize as a Bingo winner of the Early Action Panel. She participated as a panelist at the closing ceremony of 2nd stakeholder’s forum on disaster risk reduction as well and presented her view regarding DRR.

Third Day 25th May

On the third day, the welcome program was followed by ‘High Level Dialogue 1’. There were various parallel sessions on diversity in

DRR leadership, improved understanding and governance of systemic risk - unpacking the 2022 global assessment report, breaking the silos – toward multi-hazard, multi-sectoral approaches to managing risk, building a better future: investing in resilient infrastructure for all along with ministerial roundtable about scaling-up disaster risk reduction to tackle the climate emergency. The other parallel events were about strengthening disaster and climate risk governance at national and local levels for accelerated progress on SFGs and early warning and early action.

There were various side events about DRR planning, conflict-climate change and COVID-19, adopting SFDRR, inclusive local actions, toward greater financial resilience, addressing loss and damages, indigenous knowledge, scaling up the technologies and community resilience. The Prestigious Sasakawa Award – event was organized on the platform. Atulya Foundation from Nepal shortlisted in the top five "Organization" category in the award ceremony.

Fourth Day 26th May

On the fourth day of GPDRR events were about the high level dialogues on COVID-19, nature based solutions, inclusive and resilient recovery in urban context, data challenges and solutions for DRR. The other sessions were about strengthening governance to reduce disaster displacement risk, financing local investment through risk informed and bankable strategies and building resilience through recovery.

Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala, Chief of Disaster and Conflict Management gave a speech in ministerial roundtable discussions about resilience: changing the approach to disaster risk reduction financing. There was a midterm review session beyond natural hazards –

operationalizing the expanded scope of the Sendai Framework.

Ms. Nisha Shrestha from Nepal presented about ‘Making Displacement Safer’. There were other special and side events along with online side events and learning labs occurred in parallel. The events were related to leaving no one behind in the face of disaster, center of excellence on climate and disaster resilience, Sendai Framework monitoring voluntary commitments, child and youth perspectives on promoting Sendai Framework, innovation solutions, disaster loss accounting, early warning and early action, accelerating disability inclusion in disaster risk reduction, integrating biological hazards in national disaster management policies and opportunities for shared risk analysis.

Fifth Day 27th May

On the last day of GPDRR event, Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Executive Chief of NDRRMA and Dr. Ramesh Guragain, from NSET participated in panel discussion on ‘Mainstreaming gender equality, disability, and social inclusion in anticipatory actions for disaster preparedness in

Southeast Asia’. Dr. Dharam Uprety presented on ‘Anticipating and acting early - putting communities and creativity at the heart of our learning and exchange’.

There were various learning labs related to subnational risk index, anticipatory action and impact-based forecasting, comprehensive disaster and climate risk management, Sendai Framework monitoring, early warning systems and opportunities for shared risk analysis. The side events were about sharing session on regional standby mechanisms and their role in disaster preparedness and response, and anticipating and acting early - putting communities and creativity at the heart of our learning and exchange along with the online side events about breaking the systemic risk impasse with urban multi-hazard risk policy transitions, implementing integration - reflections and lessons from the Pacific, for the future, advancing DRR in building safe and resilient health facilities: lessons learnt from COVID-19 and governance of climate change and technological risks in trans boundary water bodies.

26th Anniversary of DPNet-Nepal



The 26th Anniversary of DPNet Nepal was organized on 8th June, 2022 at Nepal Red Cross Sabha Hall, Kathmandu. The program was Chaired by Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair, DPNet whereas the Chief Guests of the program was Dr. Gangalal Tuladhar, former Education Minister and DRR&M Expert and the Special Guests of the program were Mr. Rishi Raj Acharya, Under Secretary, MoFAGA, Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary, NDRRMA and Mr. Kedar Neupane, former Secretary and Chief of Disaster Management Division MoHA. Mr. Kilash Rijal, General Secretary, DPNet highlighted the objectives and facilitated the program. The participants were from DPNet Board, Technical Advisors, Advisors, NPDRR

Thematic Groups, Government, Member organizations and staff.

Major Highlights:

Dr. Raju Thapa

During the past one year, DPNet had signed up 8 partnership agreements whereas 6 projects had been already implemented and 2 are still ongoing. It has conducted 23 board meetings along with 9 more member organizations, published 12 E-bulletins, uploaded 989 resource material in an online resource center and 67 various DPNet activities news. It formed a Provincial DPNet Committee in Gandaki Province and facilitated the formation of a nine thematic committee of National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR). It also developed disable friendly website update and optimized webpage. It also

organized first historical National Conference on DRR (NCDRR) and coordinated in preparation of official statement and position paper for GPDRR 2022. It also coordinated to celebrate IDDRR-2021, world humanitarian and 7th Memorial Day of 2015 earthquake. Similarly, it organized 5 workshops, 3 trainings, 3 orientations cum consultation, 4 sphere sensitization programs. In the course of knowledge management, it has translated 3 companion standards of the sphere. The other programs related to CSO, role of private sector, nature-based solutions, monsoon disasters and other policy programs were organized in this year.

The future plan of DPNet comprises optimizing virtual DRR platform, online resource center, localization of NPDRR and sphere standard, support and coordination with NDRRMA, organizing national conferences and coordinating to participate in APMCDRR.

Dr. Dharam Uprety, Technical Advisor of DPNet

Early warning systems are a set of capacities needed to generate and disseminate timely and meaningful warning information and community based EWS is a community driven approach where collection and analysis of information is led by community people. There are many multi-hazard approaches to strengthen the community based EWS such as risk knowledge, risk monitoring, building community capacity and risk communication dissemination. The monsoon usually starts from 13th June to 23rd September. But this year it started a week earlier. Pre monsoon/monsoon leads to flooding of roads, water logging, road-induced disaster, water visibility, problem in visibility of air and so on.

The presentation included the probability of rainfall in Sudurpaschim and Lumbini

Province, Monsoon forecasting, probability of monsoon this year, rainfall monitoring of Nepal, risk communication system, normal rainfall, downstream flooding, rainfall threshold, coordination between agencies, and frequent change in weather. The key recommendations were complete halt of road transport, update of EWS, increase manpower and human resources, develop system of nowcasting and dissemination of nowcasting and proper procurement of emergency material. Nowcast shows the recent weather data. Since, DHM has now made many polygons which helps to provide EWS frequently.

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA – Monsoon Preparedness Action Plan - 2079 draft

The draft included the history of disasters like flood and landslides and other disasters. It included about the monsoon preparedness, flood and landslide vulnerabilities, loss and damages due to disaster in Nepal, trend of flood and landslides, last year disaster and monsoon data's, reconstruction and resilience, experiences and learnings, insurance provisions, probabilities of loss and damages due to disaster, role of the authorities, relief fund and budget and so on. As the document is yet to be finalized, constructive feedback and suggestions are still welcome.

Dr. Gangal Tuladhar, former Education Minister and DRR&M expert

Congratulate DPNet for 26th Anniversary and thanked Dr. Raju Thapa, Dr. Dijan Bhattarai and Dr. Dharam Uprety for the fruitful presentation. Everyone should focus on enhancing knowledge, understand the disaster and work according to science based DRRM. There are many experts in the disaster field, but everyone practices the same response. We have enough plans, policies and strategies regarding DRRM, now we should focus on localization in

all 753 local levels. The prioritization of all these levels should be on proper budget mobilization, addressing vulnerable communities, providing relief funds on time, updating the whole system and other innovative decisions. The authorized agencies in all three levels should be very strong and focus on development in a particular sector rather than changing the better positions only. We should learn the experiences of practicing DRRM from other countries as well.

Mr. Rishi Raj Acharya, Under Secretary from MoFAGA

The very first priority is localization of DRRM, sphere standard and humanitarian standards. MOFAGA is taking initiative to provide training to all 753 local levels to the newly elected members and share knowledge about DRR mainstreaming. This year the vulnerable areas due to monsoon should be monitored and provide every necessity on time. It would be always better if MoFAGA and DPNet coordinate and collaborate to work together in future as well.

Mr. Kedar Neupane, Joint Secretary, Chief of Disaster Management Division MoHA

Weather forecasting plays a vital role in disaster preparedness. Early warning systems should be more updated and active with all proper information of disaster probability. The responsibilities of all three tiers of government should be clear and the first responder i.e. local level should be capacity enhanced. The other first responders should always focus on DRRM rather than prioritizing other things. Technical people need to focus on proper DRM. There are problems in disaster relief funds such as funds not getting in time, fund misuse and so on, so experts should get engaged during distribution. DPNet should always monitor the glitches and play the role of watchdog as well.

Major Comments:

- Entire DPNet web page should be in Nepali language as well. It should be DPNet next year's plan.
- Disaster related posters should also be added in the website such as earthquake safety posters, lightning posters. The poster section in DPNet's ORC category should be added.
- DPNet should collaborate with various agencies more professionally and recommend concerned stakeholders in contextual issues.
- If Nepal Disaster Report (NDR) is not published on time, DPNet should facilitate the process.
- DPNet should have intense discussion on one-door policy and relief distribution mechanism.
- DPNet should organize training and sensitization program on contextual issues in a regular basis.
- DPNet should take lead to organize another mega NCDRR event to bring all stakeholders and lesson learned in a single place.
- The work of DPNet should focus more on prevention, pre disaster and post disaster and the mental health during these events.
- Gaps on data shared by DHM may create difficult in updating flood forecasting.
- All 753 local levels should focus on frequent EWS and SMS. The level of alert should also be shared.
- The forecasts and nowcasts should be functional. The risk zones forecasted actively with the help of GoN
- The data extracted on all the reports should have proper references and there should be frequent collection of data.
- DRRM should be inclusive and timely informed.

- The vulnerable areas, physical infrastructures should be monitored. Urban development should be prioritized.
- DPNet should strengthen the capacity of NRCS considering its internal disp-

Dr. Raju Thapa incorporated all the comments about mental health in DRR, strengthening

capacity of NRCS, inclusiveness in DRR, clustering knowledge in disaster, online resource center, clustering knowledge and monthly dialogues. He then thanked everyone for participating in the program and formally closed the program.

GPDRR- 2022 Review and Reflection Meeting

The GPDRR review and reflection meeting was organized by DPNet Nepal on 12th June, 2022. The program was facilitated by Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair, DPNet and the Guests of the programs were Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Executive Chief, NDRRMA, Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala, The Chief of Disaster and Conflict Management Division, MoHA and Ms. Anita Niraula, Joint Secretary, NDRRMA. Around 50 participants joined the webinar.



Major Highlights

Dr. Raju Thapa shared about the GPDRR event.

GPDRR event was organized on 23rd to 28th May, 2020 in Bali, Indonesia. There was active participation from the Executive Chief of NDRRMA, The Chief of Disaster and Conflict Management Division, MoHA and representation from various organizations. The various sessions were organized related to social, infrastructural and economic recovery from different disaster, early warning systems (EWS), constituency sessions of NGOs, disability, women and gender, private sector, children, youth, IFRC, media and communities with side events related to DRR planning, adopting SFDRR, inclusive local actions,

COVID-19, indigenous knowledge, conflict climate change. There were different presentations from Nepal such as impact based forecasting and anticipatory action, making displacement safer, anticipating and acting early- putting communities and creativity at the heart of our learning and exchange. The Official Statement was delivered by Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala, Chief of Disaster and Conflict Management Division, MoHA. The prestigious Sasakawa Award event was also organized where Atullya Foundation from Nepal was shortlisted in the top 5. There were booths about innovation EWS and visualization risk from Nepal as well.

Open Sharing

Dr. Dharam Uprety, Practical Action

There was various sharing related to multi hazard EWS, tomorrow's cities, nature-based solutions, midterm SFDRR review and so on. For the upcoming participation of global platforms there should be strong coordination, more management, inclusion of different sector's voices and more preparation. The presence should be more encouraged and celebrated. Nepal's government's delegates the voice of the whole country, So GoN should also take strong initiative for next time as well.

Mr. Pallav Pant, Chairperson, Atullya Foundation

This year Atullya Foundation working on a disability from Nepal was shortlisted in top 5 of Sasakawa Award, which is a very proud

moment for the whole country. Different international organizations and platforms were invited to share about the moments but there were literally no platforms to share about these kinds of achievements in our own country which reflects the sad reality. It was a great honor that DPNet now organized this platform to share about GPDRR. Nepal will have very strong inclusive participation in GPDRR-2024, if everyone supported the organizations/ individuals working on disability.

Mr. Ramesh Guragain, from NSET

It was most probably the big event with more than 6000 participants after the COVID-19 pandemic. The event did not have very new topics but there were various lessons learned such as prioritization on localization, risk informed development, collaboration for all society approach and many more. The huge disaster always gets better attention from the government and organizations but the minor disaster usually did not get enough attention. This was a very strong lesson learned from the presentation ‘making displacement safer’.

Ms. Anita Niraula Joint Secretary of NDRRMA

Thanks to DPNet for the great coordination. GPDRR was itself a great platform to share our achievements and learn about others' sharing. It was a fruitful participation and I got to learn about the strong management of the event which will further help in capacity building of our country. There were not many new terminologies but there was a conceptual clarity. The hazard EWS session showed that we are on the right direction and going through the whole of a society approach. The new concept of NPDRR was appreciated in the event and it was a good learning from the Sasakawa Award, we need to identify the gaps. It was a great learning that how we should focus on localization of policies, plans, indigenous knowledge, risk knowledge/information and

should have more focus on strong coordination with different stakeholders.

Mr. Rajendra Sharma, NDRRMA

The sessions like multi hazard EWS and impact based forecasting showcased that Nepal is on the right track on DRRM. The importance of localization of DRR, GESI were cleared. It was an honor to know about the international program's management and processes. The participation of Nepal was enough but there was quite low coordination, due to which the work done by Nepal was not known by every Nepalese participation while being in Nepal.

Mr. Pradip Khatiwada, Youth Innovation Lab

There were encouraging participation from 135 different intuitions in the booth in Nepal. It was experienced that there should be more manpower in the booth and should explore Nepal's achievement more. The booth was about the technical advancement of Nepal to identify the household risk and mitigate it in good way.

Mr. Ram Prasad Bhandari, Technical Advisor of DPNet

The beautiful part of the event is the pre and post GPDRR meeting which helped in great coordination and sharing. The participants could have shared the experience in presentation view for better understanding. We should aim to organize these types of global platforms in Nepal within 10-15 years. Mini-conferences should be organized more frequently to identify and fulfill the gaps. Nepal is working on a good way and showcase it systematically.

Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala, The Chief of Disaster and Conflict Management Division, MoHA

The presence of Nepal in GPDRR is itself a proud moment. Participants should raise the voice in every panel discussion in such a global pattern. This platform helps to validate and

show the direction of the work. We should improve the sharing mechanism i.e. pre coordination before the event, content sharing during the event and post sharing after the event. It is important to present the content of post GPDRR which helps in further events like APMCDRR. The content shared should be understandable by everyone, not only by DRR stakeholders. The networking and coordination part should be very strong. He thanked DPNet for the strong coordination. Then the funding mechanism should be developed for better experiences.

Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Executive Chief of NDRRMA

The event consisted of very innovative learnings from SFDRR mid-term review, about world's interest in reconstruction and resilience in Nepal, direction of multi hazard EWS and effect of COVID-19 pandemic in DRR system.

It was much honored to share good coordination of Nepal through WhatsApp group as well. Various presentations from Nepal showcased the condition of the risk information system and health system. Booths from Nepal focused on EWS, anticipatory actions were very informative. The learnings were about the way of international agencies in GESI and DRR. It would have been better if we could highlight the work of National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) in such global platforms, which could win the Sasakawa Award. The participations from MoHP, MOFAGA and media were huge missing. It is very important to gather the lesson, experiences and present better in APMCDRR event.

Dr. Raju Thapa thanked everyone for sharing the experiences of GPDRR-2022. He further said this learning, sharing will help in participation of APMCDRR.

Orientation to the Journalist on Hydro-meteorological Forecast System



The Orientation to the Journalists on “Hydro-meteorological Forecast System” was organized by DPNet Nepal on 19th June, 2022 at Nepal Red Cross Sabha Hall, Kathmandu. The program was Chaired by Dr. Raju Thapa,

Acting Chairperson of DPNet. Whereas the Chief Guests of the program was Dr. Gangalal Tuladhar, Former Education Minister and DRR&M Expert.

Major Highlights:

Ms. Krishna Poudyal, Editor of News Agency Nepal – Role of Media in EWS

Early warning systems (EWS) should aim to integrate the concerns of local people and should be cultural, linguistic, social and gender inclusive. EWS must generate and disseminate data timely and provide meaningful warning information on a community driven approach where collection and analysis of information should be led by community people. The information of EWS is shared through weekly bulletins by NDRRMA, mobile SMS, samudayik radio and so on. Media is the main source of information dissemination so the program has contributed to the understanding of journalists about hydro-meteorological forecasting.

There is the importance of effective management of information through media about

- Pressurizing the government for the formation of pre-information system policy.
- Local level sensitization for forecasting/ Nowcasting to reduce all levels of suffering.
- For the better understanding of subject matter and the importance of networking.
- Form the climate change committee at the province level and disseminate the information timely.

Dr. Jiba Raj Pokharel, Executive Member, NCDM – Cost Effective Monsoon Preparedness

This year we are anticipating above average rainfall. So, we must follow mitigating measures on hydro-metro disaster considering our indigenous knowledge and practices. Ponds also contribute to Nature Based Solutions for

DRRM. The presentation included the construction of a pond and its positive impacts. The presentation was about the importance, maintenance and cost of a pond for mitigating natural calamities like floods, high temperature of weather and so on. This can also help in strengthening the living standard of the local community and fulfill the basic requirements of water for wild animals. Another important thing is that if we identify the crack and seal that crack properly, we may mitigate the risk of landslide. As landslide events are increasing day by day, we need to promote low-cost landslide mitigation measures adopted by our ancestors.

Dr. Dharam R. Uprety, Thematic Lead Climate and Resilience, Practical Action – Strengthening Multi-hazard Early Warning System and Impact Based Forecasting in the face of growing impact of climate change in Nepal.

The monsoon usually starts from 23rd June to September, but this year it started a week earlier. Pre monsoon leads to flooding of roads, roads –induced disaster, water logging, water visibility and problems in visibility of air. The global temperature is rising and has increased by 2ppm CO2 concentration. This impact is seen all over the world. The direct impact is in agriculture and food security, forest, environment and watershed, public health/livestock and damaged critical infrastructure. For this, the strengthening of community based EWS, gender, disability and cultural diversity and the effective governance and institutional arrangements are very necessary. EWS is a multi-hazard approach and should focus on risk knowledge, risk monitoring, risk communication and community capacity building.

The presentation showed the glimpse of monsoon, weather, other record-breaking events and now casting. Further probability of

rainfall, rainfall monitoring, monsoon rain monitoring, rainfall triggering, rainfall intensity, monsoon-rainfall graphs and loss-damages were shared. It was further discussed about the impacts in roads of the Mugling area, flight visibility, landslides in rural roads, riverine flood and other cascading impacts. It is important to localize the risk communication, increase response capacity, have strong coordination between and among agencies, increase forecast based actions, build community capacity, readiness at community level and proper evacuation in safe shelter to reduce risk. Mass SMS and other communication systems contribute directly to EWS. Presentation was also focused on how to collect accurate hydro-metro related to data from various open sources in the DHM portal.

Dr. Gangal Tuladhar, Former Education Minister and DRR & M Expert

Dr. Tuladhar for the DRRM gave a compliment for EWS as “Manav Mahapunya”. The initiation for DRRM should be highlighted as the first priority. The DRRM is the combination of the powers from Nepalese constitution and compromise of all the persons in the policy endorsement for its implementation. Media and journalists should understand the importance of risk communication as they are the strong channel for information dissemination.

Open Discussion

Dr. Meen B. Poudyal Chhetri, NCDM

In the context of Nepal, where there is no satellite for accurate weather forecasting, it's a big challenge to harness real data for precise forecasting. The major issues are urban flooding, concrete construction and so on. The DRRM act must be amended and a separate autonomous entity for DRR should be established.

Mr. Sudarshan Sigdel, Editor, Aajko Shikshya Weekly

As the climate change concept is vague, it is hard to recognize the types of soil that absorbs or promotes to cause the disaster in the shape of flood.

Mr. Om Prakash Ghimire, NPDRR Media Group, Coordinator, Netizen Media

The search and dissemination of the accurate information becomes a challenge for the media/journalist due to low advocacy and insufficient human resources. There is a weather studio in Nepal but it is not operating.

Mr. Pallav Pant, Chairperson, Atullya Foundation Pvt. Ltd.

The stands for PWD in DRR is important for the effective mitigation of DRR. The government also should focus on these initiations and should endorse the special resource allocation and provision for the various subjects.

Mr. Sunil Sun Shakya, DRR Expert, NDRC

The word ‘preparedness’ should be replaced by ‘prevention mitigation’ since there is no evidence of risk reduction by preparedness only.

Mr. Ram Prasad Bhattarai, Executive Member, DPNet-Nepal

The Media group should be oriented and accumulated from local and province level to contribute to DRR. The good initiation also should be from DPNet-Nepal itself.

Closing Remarks

Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair, DPNet-Nepal

Talking about the resources on DRR, Dr. Thapa has reminded the Online Resource Centre (ORC) that DPNet-Nepal's website has. He then introduced some of the related documents

linked to the media. He shows his heartfelt gratitude to all the major participants of Media personnel and the presenters. He shared that the discussion program sensitized media personnel to harness real data for precise monsoon forecasting. As demanded by participants, he

committed to organize a day-long program to orient media personnel to make them familiar with open source hydro-metro online data for precise forecasting. He also committed to organize such programs at provincial levels.

Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR)- 2022 Preparatory Meeting



Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR)- 2022 preparatory meeting was organized by DPNet on 20th June, 2022 via Zoom. The program was facilitated by Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair of DPNet whereas the Special Guests of the program were Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Executive Chief of NDRRMA and Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala, Chief of Disaster and Conflict Management Division. Altogether, 39 participants joined the webinar.

Major Highlights:

Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair, DPNet – Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR) 2022

The first regional platform since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic APMCDRR- 2022 is going to be organized in Queensland, Australia from 19th to 22nd September, 2022. The theme of APMCDRR-2022 is ‘From crisis to resilience: Transforming the Asia-Pacific region’s future through disaster risk reduction’. This conference expects 3000 delegates from more than 40 countries. The core pillars for this conference are investing in resilience and preparedness, shock-proofed infrastructure and systems and resilient communities and cross cutting themes are localization, inclusion and science, technology and knowledge. Various sessions such as working sessions, ignite sessions, learning labs and market places will be organized virtually and in person. The major objectives of Nepal in APMCDRR

is to showcase and share our good practice and lessons learned, to share national position papers on DRR related achievements, challenges and way forward and dissemination of messages through IEC and visibility materials in the conference's market place. It will be effective if we create a basket fund, create a preparatory committee, collect and prepare materials to showcase in the marketplace, work on position paper, official statements and prepare a short video. Individual registration deadline is for 31st August and there is media registration, domestic registration and international registration for the conference.

Open Discussion

- The position paper, content of side events and efforts of DRR organizations should be discussed in in-person preparatory meetings.
- It will be effective if there is collaborative action of the organizations for APMCDRR.
- We should start taking initiation for position papers from the very beginning.
- It was discussed about the position paper, whether it will be single or separate.
- It was discussed about the provisions to present a paper, market place and do registration in conference.
- The topics of the presentations and content of APMCDRR should be clear from the very beginning.
- The preparatory work and position paper should be on a resilient and indigenous perspective.
- The voice of women network's learning and sharing should be shared in APMCDRR and DPNet should coordinate for this.

- Basket funds should be activated and mobilized well.
- We should focus on making our participation inclusive and meaningful.
- This type of meeting should be disable friendly.
- The position paper should include about mental health as well.
- The objective and concept of Basket fund should be clear. We should make a task force committee to work for APMCDRR.

Dr. Raju Thapa

There will be only 40 Marketplaces in APMCDRR this year so if Nepal gets the opportunity then we should utilize this in a meaningful way or Nepal can book a private hall as well to showcase our DRRM effort. Position paper and official statement has already been prepared in global content for GPDRR, now it would be easier to revise for APMCDRR. The physical preparatory and other expenses could be used from the Basket fund, so we should take initiation to create an account for this. The task force committee should be formed to work on APMCDRR same as GPDRR.

Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala

The lesson from GPDRR is a formation of strong coordination. We will make a single Nepal position paper in a collaborative approach. The position paper will be finalized in a physical meeting and DPNet should coordinate and make a funding mechanism for this. If we are aware of events in APMCDRR from Nepal, then it would be very effective and easier to support.

Mr. Anil Pokhrel

DPNet has a long history of coordination in global and regional events like GPDRR, APMCDRR events, so it's very helpful for

everyone. NGO/INGOs should also share their resources in APMCDRR. The NPDRR account should be mobilized because NDRRMA has provisions for annual budget allocations. Different development partners, UNDRR may support fundraising in this account, so that we can celebrate various national days and events as well. Further actions will be taken to improvise the national position paper in an inclusive way.

Major decisions;

- As a Member Secretary of National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR) chaired by Executive Chief of National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority Dr. Raju Thapa from DPNet will coordinate for

the Nepal's delegation for the meaningful participation in APMCDRR event. DPNet will bring all government and non-government stakeholders to prepare a widely accepted position paper and official statement.

- DPNet Nepal as Secretariat of NPDRR will open a separate bank account as per the provision of NPDRR Guideline, 2020 and initiate basket fund.
- The collected basket fund will be utilized in a common consensus of the Chief Executive of NDRRMA, Chief of Conflict and Disaster Management Division, Ministry of Home Affairs, DPNet and AINTGDMCC.