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Feedback Collection Meeting on DRR&M Section of 15th Periodic Plan Concept Paper 2076-77/2080-81

In order to collect the feedback on DRR&M section of 15th periodic plan drafted by Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), a feedback collection meeting was organized on 3rd January 2019 by DPNet-Nepal in coordination with MoHA. Altogether, 42 participants representing, government agencies, I/NGO and UN agencies participated in the meeting. The meeting was chaired by Ms. Indu Ghimire, Joint Secretary and Chief of Disaster and Conflict Management Division, whereas, Dr. Ganga Lal Tuladhar was present in the program as a special guest. Mr. Surya Bahadur Thapa, Chairperson of DPNet-Nepal welcomed all participants in the meeting.

Mr. Bedh Nidhi Khanal, Under Secretary and chief of National Emergency Centre, MoHA, presented the draft DRR&M section of the 15th plan concept paper. Participants provided their feedback in every part of the draft, including the background, major problems, challenges, opportunity, vision, target, objectives, strategy, working policy and expected outcome. At the end of the program, Ms. Ghimire delivered her closing remarks and thanked participants for their constructive inputs. The feedbacks were collected, compiled by our team and shared with MoHA.

The meeting was organized with the support of Oxford Policy Management.

Urgent Meeting-Bara, Parsa Storm

With its' aim to discuss about the relief, rescue and way forward regarding the massive storm that claimed 28 lives, leaving more than 400 people injured on 31st March 2019, the urgent meeting was organized by DPNet-Nepal on 1st April 2019. All together 19 participants representing member organizations of DPNet-Nepal participated in the meeting. DPNet-Nepal, jointly with NCDMC and DiMaNN issued a press release regarding the storm on 1st April 2019.

Major Updates and Discussions

- Surya Bahadur Thapa, Chairperson of DPNet-Nepal welcomed all participants and briefly shared the situation update of the storm and opened the floor for discussions.
- Ms. Mona Aryal, Director of Disaster Management Department of Nepal Red Cross Society shared the situation report about the loss of lives and information about the stock piling and the decision of NRCS to support the storm affected people with NFI's, temporary shelter and food items. The Assessment Coordination Team is also deployed to support the Initial Rapid Assessment team. The assessment will be conducted through IRA application. She also shared that blood for the injured people will be provided free of cost.



Urgent Meeting Ongoing

- Participants raised their concern regarding the coordination mechanism to avoid the duplication in response and the need of psycho-social counselling and support required for early recovery.
- The government has provided the subsidized loan and supported the earthquake affected people to construct the house and doesn't provide the similar support in case of other disaster, so there is a need of advocacy on this regard.
- Also, the province government has announced the monetary support for the family who has lost their loved one but similar support is not announced for injured person, so there should be at least some support for the family of injured person as well.
- Member of DPNet-Nepal can be mobilized to establish a coordination desk at Bara to avoid the duplication in response.
- There is a need to ensure the effective functioning of Early warning system and circulate the information accordingly. There is a need to develop the EWS capacity of the government.
- There is a data gap in event occurrence and response time. It's our responsibility to narrow down the gap and address it.
- Emergency meeting of DPNet-Nepal has to be organized as soon as possible within two to three hours of the occurrence of the event.



Mr. Surya Bahadur Thapa, Chairperson of DPNet-Nepal in live Interview in Himalaya Television

Decisions

- Coordination desk will be established by tomorrow morning at Bara by DPNet-Nepal in coordination with different stakeholders including DiMaNN, NCDMC, and NRCS for coordination and need assessment.
- Since, the storm season has just started and may last till the end of Jestha, so considering the possible loss and damage, DPNet-Nepal will request government to strengthen the EWS and share the information accordingly.
- DPNet-Nepal will organize an emergency meeting within five hours, either it be by webinar or physical presence.
- DPNet-Nepal will request AINTGDM to support in establishing a coordination desk at Bara.

Coordination and Communication Desk at Bara District

The urgent meeting with the member organization of DPNet-Nepal had decided to establish a coordination and communication desk at Bara district in coordination with DiMaNN, NCDMC and other stakeholders on 1st April decided to update the situation among stakeholders and lessen the duplication in emergency response. With this, the desk came into function from 2nd April 2019 just a day after the urgent meeting. The desk started observing, analyzing and updating the situation. The situation update on daily basis from 2nd April to 7th April 2019 was shared in dpnetyahoo group and AINTGDM Google group.



The major initiatives taken by DPNet-Nepal, NCDMC and DiMaNN are as follows:

- Facilitating to find out if the real victims are getting relevant relief.
- Coordinating with the local representatives to ensure relief and rescue operation are going on smoothly.
- Coordinating with various agencies for timely response.
- Observing, analyzing, updating and reporting the situation

The coordination and communication desk has helped in updating the situation and coordinated to reduce duplication in emergency response.

Monthly Dialogue: Koshi DRR Knowledge Hub and Bara, Parsa Storm

As a part of knowledge management, monthly dialogue on Koshi DRR knowledge Hub and Bara, Parsa storm was organized by DPNet-Nepal on 8th April 2019. Altogether 26 participants representing member organizations participated in the program. Mr. Surya Bahadur Thapa, Chairperson of DPNet-Nepal welcomed all participants acknowledging the contribution so far from all the sectors for emergency response plan. Dr. Ramesh Tuladhar, M&E team member of DPNet-Nepal, briefly introduced about the program stating that tornado occurs in very limited time in specific area that we can't predict.

Ms. Kanchan Shrestha, Program Coordinator, ICIMOD shared her presentation entitled “Koshi DRR Knowledge Hub” focusing on objectives of Koshi basin initiative, Koshi basin information system, developing idea, opportunities and importance of the Koshi DRR knowledge hub, introduction and ideas on how the hub could function, possible working areas and way forward.

Ms. Finu Shrestha, Research Associate, ICIMOD shared her presentation focusing on glacial lake studies in Nepal by ICIMOD. She also shared about the changes in glacier lakes and said the number of lake is decreased by 2% and the area is increased by 18% indicating that Glacier lakes are melting.

Ms. Arya Regmi from Nepal Red Cross Society shared her presentation entitled “Nepal Red Cross Society’s Disaster Information Management System” focusing on the existing scenario on disaster information management system of Nepal. She also shared the five DIMS module, Initial Rapid Assessment (IRA) offline mobile application, Volunteer management system, Ware house management system, Situational report and public user view.

Mr. Raju Thapa, General Secretary of DPNet-Nepal, shared the presentation about the Online Resource Center of DPNet-Nepal. He said that the resource center will be a complete forum to come in and gather all information and document from a common place in various category. He also shared that even in the absence of donor, member based organization, DPNet-Nepal has the ability to sustain the resource center.

Mr. Ram Prasad Bhattarai, Vice Chairperson of DPNet-Nepal summarized the presentations and shared about the press release regarding the Bara, Parsha storm, jointly released by DPNet-Nepal, DiMaNN and NCDMC. He also shared about the coordination and information desk set by DPNet, DiMaNN and NCDMC and the situation update shared in DPNet yahoo group and AINTGDM google group

Mr. Suraj Ghimire from Nepal Red Cross Society shared about the ongoing detail assessment process regarding Bara and Parsa storm and shared the info-graphics regarding the loss of lives, injured people.

After that the floor was open for discussion and participants raised their concern regarding the presentations. The program was closed with the closing remarks of vice chairperson of DPNet-Nepal he thanked all participants for interactive discussion. The monthly dialogue was fruitful in disseminating the knowledge about the Koshi DRR Knowledge Hub, Disaster Information Management System of NRCS and Online Resource Centre of DPNet-Nepal.



Participants of the monthly dialogue program

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