



eBulletin

JAN-JUNE 2022

Learning & Sharing
National Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (NCDRR)
24 - 25 February 2022

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Summary

This e-bulletin highlights a series of vital engagements and discussions organized by the DPNet throughout January to June 2022, focusing on enhancing DRR efforts in Nepal. In January 2022, DPNet Nepal organized a Provincial Level Workshop on CSO engagement in DRRM in Pokhara, followed by Subjective Committee Discussion Programs on various sectors. Another CSO engagement workshop occurred in Hetauda. Virtual events on January 18th discussed the role of CSOs in earthquake safety, and subsequent discussions on January 26th, 27th, and 28th focused on Semi-Government, Government, and the private sector, respectively. These initiatives aimed to strengthen collaboration and coordination for disaster risk reduction in Nepal

The two-day National Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (NCDRR) took place at Soaltee Hotel, Kathmandu, on February 24-25, 2022. Organized by DPNet Nepal in collaboration with various ministries, including MoHA, MoFAGA, MoHP, MoUD, MoFE, and NDRRMA, along with other stakeholders and support from USAID/Tayar, the conference aimed to facilitate learning and sharing in the field of disaster risk reduction.

In March 2022, DPNet Nepal organized a series of disaster risk reduction events, including meetings for the NGO and Media subjective groups, a workshop on private sector involvement, and subjective committee discussions for Academia, Research, and International NGOs. A Sphere Sensitization Program and Private Sector subjective meetings occurred, addressing various aspects of disaster preparedness. These events aimed at enhancing collaboration and coordination in disaster risk reduction efforts.

On April 12, 2022, DPNet, in collaboration with NDRRMA, conducted a virtual preparatory meeting for GPDRR 2022, chaired by Dr. Raju Thapa, with 50 participants. On April 25, 2022, NDRRMA organized a program at Hotel Himalaya in coordination with DPNet to mark the 7th Memorial Day of the 2015 Nepal Earthquake. The second national NPDRR meeting, coordinated by DPNet, took place in Hotel Himalaya on April 25, 2022. The finalization meeting for Nepal's GPDRR Official Statement was held in Hotel Marriott on April 30, 2022.

In May 2022, DPNet hosted a virtual discussion on the Zero Draft GPDRR Position Paper and organized a pre-departure meeting for GPDRR-2022, including Province Level Committee formation. The seventh session of GPDRR occurred in Bali from May 23 to 28, 2022.

In June, DPNet celebrated its 26th Anniversary, followed by a GPDRR review meeting, a journalists' orientation on Hydro-meteorological Forecast System, and a preparatory meeting for APMCDRR-2022. These events aimed to enhance disaster risk reduction efforts, coordination, and collaboration in Nepal.

Province Level Workshop on Engagement of civil society organization in DRRM



The Provincial Level Workshop on Engagement of civil society organization in DRRM was organized at Hotel Pokhara Village Resort, Pokhara Metropolitan city, Kaski of Gandaki Province from January 10 to 11, 2022. Altogether, 19 participants participated in the workshop. The major highlights of the two days long participatory workshop on the effective and meaningful engagement of CSO in the DRRM reviewing the existing capacity, hindrance and gaps to fulfill in the days to come are as under.

Major Highlights:

- Mr. Ram K Gurung, Consultant of the National level workshop CSO in DRRM, gave presentation on “CSO’s engagement in the DRM process: Role and Essentials” where he differentiate about the terminology NGO (Non-Government Organization) and CSO (Civil Society Organization). He explained how CSOs are instrumental in implementing DRRM

activities and engaged in the process with some hands-on illustration in the Nepalese and foreign context. He was familiarized with the guidelines by NDRRMA on CSO mobilization and their roles in DRRM in various sectors. He further added about CSOs to hold the consultation on gaps and challenges encountered when implementing the Sendai Framework at the local level. They also support local communities to strengthen their coping against disaster impacts through practical and needs driven approaches. CSOs are to ensure that they become active members of respective national DRR Platform to advocate and support the development or updating of risk informed national and local DRR strategies. He further shared the roles of CSO, Sphere and humanitarian principles and CHS. At the end of the day, he shared about the legal provision on DRRM in Nepal.

- On 11th Jan, 2022, the program started with the recap of the previous day by Mr. Ram K Gurung. He shared the visual presentation and Meta card presentation on

sphere commitments. He further presented Sphere and Core Humanitarian Standard. In Core Humanitarian Standard, he shared about its structure, commitments, quality and accountability and participation typology. He explained the protection principles and its needs, structure, the protection principles and the humanitarian charter, protection specialists and key messages. He gave briefs about the practical and strategic aspects of GESI and how to address it with emergency protection.

- He highlighted about How the GESI has been provisioned in those legal documents and what is the implementation status of the GESI provisions. He highlighted the concept of CSO to make their presence in the process of their engagement in DRRM. He gave examples and case studies of engagement of CSOs in the process of DRRM from abroad and Nepal on various scenarios. He further explained about GESI and protection principle in emergencies and normal phase and finally, shared about the existing good practices and gaps and issues they see as a hindrance to their participation in the DRRM process and feedback along with the suggestions.

Major Discussions:

- In depth discussion took place about the basics of DRRM, CCA and how CSO as an entity working closely with the affected communities can play pivotal roles in carrying the voice of those to higher level to be heard as well as the role that can be played in making them understand against such disasters and prepare in advance. What are the prime essentials of the engagement of CSO in DRRM process and what are the major hindrances that are blocking them from being engaged. How can they lobby and advocate for the

conversion or the possibility of existing social protection and DRRM. Existing DRRM Act, 2017 and how this act has been working effectively to the expectation of the people. Whether this act is able to carry out the major activities as it has been portrayed in the act. How can CSO assist in collaborating with the government to carry forward its key messages to the masses that are the most affected by the disaster of various kinds.

- The discussion took place about need of technical and institutional capacity for provincial and local governments' effective implementation of DRRM Act, 2017 and Local Government Operation Act 2017; and mobilization of different clusters to integrate and mainstream DRR into development plans and programs
- Women, Senior Citizens and the persons with disability as well as other minority groups are highly vulnerable and susceptible to disaster and the DRRM actors are to execute the prime activities from inclusive perspectives focusing on protection, basic humanitarian principles and universal humanitarian standards. At the same time, all the CSOs who tend to indulge in the course should be bound by the core humanitarian standard commitment for the quality and accountability against their service delivery.
- The need for the capacity enhancement in advanced understanding of the DRM process, legal and operational environment to operate disaster risk reduction and management.
- Learning workshop and training, other policies, act and strategies should be in action rather than confined only in written form which may restrict its effectiveness and how such activities if put into action

- can hugely contribute to the process of DRRM engagement for CSOs.
- Discussion on how CSOs strong and active participation in advocacy can make an impact for their engagement in the DRRM process.
 - CSO can play a vital role in making the use and mobilizing the local resources in the process of DRRM with the proper long term sustainable planning and lobbying for the execution putting it in the first priorities.
 - Continuous coordination and cooperation with the local government by building mutual trust between CSO and the government along with the development partners.
 - In the context of the availability of various acts and regulations, policies and strategies, CSOs can play a role in

- facilitation in the local and provincial planning process and its implementation.
- Support and lobbying in the vivid and smart implementation of the existing law, acts to benefit the beneficiaries.
 - Capacity enhancement for CSO is also essential to understand the operation, process of the DRRM.
 - Information dissemination, policy dialogues and other relevant activities for the effective engagement with the government.
 - Review of learnings on effective implementation of DRRM Act, 2017, sharing of good practices on DRRM and implementation of Humanitarian Standards is vital for proactive role of CSOs and coordinated action of government agencies and CSOs for Disaster Risk Reduction and Management

NGO Subjective Committee Discussion Program under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

The NGO Subjective Committee Discussion Program under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR) was organized by DPNet in collaboration with National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) on NDRRMA hall on 13th Jan, 2022. The program was chaired by Mr. Daya Sagar Shrestha, Coordinator of NGO subjective committee. Mr. Kailash Rijal, General Secretary of DPNet gave a welcome speech and highlighted the objective of the program.



Major Highlights

- Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA shared the status of NDRRMA, its challenges and way forward. He explained about the NPDRR Guideline and its implementation at all levels. He further clarified about the working area of NDRRMA and shared the importance of coordination and collaboration with different stakeholders. He further highlighted the importance of NGO Group in disaster risk reduction and management.
- Mr. Bishnu Timilsina, Consultant from DPNet shared the draft guideline of the NGOS Subjective Committee. He shared the objectives, provision regarding the members in the committee, power, yearly meeting procedures, roles and responsibility of the Subjective Committee. He also said that the draft will be shared with NGOs groups for their feedback and finalization.

Major Discussions:

- It was discussed about the sustainability of the subjective committee and 8 working priorities of NDRRMA.
- NGO work on an emergency basis so it would be easier if there is good coordination at the local and district level as well.
- It was discussed about the update of the working organization in the portal system as well.
- It was discussed about the localization of DRR&M.
- Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Chief Executive of NDRRMA highlighted the importance of coordination and collaboration of different stakeholders from NGO, INGO, Media, academia and others in disaster. He said that disaster was portrayed as a response before but we need to advance this as well. There is enough space in the portal, so knowledge-exchange hubs and good resources can be included. He thanked everyone for the participation and closed the program.

Subjective Committee Discussion Program (IT and Media) under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction



The Subjective Committee Discussion Program (Media) under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was organized by

DPNet in collaboration with National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) on NDRRMA hall on 13th Jan, 2022. The program was chaired by Mr. Om Prakash Ghimire, Co-coordinator of Media Subjective Committee. Mr. Kailash Rijal, General Secretary of DPNet welcomed everyone and highlighted the objective of the program.

Major Highlights

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA shared about the NPDRR Guideline and its implementation in all levels.

He also shared about the working area of NDRRMA and shared the importance of coordination and collaboration with different stakeholders highlighting risk information, strengthening the system at the federal, state and local levels, promoting public and private investment for risk mitigation, preparedness response, early warning systems, reconstruction and rehabilitation, financial management and the DRR&M challenges. He further explained the DRRM Act, Policy and Strategic Action Plan of Nepal. He highlighted the importance of media in DRR&M. Media is very sensitive during the disaster and highlights information collection, research and social awakening during the disaster.

Dr. Raju Thapa, Vice Chairperson of the DPNet highlighted the importance of IT and Media groups in effective and efficient disaster management. He elaborated that the media contributed to the pre-disaster situation and acts as an effective channel for disseminating public awareness. Even in a disaster situation, the media can be a useful medium in spreading situation reports and other vital information like relief materials distribution, helpline, medical camps, emergency phone numbers and other needs of the people. He further stressed the role of the media to achieve the last goal of SFDRR i.e. substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation. As the entire disaster management community is focusing on this

last goal in 2022, he requested the media group to be more active in the NPDRR system. He also expected that the media group would gather good practices and lessons learned to be presented in the upcoming 'Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference in DRR' and 'Global Platform for DRR' in 2022.

Major Discussions

- It was discussed about the media addressing the issues in the disaster.
- The perspective of awakening from the media is quite lacking, so the media should address early warning systems, information such as relief distribution, medicine and vaccination sharing.
- It is important to coordinate and collaborate with the government and media for authentic information flow.
- Media can flow information on international platforms, help in pre and post disasters as well.
- Traditional mediums of public awareness like folk songs, street dramas play a vital role in disseminating information.
- Media should give priority to such indigenous and traditional public information sharing systems.

Mr. Om Prakash Ghimire, from Netizen Media highlighted the importance of media in disaster. Media has been working and upgrading in disaster reporting patterns. He said that it is important to make disaster reporting manuals for journalists. He then thanked everyone and closed the program.

Subjective Committee Discussion Program (Academia and Research Based Organization) under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

The Subjective Committee Discussion Program (Academia and Research Based Organization) under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was organized by DPNet in collaboration with National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management



Authority (NDRRMA) on NDRRMA hall on 13th Jan, 2022. Mr. Kailash Rijal, General Secretary of DPNet gave welcomed everyone and highlighted the objective of the program.

Major Highlights

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA shared the status of NDRRMA, its challenges and way forward. He explained about the NPDRR Guideline and its implementation at all levels. He further clarified about the working area of NDRRMA and shared the importance of coordination and collaboration with different stakeholders. He shared about the 9 thematic groups such as NGO, INGO, Media, Academia/ Research based organization, UN, Disaster Affected community and Private sector. He shared about the Nepal Disaster Resilience Framework 2030 draft as well. It is important to address the proper research paper and put it in a bipad portal as well. He highlighted the priority areas of NDRRM such as understanding disaster and climate change risk, strengthening disaster risk governance at Federal, Provincial and Local Levels, increased public investment in DRR resilience, enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, research- training and capacity building, multi- hazard early warning system and disaster risk financing. He shared the vulnerability map of people and households and said that vulnerability/hazard mapping systems are very important. He highlighted the importance of Academia and Research based organization in DRR&M. Academia and research based organizations can contribute in research, case studies, report, and identification and hire the disaster experts for DRR&M. It is important to make a roster of experts and work accordingly. NDRRMA also should assist the authorities in building a system of accepting people as disaster experts.

Dr. Raju Thapa, Vice Chairperson of the DPNet, highlighted the importance of the academia group to achieve the first priority area of Sendai Framework, i.e. understanding disaster risk. He requested an academia group to come up with ground breaking research that blends indigenous knowledge and evidence based science to mitigate the loss of life and property at the community level.

Major Discussions

- There are different experts in different kinds of disaster as well, so, it was discussed about involving the experts and students in disaster management information systems.
- There should be hazard prioritization and proper risk assessment.
- We should collaborate with DHM and help to build more stations as well. (for more and authentic data)
- The research, case studies and data management should be addressed properly.
- There should be clear structural adjustment and proper reporting system in intuitions.
- There should be immediate action in a disaster and should be proper resilience in disaster.
- All 11 universities of Nepal should mainstream disaster management in their respective subject area.
- Roster of DRR academia should be the first priority to engage professionals effectively and efficiently.
- Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, gave vote of thanks to all participants and closed the program.

Subjective Committee Discussion Program (INGOs) under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

14-Jan 2022

विपद् जोखिम न्यूनीकरण राष्ट्रिय कार्यमञ्च
विषयगत समूह छलफल कार्यक्रम
(विषयगत समूह: अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय गैरसरकारी संस्था)
पुष ३०, २०७८ (जनवरी १४, २०२२)

नेपाल सरकार
मृदा सञ्चालन
राष्ट्रिय विपद् जोखिम न्यूनीकरण तथा
व्यवस्थापन प्राधिकरण

सुपरवाइजरी/तयार नेपाल – विपद्
जोखिम व्यवस्थापन परियोजना

प्रक्षेप पूर्वतयारी स
नेपाल

Harshana Mhasen, Dpnet Nepal

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The Subjective Committee Discussion Program (INGOs) under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was organized by DPNet in collaboration with National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) virtually on 14th Jan, 2022. The program was chaired by Mr. Sajan Neupane, Co-coordinator of the INGO subjective committee. Mr. Surya Bahadur Thapa, Chairperson of DPNet welcomed everyone and highlighted the objective of the program. He highlighted the importance of collaboration and coordination of all subjective committees. He said that we need to focus on forming functional subjective committee. He further added that INGO group can contribute to make DRR&M resilience. Altogether, 35 participants joined the program.

Major Highlights

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA shared the status of NDRRMA, its challenges and way forward. He explained about the NPDRR Guideline and its implementation in all level. He shared about the working area of NDRRMA and shared the importance of coordination and collaboration with different stakeholders. He shared about the Risk information, strengthening the system at the federal, state and local levels, promoting public and private investment for risk mitigation, preparedness response, reconstruction and rehabilitation, early warning systems and the DRR&M challenges. He further explained the DRRM Act, Policy and Strategic Action Plan of Nepal. He highlighted the priority areas of NDRRM such as understanding disaster and climate change risk, strengthening disaster risk governance at Federal, Provincial and Local Levels,

enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, research- training and capacity building, multi- hazard early warning system and disaster risk financing. He shared the vulnerability map of people and households and said that vulnerability/hazard mapping systems are very important. He finally elucidated the information of bipadportal.gov.np as well. He further highlighted the importance of the INGO group in disaster risk reduction and management. INGO can help in vulnerability mapping, donating in priority hazard zones, can provide policy suggestions and coordination.

Major Discussion

- It was discussed about the inclusion of INGO and its contribution in the 5 year NPDRR Action Plan and Position Papers.
- It was discussed about the 8 priority sectors of NDRRMA.
- DRR&M and Bipad portal localization is very important. Leadership of local governments can play a very good role in DRR&M.
- The INGO subjective committee can contribute to Global influence, piloting and risk visualization.

- It was discussed about the stakeholders ownership and time frame management by INGO.
- There should be Multi-sectoral Strategic Planning and Resilience planning to make the committee stronger.
- The role of National, Provincial and local government should be different for proper utilization of resources.

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA said that INGO group also should collaborate with each other and make a strong NPDRR Platform which is closely connected with the government. Knowledge, ideas, research sharing could be more addressed and put it in bipad portal as well. He further said that the 5 year action plan of NPDRR should be strengthened.

Mr. Sundeep Bista said that all the stakeholders are equally responsible for strengthening NPDRR. He further said that NPDRR will be continued after the Tayar Project as well. Since NDRRMA has taken the lead. Mr. Surya Bahadur Thapa, Chairperson of DPNet thanked every participant and closed the program.

Subjective Committee Discussion Program (Disaster Affected Community) under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

14th Jan 2022



Discussion program on Disaster Affected Subjective Committee under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was organized by DPNet in collaboration with National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) virtually

and on NDRRMA hall on 14th Jan, 2022. The program was chaired by Mr. Jaganath Prasad Kurmi, Coordinator of Disaster Affected Community Subjective Committee. Mr. Surya Bahadur Thapa, Chairperson of DPNet welcomed everyone and highlighted the objective of the program. He highlighted the importance of collaboration and coordination of all subjective committees. He further added that Disaster Affected Community Groups can contribute to make a resilient society from grass root level. Altogether, 20 participants joined the program.

Major Highlights

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA shared about the NPDRR Guideline and its implementation at all levels. He shared about the working area of NPDRR and shared the importance of coordination and collaboration with different stakeholders. He further mentioned that Disaster Affected Community Group can identify the real problem of the community and come up with an amicable solution so the affected community has great significance in NPDRR structure. He further mentioned that since everyone is directly or indirectly affected by disaster, we all represent this community.

Major Discussions

- It was discussed about gathering the knowledge-ideas-experiences by accommodating and prioritizing disaster affected communities. The Voice of

disaster affected community is generally undermined and often neglected.

- The plans and policies should also address the affected community.
- Disaster affected communities should be included in every sphere of disaster management.
- Local regulations and laws are not so strong for disaster affected communities. These kinds of issues should be addressed.
- We should try to make the community self-reliant. So training to make yourself self-reliant will play a vital role in disaster management.

Dr. Raju Thapa, Vice Chairperson of DPNet mentioned that all the development partners, policy makers and concerned stakeholders should engage disaster affected communities to identify their real problem in a participatory way. Bottom up approach could be the right strategy to engage affected communities and hear their voice to design effective programs and plan to make a resilient society.

Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Chief Executive of NDRRMA said that this type of subjective group envisioned in NPDRR Guideline aims to reduce the loss of lives and property by disaster events, engaging the community that need to deal with the disaster events on a regular basis. Only one organization could not solve the disaster problems but it could be possible by coordination and collaboration with stakeholders. NDRRMA is ready to work and prioritize disaster-affected communities.

Mr. Jaganath Parsad Kurmi, Coordinator of disaster affected community thanked everyone and closed the program.

Workshop on Engagement of Civil Society Organization in DRRM

18th Jan 2022



The two days workshop on Engagement of Civil Society Organization in DRKM was organized by DPNet on 17th and 18th Jan, 2022 at Hotel Samana, Hetauda. The workshop was facilitated by Santona Devkota, Program Coordinator, DPNet- Nepal. The program was chaired by the Chairperson of DPNet Mr. Surya Bahadur Thapa and the Chief Guest of the program was Mr. Krishna Khanal, Internal affairs and Law Minister, Bagmati Province. The chairperson of DPNet Mr. Surya Bahadur Thapa shared the objectives of the program along with sharing the historical perspective of DRRM in Nepal. He addressed the participants with the importance of community based disaster management as the community people are the first who can cope against the risk and support each other during rescue. All together 27 participants joined the program.

Major Highlights:

The internal affairs and Law minister Mr. Krishna Prasad Khanal shared his gratitude towards DPNet for the invitation and the initiation being undertaken by the organization to support the provincial government to enhance its capacity towards DRRM. He expressed: “Currently, the provincial government is working on housing reconstruction and resettlement of the disaster displaced community through its Janata Awass (Peoples Home) program. There has been a trend where the local government just randomly fill the format as shared by the federal government. There is no proper assessment conducted, no events of discussion among stakeholders is conducted, neither discussion among the executive members of the municipality are shared with the documents for review before making it a legal document. Furthermore, the government has not prioritized DRRM in terms of allocating the budget. The ministry has requested various agencies working in the field of DRRM to provide recommendations to make the DRM interventions more effective. Resettlement of disaster displaced communities has been prioritized. The government is planning to address the request from people being homeless due to disaster to prioritize house construction instead of focusing on emergency

relief support. The provincial government is also planning to conduct a workshop with participants from all three tiers of governments, experts, and CSOs with an aim of developing a collective plan of action. The ministry of internal affairs and Law is in discussion with the provincial government to increase the budget on the thematic area of preparedness and mitigation.

The technical session was facilitated by Mr. Ram Gurung. He shared about Basic Terminologies on DRRM, Sphere Guidelines and Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) and Miscellaneous. Wrap-up and feedback session; the first day of the workshop was concluded by collecting feedback from the participants. The majority of the participants accepted that they never have heard about sphere standards and core humanitarian standards. One of the participants realized that their past experience of relief distribution in many cases faced obstacles and that would have been eliminated if they had followed sphere standard. One of the participants from the consumer right protection forum stated: “We came to know about various theoretical aspects of DRRM. We have been carrying out various humanitarian efforts during the post disaster situation. The sessions will help us to make our efforts more scientific, effective and efficient in future. The sessions also were

fruitful for linking our thematic area with disaster”.

Day 2:

Opening session: The second day of the workshop started with a basic review of the previous day. Mr. Surya Bahadur Thapa introduce Secretary of Bagmati Province Internal Affairs committee Mr. Tripurari Brakhel. Mr. Brakhel further addressed the participants and shared the activities being carried out by the Provincial DRRM Committee. He expressed: “The internal affairs committee is a provincial assembly committee leading the DRRM component. The committee has full authorization with substantial allocation of budget to carry out its initiatives. The 4 subjective committees are formed each led by a particular member of the Province assembly”.

Major Discussions:

- Preparedness is one of the best technique to cope against disaster so we will focus on preparedness aspects most.
- Lobby and advocacy with government agencies for effective implementation of DRM policies and plans
- Mass awareness regarding preparedness should be first priority.
- Sensitization activities needs to be carried out.
- Enhancing and making inter stakeholder coordination and communication effective
- Supporting local government to adopt more scientific methods during their policies formulation by using actual facts and information
- Making awareness on sphere standards and CHS among the government and non-government agencies working on rescue and relief
- CSOs should work as a bridge between community and government

- Government and other agencies should prioritize people with disability, and other most vulnerable section of the community to enhance their capacity to cope against disaster.
- Identifying hazards, vulnerable zones, community capacity and resources at local level and suggesting the government to prepare plans accordingly.
- Information dissemination, policy dialogues and other relevant activities for the effective engagement with the government.
- The discourse took put almost the nuts and bolts of DRRM, CCA and how CSO as an substance working closely with the influenced communities can play urgent parts in carrying the voice of those to higher level to be listened as well as the part that can be played in making them get it against disaster event and plan in development.
- CSOs can support the government in data management since it works in the frontline.
- The most essential part enhancement the capacity of the, CSOs team in DRRM
- The discussion was carry about the technical and institutional capacity for provincial and local government’s effective implementation of DRRM act 2017 and local government operation act 2017; and mobilization of different clusters to integrate and mainstream DRR into development plans and programs.
- Women, senior citizens and the persons with disability as well as other minority groups are highly vulnerable issues needed to address in the all sphere DRRM interventions.
- The closing session participants express their reflection and give thanks to the organizer for the very essential workshop. They highlighted the importance of capacity enhancement and sensitization to CSOs in DRRM. Finally,

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- the DPNet Chairperson gave thanks to every participant, the DPNet team and closed the program.

Role of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Earthquake Safety Campaign

18th Jan 2022



The Role of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Earthquake Safety Campaign was jointly organized by Disaster Preparedness Network (DPNet-Nepal) and National Disaster Management Network Nepal (DiMaNN) on 18th January 2022 virtually. Dr. Raju Thapa, Vice Chairperson, DPNet facilitated the program. Opening the virtual discussion Dr. Raju Thapa shared about the civil society organizations which have been actively working in the field of disaster. He said that documentation in the field of disaster is lacking. Mr. Kailash Rijal, General Secretary of DPNet welcomed all the participants and highlighted about mitigating the earthquake risk and its impotence in a seismically vulnerable country like Nepal. Since Nepal lies in earthquake hazard zone, it is important

to have preparedness for reducing the risk. The CSO role should extend to inform the people about the disaster risk and inform them about the government's guideline. All together 75 participants joined the webinar.

Major Highlights

Mr. Bishnu Prasad Timilsina, General Secretary of DiMaNN gave a presentation on, 'Role of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in earthquake safety campaign'. His presentation included about the status of disaster and humanitarian crisis in Nepal. He shared the concern of civil society organizations regarding earthquake safety because CSOs have a vital role in advocating and monitoring the implementation of existing policy. His presentation emphasized on the

importance of empowering and capacitating the local community since they are the first respondent of disaster.

Mr. Surya Narayan Shrestha, Executive Director, NSET gave a presentation on ‘Scenario of the earthquakes in Nepal and the role of civil society organization (CSO) in earthquake safety promotion’. He shared a glimpse of the Global earthquake hazard map and explained the status of earthquakes in Nepal. He also shared a global risk map and explained the effect of earthquakes in Nepal. He said that the hazard is still there and we have high vulnerabilities and a lower level of preparedness, Hence the risk is still very high, and risk is increasing day by day. He also shared the source of earthquake risk and importance of risk reduction. He said that CSOs can support, cost effectively, the government system in awareness and capacity building and support in disaster preparedness and planning. He requested DPNet to take a lead to coordinate NGOs to make collective efforts on earthquake risk reduction and awareness raising sectors.

Prof. Dr. Jib Raj Pokhrel, Former Vice Chancellor, NAST gave a presentation on ‘The use of Indigenous Knowledge and Technology for Earthquake safety Promotion’. He said that the local knowledge, skills, technology and locally available resources can be useful for earthquake safety promotion. Giving examples from houses of Jumla and Iran, he said, local people are more knowledgeable about the place's specific technology and resources so CSOs can

play roles to incorporate their knowledge, skill and technique in risk reduction.

Mr. Bed Nidhi Khanal, Chief District Officer of Sindhupalchowk district said that the resource allocation to remote districts like Sindhupalchowk is very low. The district needs to build more than 1500 houses but lacks overseers and surveyors. He said disaster prone districts need to be prioritized more. He also asked to extend support for the district.

Mr. Rishi Raj Acharya, Under Secretary from MoFAGA gave his guest remarks and said that CSOs have a vital role in monitoring the implementation of existing rules. Then the local bodies also should take CSOs suggestions as guidelines.

Major Discussions:

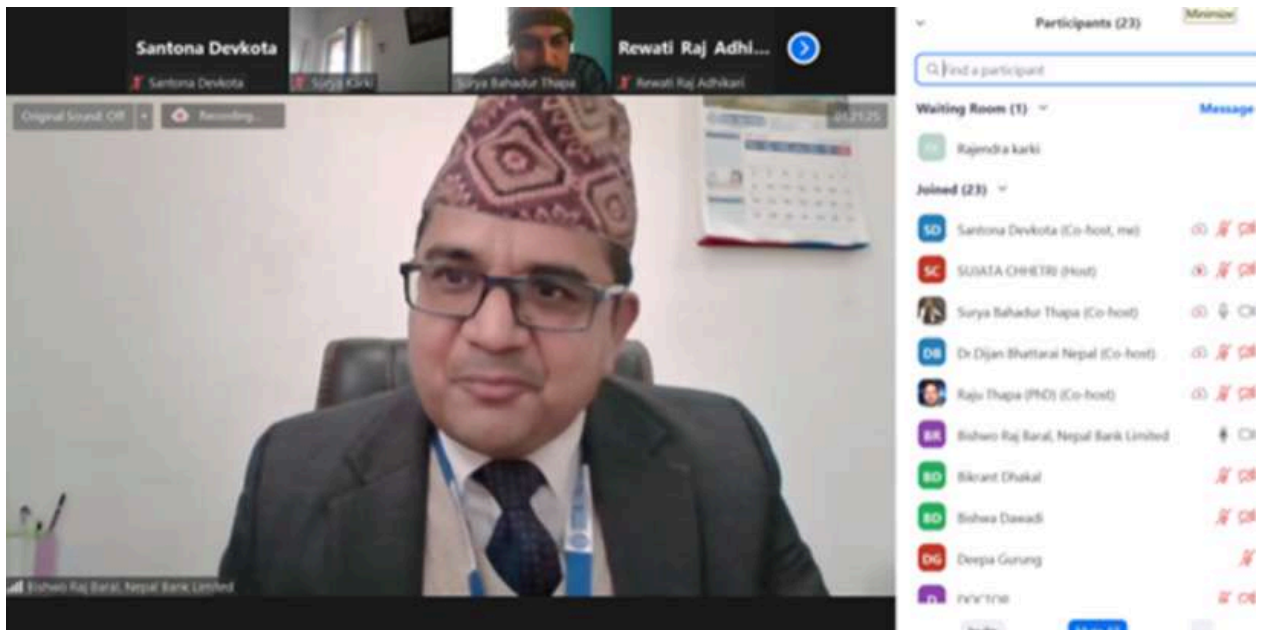
- We can reduce the earthquake risk by adopting indigenous technology. The result will be better if the Local bodies adopt the local technology for risk reduction.
- It was discussed about the effective implementation of Sendai Framework, DRR strategic action plan 2018-2030 to mitigate the loss of lives and property in earthquake event.
- There is lack of will power among the implementing agencies. So, research should be carried out to modify and implement the innovative ideas.
- It was discussed to prioritize awareness, capacity building and integrated structure by donor agencies.
- Proper mobilization of trained and skilled manpower was also discussed in the program.
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- Importance of empowering the community and need of incorporating the local knowledge in DRR emphasized.
 - It was discussed about the role of political parties and local leaders in DRR. We need to develop a habit of lodging complain against the parties those failed to work on disaster.
 - The plans, policies and strategies should be standard and flexible. It was discussed about the role of CSO in formulating policies and advocating the implementation of the rules.
 - Low income families and vulnerable groups of people should have access to housing. It was discussed about the accessibility of indigenous knowledge to local people.
 - Lack of skilled human resource is main challenge of DRR while lack of common understanding of the DRR among local bodies and CSOs is another challenge.
 - It was discussed about DPNet to formulate the national level program to address the challenges.

Mr. Anil Pokhrel, CEO of NDRRMA, in his special guest remarks thanked the entire team of DPNet for the execution of the discussion program. He said that working in DRR is challenging but we can do it with a collective efforts of CSOs/ INGOs and the national strategic action plan need to be implemented in local level effectively. He praised the efforts of CSOs in disaster risk reduction and management. He committed taht NDRRMA wants collectively work in DRR with NGOs and with all stakeholders for risk assessment of all types of disasters. NGOs contribution should be visible, heard and replicable since it has been playing important role to disseminate indigenous knowledge.

Dr. Raju Thapa, Vice Chairperson of DPNet gave vote of thanks to all presenters, speakers and participants and finally closed the program.

Subjective Committee Discussion Program (Semi-government Institutions) under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 26th Jan 2022



The Subjective Committee Discussion Program (Semi Government Institutions) under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was organized by DPNet in collaboration with National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) virtually on 26th January, 2022. Mr. Surya Bahadur Thapa, Chairperson of DPNet welcomed the participants in the virtual meeting. He said that Nepal is prone to different types of disaster, and to mitigate the risk of disaster different stakeholders have their roles. Semi- Government have flexibility to organize meetings, discuss the issues and give input to national programs. Altogether, 27 participants joined the program.

Major Highlights:

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA gave a presentation about NPDRR and its guidelines. He asked for coordination, collective action in providing orientation and

training to the office's bearers of the institutions as a preparedness for DRR and asked the participants for their institutional input to make the group more vibrant and active for DRR.

The subjective committee of the Semi government was formed. Mr. Bishwo Raj Baral, Ass.CEO of Nepal Bank Limited was appointed as Coordinator.

- Major Discussions:
- Budget allocation for preparedness is necessary to mitigate human induced disaster such as disaster during oil trade.
- It was discussed about holding regular meetings and planning categorically.
- It was discussed about providing more responsibilities to the local government and localization of DRR.
- The discussions, and recommendations of the subjective groups can contribute

- to drafting a national position paper to present in an international conference.
- It was discussed about addressing issues and helping to support NPDRR.
- Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA gave final vote to the participants and closed the program.

Subjective Committee Discussion Program (Government) under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

27th Jan 2022



The Subjective Committee Discussion Program (Government) under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was organized by DPNet in collaboration with National Disaster Risk Reduction virtually on 27th January, 2022. Dr. Raju Thapa, Vice chairperson gave welcome remarks and introduced DPNet. He highlighted the NPDRR and its guidelines. He further shared the objective of NPDRR and work done for position paper. All together 28 participants joined the webinar.

Major Highlights:

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA introduced about the of NDRRMA, its concept, working procedure and its roles and responsibilities. He further said that Government could contribute in NPDRR by maintaining physical infrastructure and development in a disaster-prone manner, make the annual budget of its policy plan program with disaster sensitivity, by providing advice

and suggestions to this authority regarding disaster related policy planning program and by organizing programs and by including all the stakeholders in DRR&M programs.

Major Discussions:

- It was discussed about collecting information about disasters and providing the priority of disaster-prone areas for further risk planning.
- It was discussed about horizontal coordination to enhance action against disaster.
- Local governments should be capacitated to address the issues of disaster risk. and encourage localization of DRR.
- Enhancing the local level and coordinating with NDRRMA is very important.
- It was discussed about emphasizing on the cross-sectional information sharing for DRR.
- Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary said that CEO of NDRRMA will take lead of NPDRR subjective committee and every government DRR focal person is its member. He then finally closed the program

Subjective Committee Discussion Program (Private Sector) under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

28th Jan 2022



The Subjective Committee Discussion Program (Private Sector) under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was organized by DpNet in collaboration with National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) virtually on 28th January, 2022. The program was chaired by Mr. Surya Bahadur Thapa, Chairperson of DpNet. He said that the NPDRR concept help to mitigate the disaster trend in Nepal. He further highlighted about the NPDRR, 9 thematic group of NPDRR and its objectives. He further said that NPDRR is chaired by CEO of NDRRMA and secretariat by DpNet. He further said that the plan of private sector, its learning and knowledge will be addressed by NPDRR.

Major Highlights

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA gave presentation NPDRR Platform and its guideline. He further shared about its authority, working area, priority area and its challenges. He further said that private sector could contribute to make the private sector establish this platform as a strong institution in terms of disaster risk reduction and management, to make development, physical infrastructure and trade and disasters work in a sensitive manner, to identify the possible risk of disaster and to draw the attention of the concerned bodies, to train and orient its employees in disaster risk reduction

relations, to get your employees trained in disaster risk reduction and orientation, to organize minimum mandatory amount in joint cooperation of all for disaster risk reduction and management, to have arrangement of deposit and construction and operation of basket fund, to formulate and mobilize cooperation plan for disaster risk reduction and response and so on.

The subjective committee of private sector was formed. FNCCI was appointed as Coordinator and FWEAN was appointed as co-coordinator.

Major Discussions

- It was discussed about the role of private sector in disaster risk reduction and management. It was discussed about the contribution in relief and rescue process. Private sectors should be sensitive towards disaster and respond to the risk as common concern of all parties.
- Road accidents are also major disaster in Nepal. So, it was also discussed about the gaps in in the Ambulance Service Operation Guidelines that bars to import comfortable and well-equipped ambulances in Nepal.
- It was discussed about the emphasizing the necessity of implementing the plans and urge the private sectors to be more responsible to mitigate the risk of disaster.
- Private sectors have resources for mitigating the risk of disaster. So, Private sector is very important group for disaster risk reduction.
- Private sectors to collaborate with others sectors in taking collective action to identify and reduce the risk of disaster.

Mr. Surya Bahadur Thapa, Chairperson of DPNet gave final vote to the participants and closed the program.

Learning & Sharing National Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (NCDRR)

Feb 24-25, 2022



The two-day Learning & Sharing National Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (NCDRR) was organized in Soaltee Hotel, Kathmandu on February 24-25, 2022. Disaster Preparedness Network (DPNet) Nepal, in collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA), Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP), Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD), Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE), National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) and other stakeholders and with the technical and financial support of USAID/Tayar

successfully concluded the conference. The first and historical conference aimed to bring out DRR stakeholders in a single platform to discuss and share the contextual issues related to DRR and to prepare for upcoming 'National Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction', 'Global Platform for DRR' and 'Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on DRR'. Over 200 participants from the diversified background and sectors attended the program.

The conference had 4 technical sessions and inaugural and closing ceremony. Similarly, the conference also had featured Market Place throughout the conference period to demonstrate the activities and learning from

different stakeholders, essay competition to bring on board to the DRRM issue the school students up to +2 level and Lok Dohori (duet song) to pass the DRRM message in a popular way. Furthermore, the overall program was articulated with the features of sign languages, language translation, closed captioning to ensure the accessibility of people with various types of disabilities.

The opening ceremony was chaired by the Acting Chair of DPNet Dr. Raju Thapa while the program was hosted by the General Secretary of DPNet Mr. Kailash Rijal. The inaugural ceremony was attended by Mr. Tek Narayan Pandey, the Secretary of MoHA as Chief Guest, whereas MoHP Secretary Dr. Roshan Pokhrel and senior officials from other ministries and USAID were the Guest of Honour. Delivering his inaugural speech, Mr. Pandey underlined the importance of the conference to serve as foundational work for preparing country position paper for the forthcoming Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) and Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR). Mr. Pandey extending his best wishes to the conference suggested the participants to openly discuss and highlight the key issues, priority actions and come out with a consolidated report. He made commitment to take forward the priority actions suggested by the conference through government policy decisions.

The Chief Guest Mr. Pandey also launched the Online Resource Centre (ORC) [can be visited at <https://www.dpnet.org.np/resource>] and Virtual Discussion Platform [can be visited at <https://virtualldr.dpnet.org.np/>] of the DPNet. DPNet has been collecting various DRR related documents to make the DPNet website

as a complete DRRM resource center, in which it has already collected more than 900 relevant documents and uploaded under different categories in the ORC. The Virtual Discussion Platform has a special feature of virtual discussion where the stakeholders can discuss on contemporary DRRM topic, which ultimately can serve as a learning and policy feedback output.

Delivering his remarks, MoHP Secretary, Dr. Roshan Pokhrel emphasized on the health issue, as the health comes in front in every disasters. Dr. Pokhrel also suggested to come up with consolidated recommendations so that his ministry can also take forward the related actions. Joint Secretary of MoFAGA Mr. Bishnu Dutta Gautam underlined on the importance of all of the society approach in addressing the disaster risks and said the conference demonstrated the approach by bringing on board all the stakeholders. Dr. Sindhu Prasad Dhungana, Joint Secretary of MoFE underlined the importance of inclusive approach saying that the impacts are more to the weaker population. Joint Secretary of MoUD Mr. Prakirna Tuladhar shared various initiatives taken by MoUD to address the DRR issues. Speaking in the inaugural ceremony, Mr. Sushil Poudel, Program Management Specialist of USAID emphasized on the need of preparedness and awareness building to reduce the disaster risks. He acknowledged the MoHA recently announced Home Affairs Strengthening Action Plan with the inclusion of DRRM and thanked to the Hon' Minister and MoHA Secretary for their leadership. He expressed USAID's satisfaction for the full cooperation received from the ministry.

The Chief of Party of USAID/Tayar Nepal, Ms. Tammie Harris expressed her willingness

to work together and highlighted the major activities of Tayar Nepal in piloting the innovative practices, enhancing the capacity of local government, preparing guidelines and frameworks, adopting mitigation activities.

Altogether, 20 (15 presenters and 5 panellists) professionals and practitioners shared their views through 4 technical sessions. Sessions coordinators were instrumental in facilitating the sessions, whereas moderator and session chairs steered the sessions and also summarized the session outputs.

The first technical session on the theme Disaster Governance had 5 presentations. The presentations covered on the goals, indicators, institutional arrangements, legal frameworks and the milestones achieved by Nepal in line with Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. The ongoing activities of the NDRRMA in establishing information management system and setting up of the priority areas towards the achievement of the milestones in line with SFDRR was also discussed. The session also gave insights on the differential impacts of the disaster to the marginalized and vulnerable communities and urged the need of capacity building and strengthening of such groups through a collaborative efforts of the government agencies, private sectors and wider stakeholders. Further, the participation of the private sectors and the need of CSR mobilization plans were also discussed. Similarly, the articulation of GESI in DRRM in the policy and the status of implementation and learning were also assessed during the session. The need of monitoring, evaluation and review indicators and units for tracking the milestones was also duly acknowledged.

The second technical session on the theme DRRM Localization had one paper presentation on the "Implementation Status of DRRM Policy in Local Level" highlighting on the key achievements of the Local Government and the roles played by the stakeholders in DRRM localization followed by panel discussion. The presentation pointed out on the support from MoFAGA to the Local Government (LG) by preparing and sharing of the model frameworks for the preparation of the local acts and guidelines for the DRRM, however it also underlined the inadequacy of the technical and financial capacity of the LGs in its implementation. The session had 5 panellists representing LG including the women leader, NGO supporting the LG, umbrella organization of LGs and independent expert working closely on localization. The elected representatives shared their initiatives in DRRM including the learning from the COVID-19 response and how the LG worked closely with the locals in tackling the pandemic situation. The discussion outlined the need of further supports to the LGs, as the human and financial resources available with the LGs were inadequate to deliver the DRRM related constitutional and legal provisions mandated to the LGs. In addition, the suggestion to the LGs was that they should be well aware of the important documents prepared (such as DPRP, LDCRP, Monsoon preparedness plan, etc) and should orient their annual plans and budget accordingly. Similarly, the floor also suggested the need of inter Local Government coordination to tackle the disasters as the disaster can have impacts on the multiple administrative boundaries.

The third technical session was on the theme - Understanding and Managing Disaster Risk. The session had 4 presentations. The session

summarized the existing risk of the country and how the science, technology and innovation can create meaningful interventions and support in the science-based decision making. The session highlighted on the necessity of proactive approaches in the understanding and visualization of risks. Further, the importance of risk sensitive land use planning and multi-hazard risk assessment including the cascade effects was also discussed. The dynamics of geo-hazard and earthquakes were discussed alongside the need of strengthening of institutional system, capacity and awareness. Further, the case studies of the Landslide Early Warning System and Probabilistic seismic hazard zonation were also visualized. Similarly, it was suggested to scale up the interventions to the other parts of the country based on the learning from the 2015 Gorkha Earthquake and 2021 Melamchi Debris flow. Besides, the session also highlighted the essence and significance of local knowledge, technology, especially in the Disaster Risk Management. The local technologies for making the fire resistant thatched roof, construction of ponds for the reduction of floods and landslide events, crack filling and adequate provisions of drainage for landslide mitigation, digging up the pits and filling of the boulders for the earthquake damping, use of bamboos for the retrofitting were also shared. Further, it was discussed that the innovations and scientific findings should be made simple and efficient enough to disseminate to the wider stakeholders.

The final technical session discussed on the theme of Good Practices & Learning had 5 presentations. The session covered on the dynamics of the Shock Responsive Social Protection (SRSP) and the present situation of SRSP in Nepal. It further highlighted that the

SRSP should be flexible and scalable in order to be shock responsive. The session discussed on the large portfolio of social protection in Nepal and argued that the shock response mechanism has not been yet systemically linked with the social protection. Further, the session also realized the lack of mechanism and indicators to assess the interventions made by the Social Protection on how it has been supporting. The potential cash transfer modalities such as Vouchers, Conditional Cash Grant and Cash for work/Assets were also shared.

Similarly, the session discussed on the sexual and reproductive health and rights based on the experiences from the recent disaster events of Nepal namely the 2015 Gorkha Earthquake, 2017 Terai Flood and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) for Sexual and Reproductive Health in Humanitarian Settings were found highly instrumental in addressing the SRH issues. The session also highlighted on need of the establishment of Medico-Legal Death Investigation Systems to Enhance Response on Management of the Dead. The necessity of handling the dead bodies respectfully and with dignity was discussed alongside the existing guidelines in Nepal.

The need of effective disaster management information system and its localization was also highlighted during the session. The importance of use of established assessment methods like Initial Rapid Assessment (IRA) within 24 hours of a disaster was realized and existing localization of IRA was assessed. The session advised on the needs of the data inter-operability and integration of the data into the national bipad (disaster) Portal.

Prior to the event day, the essay competition was announced for the school students up to the 10+2 level. Top three essays including consolation prizes were awarded on the first day of the conference. Similarly, in order to sensitize community level people, conference also arranged the DRR duet folk song (Lok Dohori) in the program.

The closing ceremony was chaired by the DPNet Chair Dr. Raju Thapa and had the remarks from Dr. Meen Bahadur Poudyal Chhetri, the Coordinator of the Conference Management Committee. The overall learning and findings of the conference was shared by Er. Suraj Gautam, the rapporteur of the conference. The ceremony was facilitated by the General Secretary of the DPNet, Mr. Kailash Rijal. The representatives from

several organizations such as DiMANN (Umbrella organization of NGOs working in DRRM), NGO Federation of Nepal, AIN (Umbrella organization of INGOs), UNRSCO, MuAN (Municipal Association of Nepal) shared their brief remarks and congratulated DPNet for organizing the NCDRR with grand success and with meaningful participation. Lastly, Dr. Raju Thapa thanked the Government Agencies and other collaborative partners, USAID/Tayar, paper presenters, panelists, session chairs, moderator, exhibitors, Lok Dohori artists, students, and participants and requested all concerned stakeholders to prepare for upcoming GPDRR and APMCDRR events as directed by Secretary of Ministry of Home Affairs.

[The presentation materials can be accessed through <https://dpnet.org.np/resource/>]

NGO Subjective Committee Periodic Meeting

4th March, 2022

The NGO subjective periodic meeting was organized by DPNet Nepal in collaboration with NDRRMA in 4th March, 2022 at Alpha House, Baneshwor. The program was chaired by Mr. Daya Sagar Shrestha, Coordinator of NGO Subjective Group. He welcomed everyone and highlighted the objectives of the program. The Special guest of the program was Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA. The guests of the program were Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair of DPNet, Altogether, 15 participants joined the program.



Major Highlights

Mr. Bishnu Prasad Timilsina, General Secretary of DiMaNN shared about the endorsement of NGO Group Operation Guideline 2078. He shared the objectives, provision regarding the members in the

committee, power, yearly meeting procedures, roles and responsibility of the Subjective Committee. He said that this should be inclusive in nature and this type of committee should be disable friendly and GESI friendly.

Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair of DPNet shared about the 9 thematic group and its subjective group formation. He said that these groups should be disable friendly and GESI friendly. He then highlighted the importance of NGO groups. NGO groups have always worked on the frontline during pandemic and disaster, but the documentation of these works has not been highlighted more. He further shared about the National Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (NCDRR). NCDRR comprises various events such as paper presentation, market place exhibition, essay competition prize distribution, Sphere lok dohori and so on. He further said about the position paper as well.

Major Discussions

- The guideline should be very clear and easy to understand. If the provisions are too bulky it would be difficult to understand.
- It was discussed about the coordination and collaboration of NGO groups with other thematic groups. It was also discussed about making this subjective group vibrant.
- It was discussed about applying advocacy on localization.
- NGO should be proactive and share the work done from the ground level.
- It was discussed about making the NGO group inclusive in nature. We

- should ensure gender balance in the group.
- It would be better if NGO could make good relations directly with international treaties.
- The further strategies of NGO Subjective groups should be made.

Mr. Daya Sagar Shrestha, said that the NGO subjective group will be open affiliated to everyone. He requested some provisions and gave responsibilities such as:

1. DiMaNN to work as Secretariat of the NGO subjective group. This will be valid for 1 year.
2. The Asia-Pacific forum will be participating in this forum.
3. The sub group of the NGO subjective group will be formed (i.e Women, Dalit, Disable, Old Age.... Etc.).
4. Grant Bergen localization-responsibility to DEPROSE
5. 5 year NPDRR - NGO Action Plan revision support – responsibility to DPNet and DiMaNN.
6. Mid- term review/ Sendai Review-responsibility to YFEED Foundation and Woman Humanitarian Platform for DRR.
7. Position Paper formation committee-responsibility to DPNet, DiMaNN and NIDWAN.
8. Mr. Bishnu Prasad Timilsina, gave a final thanks vote to every participant and closed the program.

Thematic Periodic Meeting – Media Subjective Group

6th March, 2022



The thematic periodic meeting of the Media subjective group was organized by DPNet on 6th March, 2022 in Alpha House Baneshwor. The program was chaired by Ms. Kamala Panthi, Coordinator of Media Subjective Group. She also highlighted the role of the media and said that the media should always be GESI friendly. She welcomed everyone and shared the objectives of the program. All together 31 participants joined the program.

Major Highlights:

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA highlighted the climate change in Nepal. He shared about the major disaster events such as pre and post monsoon, and huge flood in Manang and debris flow in Melamchi. He then shared about 9 thematic groups and NPDRR Platform. He highlighted the importance of media and said that media can play expertise in NPDRR Platform. Media has always been active in disaster prone areas and has been working closely with the government. He said now the media should be clear and make a 5 year Action Plan for a good working strategy. These all can be members of this Platform and have frequent meetings. He said it would be better if the

subjective group makes a specific logo for the thematic groups to identify it easily.

Mr. Prakash Ghimire, Co-Coordinator of the Subjective group gave a presentation on “Role of Media in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management”. He shared about the status of disaster in Nepal. He further shared about the scopes and gaps of media, policies, governance and disaster relationship. He explained the role of the media before, during and after the disaster. Before a disaster, the media plays a vital role to identify the vulnerable areas, public notice and flow the information and so on. Similarly during the disaster, the media plays a role in sharing information frequently.

Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair of DPNet shared about DPNet and its member organization. He said that DPNet is working as Secretariat of NPDRR. He shared about the National Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (NCDRR). NCDRR comprises paper presentation, 27 Market place exhibition, prize distribution on essay competition, Sphere lok dohori like programs. He further said about the 9 subjective groups. Media has worked as a front liner in Pandemic as well. He said that a 5 year Action Plan is very important. It would be better if this action is based on the NPDRR Guideline of the government. He requested the media to participate in International treaties and share about the work as well.

Major Discussions:

- Media tries to collect the authentic data and the data should not vary in different media. So, the media should collaborate and verify the authentic data.
- Media should bring the issues from ground level.

- The different sub-groups according to perfect ability should be formed and work together.
- The media should be GESI friendly.
- It was discussed about utilizing the experience of the role of media in disaster risk reduction and management.
- It was discussed about relationship between media and NDRRMA.
- Journalists from different media should be addressed and work in DRR&M.
- There are different kinds of disasters in Terai, Hilly and Mountain. Different preparations should be carried out.
- YouTube always doesn't give authentic data. This issue should be addressed.
- Nepal Police, Nepal Army and other government stakeholders should also link the media to share their efforts.
- Different training, publications related capacity enhancement for media should be organized.
- Media group helps to identify the vulnerable area. This information should be addressed and responded to by the government as well.
- Media reported once and left the issue after sometime. This does not have a long term impact. There should be follow in the issue as well.
- Media should also focus on preserving resources.
- Media should make a strong committee at the Central level and work in all three levels.
- There is specific trending in News, the media should focus on overall disaster issues as well.
- It is important to link education to disaster risk reduction to reach half of the population.
- Sector wise interventions should be mobilized.
- The information of vulnerable areas should be addressed and inform the local people fast.
- MoHA should give pre and frequent information of disaster to the media. So, the Media could flow the information on time
- There should be open space in the NPDRR Platform. The sub-groups in media should not be differentiated.

Dr. Raju Thapa said to move in an inclusive way in disaster risk reduction and management. He said that the scatter data collection should be authentic and Ms. Kamala Panthi finally closed the program.

A brief Report on Private Sector's Participation & Responsibility in Disaster Risk Reduction Workshop (Karnali Province)

10th March

A workshop on private sector's participation in disaster risk reduction was organized by NDRRMA in collaboration with Friends



Service Council Nepal, Association of Youth Organizations Nepal (AYON), Association of Community Radio Broadcasters Nepal (ACORAB), Volunatry Service Overseas (VSO) Disaster Preparedness Network (DPNet Nepal) and Disaster Management Network, Nepal (DiMaNN) on 10th March 2022 at Hotel Nirvana, BirendraNagar Surkhet. The program was followed by chairing the program, guests' remarks, introduction of the participants, presentation, group work & presentation, open

discussion, selection of Provincial focal organization for NPDRR Private Sector Subjective Group and closing the session.

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Undersecretary, Spokesperson of NDRRMA chaired the workshop. Mr. Prem Giri, Secretary of Ministry of Internal Affairs and Law (MoIAL) was the Chief Guest of the program. Mr. Rishi Raj Acharya, Under Secretary of Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA), Kedar Neupane, Former Secretary of Government of Nepal, Dr Raju Thapa, Acting Chairperson of DPNet Nepal, Dr. Nirmala KC, Board Member of FSCN and Executive Director of ACORAB Nepal Mr. Bal Krishna Basnet graced the program as a special guest.

Altogether, 45 persons from private sectors joined the program.

Major Highlights

- Administrative Officer, District Administration Office, Surkhet highlighted the roles of the private sector in DRR and how they can coordinate with the government to mitigate the risk of disaster. He said, in times of disaster, private sectors themselves are affected, yet they are the one who respond and provide assistance to the affected community and area during disaster. So, we need to have a collaborative approach in DRR to get better results.
- Mr. Rishi Raj Acharya, Under Secretary, MoFAGA, elucidated the important role the private sector has been playing in DRR and expressed the government's urge to join hands with the sector in mitigating the risk of disaster. Coordinated efforts of all the sectors is important and the private sector is resourceful in terms of their capacity to mobilize the resources during

disaster, this sector's role should be capitalized in DRR. In some cases, the same working modality of three levels of government also led to creating gaps in effective coordination. Further, appreciating the contribution of private sector in DRR and specially during COVID -19 pandemic, he said, though, private sectors were hard hit during the pandemic they left no stone unturned to provide humanitarian assistance to people, government and organizations with lifesaving equipment, masks, sanitizers etc. He asked the private sector to contribute to the DRR Strategic Plan of Government with concrete suggestions and programs. Mitigating the risk of disaster, according to him, is the issue of collective accountability, so we need to talk, work on the risks and share the learnings together. And collectively we can make the local governments accountable to address the risk of disaster. Private sectors should have a formal group so that the government gets ease in coordinating with the private sectors.

- Mr. Kedar Neupane, Former Secretary, MOHA, said disaster doesn't occur with prior notice. We need to be well prepared. He shared his experiences that in the past, there was a tendency to depend entirely on the government during the time of disaster. We need to understand that the private sector is a larger sector and is resourceful. He defined the private sector as all the groups beside the government are the private sector; media, civil society organizations, industries etc. And the private sector can contribute with labor, money and knowledge in the DRR sector. This resourceful sector needs to be mainstreamed in DRR so that we can reduce the human casualties as well as economic damage during a disaster. In the past, we had so many discussions on individual rights, which burdens one sector. This workshop focused on responsibility. Each sector has

responsibility in DRR. Preparedness helps to reduce the risk and manage the disaster.

- Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chairperson, DPNet Nepal, highlighted the concept of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR). He said, UNDRR envisioned the concept that not a single stakeholder alone can address the risk of disaster, all sectors need to join hands together to mitigate the risk of disaster. Private sectors have been playing important roles in providing assistance in form of materials support to the affected or equipment supports to the government during the disaster. However, their assistance was scattered and not well documented. He added, NPDRR has a guideline that had been endorsed by the DRRM Executive Committee of the Government of Nepal. The guideline has a clear provision of forming a DRR platform in three tiers of government. Today's workshop, he said, is one of the initiations to form a Province Level Platform of private sectors group. During his remarks, Dr. Thapa gave examples on how private sectors can benefit from being DRR sensitive and encouraged them to have a common platform for further coordination, sharing and learning. As an example of the benefit of forming a province level platform of private sector groups, he said, the group can have discussion and recommend and demand the government to get custom sanction in importing equipment/goods used in DRR, tax reduction for trades that contribute to DRR, in the upcoming Finance Bill. With a solid plan of action, the private sector can relate their demands with their responsibility in DRR. Giving multiple benefits to private sector groups, he said, it's easier to collaborate with NDRRMA, since NDRRMA plays a catalyst role between government and private sector. Having an important role in DRR, He urged the private sector participants to
- form a loose forum and request to invest in DRR.
- Mr. Pallav Panta, Chairperson of Atullya Foundation through his presentation titled ' Inclusive DRR and Private Sector', informed the participants that unsystematic urbanization and unchecked industrialization has led to disability. His presentation highlighted that the COVID pandemic had badly affected the livelihood and economy. Economic activities are shrunk leading to low economic growth. Small and medium enterprises face more difficulties, since they have lower capacity to tackle the pre, during and post disaster situation. He explained four priorities of the SENDAI Framework for DRR: Understanding Disaster Risk, Improving Disaster Risk Governance, Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction and Preparedness, Early Warning and Building back better in the aftermath of Disaster. He further highlighted the problems and challenges of Nepali youths as such: lack of quality, relevant and employment oriented education, semi employment, political instability, migration of youth, lack of youth friendly environment for investment and entrepreneurship, etc. And as opportunities, grants for youth oriented entrepreneurship development, tax reduction, training etc. Concluding his presentation, he said, the youth related provisions should be accessible to youths.
- Ms. Rekha Oli of AYON, gave a brief introduction to AAYON and its activities in DRR sectors. AAYON is dedicated to advocacy for the engagement of youths in the DRR process.
- Mr. Balkrishna Pokhrel, CEO of ACORAB Nepal shared that they have been involved in capacitating Volunteer Radio Journalists with disaster related terminology. For effective reporting of local news, the local people should be engaged in reporting news which helps to localize disaster risk reduction and management.

- Dr. Nirmala KC, Board Member of FCSN, in her remarks said, disaster risk reduction should be the priority of all. Investment, profit and risk are the components of the private sector. This sector invests and works with diligence. Emphasizing the importance of practicing ethics in the working environment, she said human behavior also is catalytic in the operation of any business. Private sectors have innovative and risk taking behavior, they need to be linked to DRR as their social corporate responsibility.
- Mr. Bishnu Prasad Timilsina, General Secretary of DiMaNN, highlighted the ‘Importance of Network in DRRM’ in his presentation. Networks ease the coordination process and avoid duplication in our work. Beside the networks helps to raise the standard of working procedures, learning and sharing from each other contributes to effectiveness. As an encouraging remark, he urged the participants to walk together for an effective result.
- Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chairperson of DPNet Nepal and resource person of the session, in his presentation highlighted the importance of forming Province Level Private Sector Group under NPDRR. DRR should be made the concern of all so the private sector too needs to be mainstreamed in DRR. He elucidated the importance of forming private sector groups through participatory group work. Participants were divided into 4 groups and were given some questions. The groups had inter group discussion and written in chart paper and presented in the open forum.

Questions for Group Discussion:

1. Why is the private sector important in disaster management in Karnali Province?

2. How can private sectors be engaged in province level disaster management?
3. Which are the main private sectors that can play an important role in DRM at the province level?
4. Which organization from a private sector group can be the focal point of DRRM in the province?

For the first question, all the groups agreed that the government does not have a presence in all places because of geographical and resource constraint and private sectors have equipment and resources, this sector is important in DRRM.

The groups presented that the sectors should be engaged in DRRM through their participation in DRR training and involving the private sector in governments DRR mechanisms.

The participants’ response to the third question was, province level FNCCI, FNCCI Surkhet, Federation of Forest based Industry and Trade Nepal can play an important role in Province level DRM.

For the fourth query, the groups nominated FNCCI as a focal point of the private sector for contacting/coordinating from NDRRMA.

The participants endorsed FNCCI K name as a focal point of the private sector group. Dr. Raju Thapa concluding his presentation thanked the participants for their initiation to name a focal point since it will ease and open a door for further coordination.

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary and spokesperson of NDRRMA and in his presentation explained that, NDRRMA is an authorized agency of government of Nepal to

respond to DRR. With a spirit of collaborating different sectors in DRR, he said, Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act, 2017 came into existence. State has now prioritized DRR, and is seeking collaborative efforts from all sectors. Different stakeholders have different roles in DRR. Media sectors have now started to broadcast news on awareness generation in DRR, academia is working on to develop a roster of experts in DRR sectors, likewise affected communities are raising their voice through different forums and NDRRMA is coordinating all these groups for effective response to DRR. Given the example of climate change induced massive disaster during the 30 years short span of time, all sectors should join hands to mitigate the risk of disaster. He stressed on the necessity of having a forum of private sector groups and appreciated the efforts of the private sectors in providing relief during disaster. He explained the area of coordination, like in physical infrastructure development where the private sector needs to be DRR sensitive. Since the sector is aware of the risk area within their trades, they need to work on making their trade and industries disaster resilient. They can encourage fellow trades and businesses to enroll in insurance policies.

Briefing the importance of establishing a basket fund for DRR, he urged private sector participants to invest at least 0.5 percent of the profit in the basket fund and mobilize the fund in reducing the risk of disaster. He asked the private sector to have discussions within the group and expected a proper plan. When they vocalize their demand with a clear statement how the demand eventually contributes to DRR, the government obviously opted to fulfill it.

Mr. Kedar Neupane, Former Secretary, MOHA, in his remarks gave practical examples that disasters have different facets, during the monsoon, consuming even the wild mushrooms causes human casualties. He urged us to start with self and from today, are our behaviors DRR friendly, we need to do DR analysis.

The Chief Guest of the program, Mr. Prem Giri, Secretary of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Law, said, to address the risk of DRR, the government alone can't go long and far. Several meetings were held in the past to formulate disaster preparedness plans. Private sectors, as an important entity of DRR, should join hands with other stakeholders of DRR in mitigating the risk of disaster. Karnali Province has established an Emergency Fund and is active in addressing the disaster risk in its capacity which in the days to come is insufficient. So as a resourceful sector, the private sector should collaborate with the government to address the disaster risk in the coming days. He also appreciated the effort of NPDRR initiatives and gave words to speed up the process to form Provincial Level Platform for DRR as per NPDRR guideline. He thanked all the participants and again urged the private sectors to collaborate with government and other stakeholders in DRR, through a formal forum, which even the NPDRR recognized and closed the workshop.

Conclusion:

The workshop on Private Sector's Participation & Responsibility in Disaster Risk Reduction, succeeded to educate and internalize the participants about the roles of private sectors in DRR. Participants were well informed of the NPDRR and its nine thematic groups. Through a series of presentations,

experience sharing, group works, participants internalize the urgency to capitalize the private

sectors' efforts in DRR. The workshop nominated Karnali Province FNCCI, as a focal point of a private sector subjective group under NPDRRA.

The Subjective Committee Discussion Program (Academia and Research Based Organization)

10th March



The Subjective Committee Discussion Program (Academia and Research Based Organization) under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was organized by DPNet in collaboration with National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) in Alpha House, Baneshwor on 10th March 2022. Dr. Basant Raj Adhikari, Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Institute of Engineering, Tribhuvan University chaired and mediated the program. Ms. Santona Devkota KC, Program Coordinator of DPNet welcomed everyone and highlighted the objective of the program.

Major Highlights

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA shared the status of NDRRMA, its challenges and way forward. He explained about the NPDRR Guideline and its implementation at all levels. He further clarified about the working area of NDRRMA

and shared the importance of coordination and collaboration with different stakeholders. He shared how Academia/ Research Based Organizations can strengthen the country's DRRM sector by research and investigation on policies, developing an expert roster on DRR and working guidelines for NPDRR. It is important to make a roster of experts and work accordingly. He shared about the Nepal Disaster Resilience Framework 2030 draft with 8 priority areas such as understanding disaster and climate change risk, strengthening disaster risk governance at Federal, Provincial and Local Levels, increased public investment in DRR resilience, enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, research-training and capacity building, multi-hazard early warning system and disaster risk financing. NDRRMA should assist the authorities in building a system of assigning individuals as disaster risk reduction experts.

Dr. Raju Thapa, Vice Chairperson of the DPNet, highlighted the importance of exhibiting a position paper from Nepal in the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) 2022. He requested the academic group to develop innovative research that takes into consideration indigenous knowledge and evidence based science to mitigate the loss of life and property at the community level.

Major Discussions

- There was research conducted on disaster communications before and

after the Melamchi Flood of 2021 it was found that there were no clear channels of communication defined for post disaster between the different organizations.

- The government of Nepal should test and verify the research that has been done by the academicians.
- When sensitizing people at ground level there needs to be properly defined climate change indicators.
- Before the construction of the tunnels in Melamchi research should have been conducted by the researchers of the nation in the upper catchment area.
- There should be clear coordination and collaboration between the researchers and the Government on the kind of

research that is necessary for the nation.

- The Government of Nepal should entrust the universities and academicians to conduct research on important subjects.
- Funds should be allocated for long term research.
- The traditional teaching/learning methods should be modified to keep up with international practices.
- Research should be conducted on cascading hazards in Nepal for the position paper in GPDRR 2022.
- Mr. Ram Prasad Bhattarai, gave vote of thanks to all participants and closed the program.

The Subjective Committee Discussion Program (International Non-Governmental Organization INGO)

10th March



The Subjective Committee Discussion Program (International Non-Governmental Organization INGO) under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was organized by DPNet in collaboration with National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) in Alpha

House, Baneshwor on 10th March, 2022. Mr. Dinesh Gurung, Program Manager, Dan Church Aid welcomed everyone and highlighted the objective of the program.

Major Highlights

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA highlighted the role of National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction NPDRR and how all the 9 different groups of stakeholders have the responsibility to strengthen DRRM in Nepal. He added on the coordination role of INGOs in DRRM such as transparency regarding funding in DRR, keeping that information in mdsa.bipad.gov.np, adding information to the dissemination portal to ensure its availability, funding to be allocated to the prioritized areas and providing assistance on developing different kinds of policies the nation needs. He shared that discussion was required with all the stakeholders for formulating the position paper with all nine thematic areas.

Mr. Kailash Rijal, General Secretary of DPNet, highlighted how NPDRR was formed to strengthen the capacity of NDRRMA with the establishment of different working groups. He added that DPNet is considering conducting a conference with the stakeholders for the development of draft position paper.

Major Discussion:

- Define clear roles of INGOs in for Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) 2022.
- An action plan should be formulated that aids the DRRM plan of Nepal.
- Different task groups should be formed to formulate the action plan and assign responsibilities as per the thematic priority of action.
- Revise the previous five year plan to inject points to ensure coherence in the 8 priority areas of NDRRMA.
- INGO thematic group of NPDRR to provide technical assistance to develop the position paper.
- DPNet Nepal should develop a drafting committee in NPDRR ensuring the involvement of all 9 groups.
- A consultation workshop to be conducted at the end of March for further discussion on the guideline.
- Mr. Dinesh Gurung gave a vote of thanks and closed the program.

Sensitization Program on Sphere Standards, Karnali Province

10th March



DPNet Nepal, with an aim to share knowledge and learnings of DRR, organized a Sphere Sensitization Program in close coordination with National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) and

Ministry of Internal Affairs and Law (MoIAL), Karnali Province on March 10, 2022 at Hotel Nirvana, Birendranagar Surkhet. Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary and Spokesperson of NDRRMA chaired the sensitization program. Mr. Prem Raj Giri, Secretary of Ministry of Internal Affairs and Law (MoIAL), Karnali Province graced the program as Chief Guest. Mr. Rishi Raj Acharya, Under Secretary of Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA), Mr. Kedar Neupane, Former Secretary of Government of Nepal and Dr.

Raju Thapa, Acting Chairperson of DPNet Nepal, graced the program as a special guest.

Major Highlights

Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chairperson of DPNet Nepal welcomed the participants and the guests. Elucidating the relevance of organizing the Sphere Sensitization program, Mr. Thapa said, this program will direct the participants towards maintaining humanitarian standards during the humanitarian crisis. The Sphere Standards are practiced worldwide. The Sphere Standards tells about food, shelter, health and wash and helps to distribute resources according to the individual's need and condition. Sphere Standards help to ease the disaster response.

Mr. Prem Raj Giri, Secretary of Ministry of Internal Affairs and Law (MoIAL), in his opening remarks said, Sphere Standard is an internationally accepted and adopted standard in DRRM and war since 1997, amended time and again with consultation with experts, according to the need. This is a technical subject, it tells which area needs to focus on and details that humanitarian assistance should be provided to the affected according to the need and condition of the affected. Sphere Standard is focused on human rights of the affected community and ensures standards and accountability while providing humanitarian assistance. Highlighting the relevance of the sensitization program, the guest of honor Mr. Giri said, since the program is targeted to the humanitarian practitioners, it will definitely contribute towards the working efficacy of the participants.

Mr. Bishnu Prasad Timilsina, Resource Person, facilitated the technical sessions of the Sphere Standard Sensitization program. He facilitated the session with question answers, games, open discussion and power point presentation. His sessions included Introduction to Sphere Standard, Principle of Sphere Standard, Core humanitarian standard, Protection Principle, Technical Chapters: food security and nutrition, WASH, Shelter and

settlement, and health, and GESI Mainstreaming in Humanitarian Response. Sphere standard is need based, internalizing the fact of diversity of people and their needs.

Humanitarian assistance therefore is delivered according to the condition and need of the individual. Based on the principle of human rights, the Sphere Standard envisioned that people have the right to get assistance with dignity. The resource person in conclusion, asked the participants to abide by the charter of humanitarian standard while delivering humanitarian standards during disaster situations. And, Sphere Standard is based on the principle of substantive equality and the sensitization program is successful in making the participants inquisitive about the standard.

Mr. Krishna Rokaya, Officer of MoIAL, Karnali Province, made a presentation, 'An Overview of Disaster Situation of Karnali Province' that highlighted initiatives the provincial government has undertaken so far for disaster risk management. His presentation briefed the Laws, Regulations, Directives, Procedures, Guidelines the province government has formulated. He emphasized the necessity of quick and relevant information flow and safety of humanitarian workers.

Mr. Anil Maharjan, Program Coordinator of Environment and Public Health Organization put queries on Mr. Rokaya's presentation. He said, Karnali Province has a high rate of human casualties because of road accidents in recent years. Many of the casualties can be saved if we provide basic first aid training to the community and placing backboards on the roadside. Therefore, the province level government should equip the municipalities with basic equipment and preparedness need to be prioritized.

Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chairperson of DPNet Nepal facilitated the session on 'Sphere Localization Effort in Nepal'. DPNet Nepal is the focal point and took lead in translating Sphere Standards. The focus is to maximize

the implication of this universal Sphere Standards in our Nepalese context.

Mr. Rishi Raj Acharya, Under Secretary of Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA), facilitated the session on ‘Issues of Humanitarian Standard in DRR Localization Process’. In his brief presentation, he shared that DPNet Nepal eased the challenges that may occur while implementing the international Sphere Standard in local context by leading the Sphere Standard translation in local context. He said, we may have to face different situations unless we are well prepared. MoFAGA has been coordinating with three levels of government to make a preparedness plan for DRR. Disaster response becomes justifiable if we prepared well in advance. He said the three levels of governments need to integrate the Sphere Standard to minimize the challenges of implementation while providing assistance to the affected. MoFAGA instructed the three levels of governments to give top priority to practice and maintain the humanitarian standards in DRR. He shared that MoFAGA's three days’ capacity building training to people’s elected representatives includes a session on Sphere Standard sensitization to ensure MoFAGA's commitment to integrate humanitarian assistance during DRR response. He asked the Province Government to provide assistance to VDC and Municipalities in internalizing and implementing the humanitarian assistance in DRR. He asked the Municipalities and VDCs to reflect the Sphere Standard while formulating preparedness plans.

Mr. Kedar Neupane, Former Secretary of MOHA, said, policy making sectors need to be given orientation on Sphere Standard for effective implementation and practice of

humanitarian standard in DRR. The Sphere Standard existed with the spirit of substantive equality while delivering humanitarian assistance so that the damages can be minimized and the whole DRR process is managed well in favour of affected people. He shared, Karnali Province has become accident prone in recent days, which causes human causality and economic damages. The Provincial government should pay proper attention and take action to mitigate the risk. All three levels of government should work collaboratively to reduce the risk of disaster. Moreover, NGOs and Private Sectors need to work in coordination with the government in DRR. In conclusion, he asked DPNet Nepal, to publish a 10-15 pages’ gist of the Sphere Standard as a handbook so that the message could reach a larger population.

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA and Program Chair, in his closing remarks thanked all the participants and the DPNet Nepal for organizing the program. He emphasized on the necessity of collective initiation of Province and Local Government in DRR. He urged all the stakeholders to share the responsibility and play a proactive role in mitigating the risk of disaster. He stressed the participants to implement the globally practiced humanitarian standards while delivering assistance during disaster.

Conclusion

The Sphere Standard Sensitization Program successfully educated the humanitarian practitioners of Karnali Province about Sphere Standards. The open discussions, resource persons’ remarks further gave clarity and helped to develop the better understanding of the participants. The participants were committed to practicing the Sphere Standard in their response to the humanitarian crisis.

Private Sector First Periodic Meeting

March 13, 2023



The Private Sector subjective first periodic meeting was organized by DPNet Nepal in collaboration with NDRRMA on 13th March, 2022 via Zoom. Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair of DPNet Nepal welcomed the participants and shared the objective of the meeting. The program was chaired by Mr. Gokarna Awasthi Deputy Director General, FNCCI he welcomed everyone and commenced the meeting, altogether there were 17 participants.

Major Highlights

Mr. Gokarna Awasthi, Deputy Director General, FNCCI highlighted that the list good required for tax exemption can be obtained by the suppliers in the nation and by the DRR&M actors, he requested the participants to develop a list ensuring the needs of persons with disabilities and to circulate it among the members. He expressed that the task should be completed as soon as possible as Nepal is vulnerable to floods each year and this list of items would put us in a better position to respond to disasters in the near future.

Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair of DPNet Nepal shared about the 9 thematic groups of

the NPDRR. He shed light on the agenda and the major points of discussion such as tax exemption for the goods required for DRR, the modification of the NPDRR guideline for the Private Sector. He further shared about the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) 2022 and how we need to showcase the work Nepal has done in DRR.

Discussions

- The members can give a list of implementable tasks that can be achieved by the private sector.
- The list of goods for tax exemption should be in the format provided by the Government of Nepal.
- The list of goods for tax exemption should also include assistive devices and disability-friendly items.
- The Red Cross should be consulted on the list of goods required for tax exemption considering the global and national standards.
- The NPDRR guideline will be modified and finalized in the next meeting.
- Mr. Gokarna Awasthi, Deputy Director General, FNCCI gave the vote of thanks and closed the meeting.

Second Periodic Meeting (Semi Government) under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

18 March, 2022



The second periodic meeting (Semi Government) under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR) was organized by DPNet in collaboration with

National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) via Zoom on 18th March 2022. Mr. Bishwo Raj Baral, Chief Executive Officer, Nepal Bank Chaired and mediated the program. Dr. Raju Thapa Acting Chair, DPNet Nepal welcomed everyone and highlighted the objective of the program. Altogether, there were event 12 participants in the program.

Major Highlights

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA shared the status of NDRRMA. He explained about the different NPDRR thematic

groups and said each group has their own guideline which provides supports for collaboration among its members. He further clarified about the working area of NDRRMA and shared the importance of coordination and collaboration with different stakeholders. He shared how semi government organizations can strengthen the country's DRR&M sector, developing a rooster for DRR&M and working guidelines for NPDRR. It is important to make a roster of a semi government organization working in DRR&M.

Dr. Raju Thapa, Vice Chairperson of the DPNet, highlighted the importance of exhibiting a position paper from Nepal in the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) 2022. He requested the semi government group to put forth ideas for a position paper and how to brainstorm on ideas Nepal can showcase for GPDRR. He added that the semi government thematic group is an integral group that can help the nation with its DRR&M activities.

Major Discussions

- There needs to be more participation among the members of the semi-government group.
- The guideline needs to be validated as soon as possible in order to establish the proper coordination and collaboration among the members of the thematic group.
- The participants of the meeting made the decision to have an in-person meeting to formally establish all the groups.
- There should be clear coordination and collaboration between the members of the group so that necessary actions can be taken for the nation.

Mr. Bishwo Raj Baral, Chief Executive Officer, Nepal Bank, encouraged all participants to attend the next periodic in-person, to work towards their common goal to achieve DRRM. He thanked all members of the group for their active participation and closed the program.

National Level Workshop on 'Private Sector Role in Disaster Risk Reduction

18 March, 2022



In collaboration with Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA), Disaster Preparedness Network (DPNet), Disaster Management Network Nepal (DiMaNN), Volunteer Service Oversees (VSO), Association of Youth Organizations

Nepal (AYON) & Association of Community Radio Broadcasters Nepal (ACORAB), FSCN has organized a national level workshop programs entitled 'Role of Private Sector in DRR' on 18th March 2022 at Hotel Everest Kathmandu. Altogether 36 participants joined the program among them 27.7% were women.

Major Highlights

Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chairperson of DPNet Nepal elucidated the objectives of the workshop. Elucidating the objectives of the program Dr. Thapa said NPDRR is in functioning since 12 years and its 9 subjective groups are formed as envisioned by the UNDRR guideline on NPDRR. NPDRR recognized and acknowledge the private sector

as one of the important stakeholder of DRR. Private sector subjective group of NPDRR has been formed in federal level. This platform helps to discuss the issues private sectors have been facing and the way out for those problems to overcome. Since the local level have more roles and responsibility in DRRM, the platforms need to be formed in local level as well. This workshop will help private sector, NDRRMA and concerned DRR stakeholders to prepare concrete plan of action. He said the following session and workshop have rigorous discussion on the importance of private sectors in DRR and how to strengthen their role, the suggestion receive will be widely disseminated.

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary and Spokesperson of NDRRMA, in his presentation titled ‘Disaster Management and Climate change Adaptation Governance’ said, that private Sector has been working in DRR since long but their roles are not mainstreamed and recognized in government’s system. Since the disaster risk reduction can’t be successful unless all the stakeholders join their hands. Realizing the fact of collective action the Government of Nepal through NPDRR mainstreamed the roles of private sector in DRR as one of the important stakeholder of DRR with formation of Private Sector Thematic Group. Before Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act, 2017 there was narrow definition of disaster management that addressed disaster response as sole act of relief distribution. The government had then, the mindset that responding to the disaster is rescue and distributing relief materials after disaster. Later our government has realized preparedness is one of the important component of DRR. New DRRMA Act, 2017 recognize the multi facets of disaster and responsibility of multiple stakeholders and 3

ters of government. In his presentation, Dr. Bhattarai explained the Institutional Structure of Government of Nepal to carry out disaster related work effectively. The National Council for DRRM, chaired by the Prime Minister, Executive Committee chaired by the Minister of Home Affairs. The Executive Committee is the implementing agency of plans, policy. NDRRMA works as a focal unit of federal government in DRRM. The Executive Chief of NDRRMA acts as a member secretary of the committee and he also act as a Chair of NPDRR. So, NDRRMA is serious to strengthen the capacity of all NPDRR thematic group including private sectors. Dr. Bhattarai further elucidating the relevance of the private sector in DRR said, people have preoccupied thought that disaster management is the core responsibility of state. But, state alone can’t do anything citing the present scenario of disaster worldwide. How the disaster scenario have change in short span of time, Dr. Bhattarai said, we have heard of Earth Summit of 1992 but not that much aware of that. But in recent years the global warming and climate change have caused so much disaster. Giving the example of this year’s flood in Manang which is highly unpredicted yet happened with human casualties and material loss. 30 years’ span has massive disaster in the world. Therefore government can’t work alone and meet the challenges of disaster. Government takes the lead role and all the stakeholders should go hand in hand to mitigate the risk. Private sector can play vital role in disaster management, so NPDRR thematic private sector group be formed in both province and local level to accommodate all private sector in disaster management. He asked the private sector to have discussions within the group and expected proper five year plan. The actions they want to take in DRR sector need

to be clearly articulated. The private business are the concerns of common and all individuals. Dr Bhattarai, stressed on the main 4 points: 1. Disaster Friendly Infrastructure: Private sector should be conscious to develop disaster friendly physical infrastructures, 2. Basket Fund for DRR: Briefing the importance of establishing a basket fund for DRR, he urged private sector to put at least 0.5 percent of the profit in the basket fund and mobilize the fund DRRM, 3. Insurance Policy: Insurance can transfer the risk. Even a rich country can't give full compensation for disaster and 4. Private Sector needs to encourage and launch massive campaign for insurance. Capacity Building: Private Sector have large scale human resources. He asked the Private Sector to organize DRR trainings to their human resources. Private sector can take lead in providing the DRR training to staff. Concluding his presentation, Dr. Bhattarai informed the private sector participants that, Ministry of Finance has recently circulated a letter that asked the NDRRMA to facilitate the private sectors to clearly state their concern and demand tax exemption while importing goods that are used in DRR. And how tax exemption on those goods in long run can contribute in DRR. He also asked the private sector to give feedback to government on how they can collaborate. Standing and working together in DRR always help to mitigate the risk of disaster.

Mr. Rishi Raj Acharya, Under Secretary of MoFAGA, in his presentation 'Role of Private Sector in DRR Localization' said, MoFAGA, is a focal ministry of province and local government. All the concerns of province and local government are coordinated through MoFAGA. Our trade and commerce are the concern of all communities and rural

government. we need to focus on the coordination with local level while we talk and work on DRRM. During the time of disaster, private sector need to work together with Local Government. Giving the example of recent Covid-19 pandemic, he said, though, private sectors were hard hit during the pandemic they left no stone unturned to provide humanitarian assistance to people, government and organizations with lifesaving equipment, oxygen concentrator, masks, sanitizers etc. He praised the private sector's response during the pandemic and said they have successfully played important role in Covid-19 management. They played important role in awareness generation and halt the business to reduce the spread of COVID Pandemic. Even provided relief materials to daily wagers who lost their job during the Covid- 19 pandemic. He urged the sector to formulate an action plan of the group, implement and timely monitor and evaluate the action plan and voice their work in international community. Collective approach is a must to make our voice heard. When we join hands to work together, the risk of disaster can be reduced. We can achieve the expected result with collaborative approach while addressing the risk of disaster. We need to have a common understanding of disaster. For strengthening the governance system, we need to work with local government. He said international Community too stressed on public private partnership so as to mitigate the risk of disaster. Private sectors need to promote invest in those sectors where they can regain. Our trades and business are community centered, so our investment should focus on to uplift the community and develop secure physical infrastructure. Private Sector need to coordinate with local government and emphasized on to implementing building code and its implementation should be the priority

of the private sector. Private sector need to know how fire brigade are managed and operated and how to coordinate with local government to take services. Private sector needs to be alert and conscious where the local government is investing the tax payers' money, it helps the government to be accountable towards the people. People have many expectations from this sector. In his presentation Mr. Acharya said, road accident is also increasing in alarming rate. We need to pay attention on road infrastructure, which are not driving friendly. Similarly, security of the passengers, transport workers should be our area of concern. We need to think and act, how we can invest in DRR in secured manner. Further, private sector need to pay attention on the inclusion of the groups who are left behind. During Covid-19 pandemic, private sectors have contributed also by providing reliefs to poor, old age people, and pregnant women as well. In conclusion he said there should be secure environment for trade and commerce and the sectors collaborate with local government in addressing the risk of disaster. Further, he asked the private sector representatives to facilitate the process of forming local platform of private sector in local level.

Dr. Nirmala KC, Board Member, FSCN, in her remarks said, private sector is one of the important sector of service delivery. She praised the management efficiency of the private Sector. She said private sector has human and technical competency. They have tendency of taking risk and invest. Private sector is important because 90% community returned to society in various form and helps to create harmony in society. In the meantime crisis are emerging. She urged to work in private public model to for building trust, transparency, cost effectiveness and quick

service delivery. Government has owned the groups so private sectors should come in collaboration with government. This meeting is an opportunity for private sector as well. We need to take knowledge and moral together. Knowledge and moral must go together. In conclusion encouraging the private sector to invest in DRR she said, when you give, you achieve and will contribute for sustainability.

Mr. Kewal Shrestha, AYON, said AYON is an umbrella organization of 92 organizations. AYON voices the youth's concerns. AYON is active in advocating for youth's participation in DRR. With continuous advocacy, youth's participation in the Strategic plan of DRR have been integrated. He said, AYON is active advocating for the issues of climate change, carbon emission. We need to mitigate the use of materials that triggers the carbon emission. He elaborated his remarks that to reduce the demand cycle, awareness campaign are being launched in local level. Facilitated to formulate plan to mitigate the demand of the plastic goods in local level. Private sector, according to him take responsibility to reduce production and use of the pollution generating goods. Private sector can maximize the utilization of local resources and promote the goods and industry that reuse plastic related waste. Such program helps to sensitize prospective youth entrepreneur who are DRR activists today can mainstream DRR in their business plan tomorrow.

Mr. Gokarna Awasthi, Deputy Director General, FNCCI, in his presentation, 'Mainstreaming private sector in DRR' said even in Malla and Lichhavi era, private sectors have played important roles during disaster. We need to focus on the way we can channelize the role of private sector the work government in Disaster response. The

discussion have demand the role of private sector in reducing the risk of disaster. Briefing the role private sector had played during Covid-19 pandemic, he said, private sector have performed great responsibility. Kept the supply chain intact during pandemic that help to maintain the price intact with no hike. But Government did not prioritize private sector during vaccination. Economic survey have portrayed 77% contribution of private sector in National economy but Government and other stakeholders do not recognized and gave importance to their role. He said 1000 people were directly served during Covid-19 pandemic. FNCCI already have fund which have been used to support the member chambers in local level. For the Group operation guideline and action plan, the language should be understandable to members of chambers. For that we need your expertise. He said FNCCI have 113 networks nationwide. How to channelize and mainstream this networks in local level as well. In past Private sector were invited as witness but meaningful participation is needed. We have resource and investing in CSR but we do not get tax exemption. We need to discuss on what can be done in policy and behavior level. A strong mechanism to encourage the sector is needed. We need to have discussion on this tax exemption proposal. We will study the possible area and communicate our concern with the government. Participation with learning/ sharing perspective will help the private sector.

Mr. Bishnu Timilsina, General Secretary, DiMaNN, in his presentation ‘Importance of Network in DRR’, said, Private sector is linked with the people from dusk to dawn. Government regulates the private sector. The government should facilitate the working

environment that sets the moral of private sector high. Unethical behavior/ business should be stopped. Private sectors fail to follow the building code during construction which will induced the risk of disaster. So private sector should be sensitive in making their business ethical. According to him, private sectors have large contribution in DRR. There are multiple opportunities in construction sectors after disaster. Private sector can be an important partner in making resilient society. To coordinate the rescue and relief work we need to know the status of import export. We can make the local market vibrant during disaster by giving priority to local market. The nine thematic groups and the private sector’s common platform plays catalyst role in between government and private sector and enriched the process of listening to the sectors problems. He emphasized on the necessity to walk together in reducing the risk of disaster.

Mr. Bishnu Dutta Gautam, Joint Secretary of MoFAGA, in his guest remarks said, government alone can’t manage the disaster. Nepal has accepted and internalize the role of multiple stakeholders in DRR. The NPDRR also accepted the fact and initiated to go together. Private sectors have important role to play in reconstruction as well. Previously, they were active in rescue and relief work, and they have role in risk financing as well. They have role in implement insurance policy in their business and industry which helps to reduce the risk factors of disaster. FNCCI too have formed the structures according to the federal structure of the government. He urged the sectors to go hand in hand in local level. More responsibility lies in federal government but local government have important role in DRR. Citing the example of Covid-19 pandemic, he said local government has played an important

role. If we mainstream the private sector in local efforts of DRR, our efforts bear fruits. We need to discuss the area where Private sector and local government work together, how to integrate private sectors efforts with local government. Nepal can be an good example in the world when we mainstream private sector with local government in DRR. He assured MoFAGA's cooperation in collaborating and mainstreaming private sector in the initiation to reduce the risk of disaster.

Mr. Suresh Khatri, Federation of Heavy Equipment, said, they have network in 44 districts. Sharing the problems of the sector, he said, during the earthquake and Melamchi flood, they were unaware of the contact agency of government. They faced difficulties in taking the equipment to the site. Coordinated with Nepal Police and APF for search and rescue operation. We need to discuss how to address such type of disaster in near future. We have requested the government for parking area for the heavy equipment but government has not addressed the request yet. In disaster like Melamchi flood, one sector's response can't work. Multiple sectors need to come together. All need to know the importance of equipment during disaster. We need to develop a roster of equipment we have and we need to address the disaster. Federation of Construction Entrepreneurs' have equipment, government and stakeholders need to coordinate with the federation.

Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chairperson of the DPNet facilitated the question and answer session.

Some of the remarks are as below.

Mr. Rajendra Shrestha, FNCCI, said, local level private sectors should not be left behind. All the private sector should come in DRR architect. Beside natural disaster, Nepal need to get preparedness plan for human induced disaster.

Ms. Shanta Baskota Koirala, Vice Chairperson, FNCSI, praised the organizer's efforts to accommodate the private sector group as an important stakeholder of DRR. For the first time she is hearing so many praises of the private sector from so many stakeholders. FNCSI has network in community level therefore, she urged the government and stakeholders to integrate the networks effort of DRR and include the members of network while forming local level network of private sectors group. Member organizations, according to her is very enthusiastic to this approach of consolidating efforts of government and other stakeholders to mainstream private sector in disaster risk reduction & management. She emphasized on the necessity of segregating the nature and impact of disaster according to the geography and she said this will help to address the disaster risk properly. She put query on the mechanism for the basket fund management.

Mr. Bal Krishna Pokhrel, Director, Nepal Chamber of Commerce, said the institutional structure of NPDRR private sector needs to be reached to grass root level. Local community are the first responder of disaster event. Traders, business persons are the community people, so to maximize their role in DRR, their participation in this type of mechanism need to be enhanced.

Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chairperson of DPNet Nepal and resource person facilitated the session on 'Workshop on Strengthening

NPDRR Private Sector Group. He highlighted the strength of the private sector group through participatory group work. Participants were divided in 3 groups and were given some questions. The groups had intra-group discussion and written the answer in the chart paper and presented in the open forum. Dr. Raju Thapa concluded the session with vote of thanks to all groups for their active participation in the workshop session.

Mr. Rishi Raj Acharya, Under Secretary, MoFAGA, in his concluding remarks said, there are lots of area of collaboration with private sector. We need to address and accommodate the problems and walk in forward direction. This type of discussion need to be continued. He urged the private sector to contribute in DRR fund and formulate the annual and periodic plans with resilient aspect. Collaboration with this sectors need to be stretched to national to local level. DRR's structural mechanism should be made flexible to accommodate the private sector's representatives. Since our governance starts with local level, we should develop a common understanding on how to come over the risk of disaster, from the local level. Localization of DRR is not possible without the collaborative approach. Three tiers of government and all the stakeholders should walk and act together to mitigate the risk. Local Government Operation Act, 2017 has directed the local level to collaborate with other sectors in DRR.

Local government has established Emergency Operation System; private sectors can contribute there. In addition, private sectors need to promote safe construction. They can give suggestion to Local Government while formulating policy like land use policy, and can give input in infrastructure development. Private sector can collaborate with local bodies in planning, implementing plans, monitoring and evaluation of implementation and recommend the areas for improvement. He requested the participants to join hands together and make our country disaster resilient. He put his commitment to organize and facilitate this type of forum in future as well.

Conclusion:

The workshop on Private Sector's Participation & Responsibility in Disaster Risk Reduction, succeed to educate and internalize the participants about the roles of private sectors in DRR. Participants were well informed of the NPDRR and its nine thematic groups. Through series of presentation, experience sharing, group works, participants internalize the urgency to capitalize the private sectors' efforts in DRR. The need to mainstream the local level structures of private sectors in local DRR forum was strongly raised. The participants' commitment to contribute in DRR is visible through the group work presentation where though in a draft form they have put the points that need to be incorporated in 5 Year's Action plan.

Private Sector Second Periodic Meeting

March 24, 2022



The Private Sector subjective second periodic meeting was organized by DPNet Nepal in collaboration with NDRRMA on 24th March, 2022 in Hotel Ambassador, Lazimpat. Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair of DPNet Nepal

welcomed the participants and shared the objective of the meeting.

Major Highlights

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA highlighted the importance of Private sector in DRR&M. NDRRMA is looking for technical assistance from the thematic group in matters that relate to the DRR&M in Nepal. There needs to be research on items are used in DRR&M and focus on loss due to disasters. The main objective should be preparing for disasters and reduce the loss of life and property.

Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair of DPNet Nepal, shared about the 9 thematic groups of the NPDRR, and explained how they were established under the recommendation of UNDRR which emphasizes “all of society” approach to ensure DRR&M. He shed light on the agenda and the major points of discussion such as tax exemption for the goods helps in

collection of fund for DRR, the modification of the NPDRR guideline for the Private Sector and many more.

Discussions

- The list of goods for tax exemption should be further refined.
- The tax exemption should not follow a blanket approach, only if the item has been recommended by the Ministry of Finance only then it can be exempted.
- The process of receiving recommendation by the ministry should swift in a disaster event.
- There should be an eligibility criteria for the items that can be exempted from tax.
- To ensure that there is no misuse of the of the tax exemption, a set quantity for import should be set looking at the severity and the kind of disaster events.

Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair of DPNet Nepal gave vote of thanks and closed the meeting.

Subjective committee meeting (Semi Government) under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

24 March, 2022



The subjective committee meeting (Semi Government) under the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was organized by DPNet in collaboration with National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) at Ambassador Hotel, Lazimpat, on 24th March 2022. Mr. Bishwo Raj Baral, Chief Executive Officer, Nepal Bank chaired the program. Dr. Raju Thapa Acting Chair, DPNet Nepal welcomed everyone and highlighted the objective of the program.

Major Highlights

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA shared the objectives of the status of NDRRMA. He explained about the different NPDRR thematic groups and each group has their own guideline which provides support to the group for collaboration among its members. He further clarified about the working area of NDRRMA and shared the importance of coordination and collaboration with different stakeholders. He shared how semi government organizations can strengthen the country's DRRM sector. He urged the thematic group to act as a liaison from their organization and to implement DRR measures

in their respective organizations to ensure the safety of individuals during a disaster.

Dr. Raju Thapa, Vice Chairperson of the DPNet, highlighted the importance of semi government thematic group and exhibiting a position paper from Nepal in the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR) 2022. He requested the semi government group to put forth ideas for a position paper. He added that the semi government thematic group is an integral group that can help the nation with its DRRM activities.

Major Discussions

- To ensure the sustainability of the group there needs to be funding to host such events.
- The representatives of the thematic group should establish the preventive measure for their organization and make suggestion in the group.
- We need to identify areas that we can work on to achieve resilience.
- The Nepal Transit and Warehousing Co. Ltd. is the organization where the goods are stored before they are released into the

nation, all goods that come through them however they do not have the infrastructure to store the goods in an event of a disaster.

- The coordinator of the thematic group should be appointed on a yearly basis.
- The working guideline was finalized at the event, the group appointed a

Sub-Coordinator Mr. Kewari Raj Admari and a Women's representative Ms. Sharmila Neupane Subedi.

Mr. Bishwo Raj Baral, Chief Executive Officer, Nepal Bank, thanked all participants for participating in the meeting and closed the program.

Participatory Reflection Meeting

March 25, 2022



DPNet Nepal has been implementing the Chhemata Abhibridhi (Capacity Enhancement for Disaster Risk Reduction and Management DR&RM) program with the financial support from USAID Tayar Nepal. The one-year program had several activities to initiate the capacity enhancement program with particular focus on engaging the multi-stakeholders in DRR&M actions in a systematic way. As the capacity enhancement is a long-term process, the learning needs to be carried out further by the concerned stakeholders. A participatory reflection meeting was conducted on March 25, 2022 at Hotel Ambassador, Lazimpath to discuss the key activities implemented, the achievements made, and the way forward to sustain the initiatives. Ms. Sujata Chhetri, Admin and

Finance Officer of DPNet welcomed the guest and introduced the objectives of the program. Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair, DPNet Nepal chaired and mediated the event. In the event there were 32 participants (75% male, 25% female), from diverse caste ethnic group (56.25% Brahmin/ Chhetri, 21.85% Janajati, 21.87% Newar, 0% Dalit, 6.25% Persons with Disabilities) and from different sectors (18.75% Government, 31.25% NGO, 15.62% Private, 6.25% INGO, 28.12% other).

Major Highlights:

Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair of DPNet Nepal, presented the achievements of the project and explained the formation of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

NPDRR's nine thematic groups and development of their working guideline. The Online Resource Center (ORC) has been established so all documents can be stored in one place for easy access of resources on DRR to all individuals, at present the center has more than thousands documents. The resource center has also been developed keeping accessibility in mind. It has features such as high contrast, increased font, marker line among a few for persons with visual impairments and those who are colorblind. Sphere standards were translated to Nepali in order to remove the language barrier. 'Virtual Discussion Platform' was established for important discussions on the matters related to DRR. Four training on Sphere Sensitization and two on Sphere Training were held in Karnali and the Far-Western region. According to the data the project was 96% successful. The learnings for the program were as follows: a) DRRM is still not a priority area for Nepal, b) There is a lack of understanding about DRR and c) The Palikas need to work on strengthening their database on DRR&M.

Mr. Jaganath Prasad Kurmi, Coordinator of Affected Community Thematic Group, highlighted that for their thematic group it may be difficult to understand the laws and policies on DRR. As they can witness all things happening at ground level they have observed that the plans have not been implemented as discussed. He added that, attention should be given to preparedness and mitigation measures in the community instead of only relief and rescue. NPDRR members from the thematic groups should be involved in various plans and programs that can be implemented for DRR.

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA, said that there should be clear goals by looking at the need of the nation for DRR. The members of the different thematic groups should make an action plan for DRR&M in their own organizations as well. He added that if the individuals and organization have clear plans they can find the

resources and the NDRRMA will also help in its implementation. The BIPAD portal belongs to the nation and the thematic groups can help to add resources on it. The Academia and Research Based Organizations can help to develop a roster for DRR. DPNet Nepal is the Secretariat for the NPDRR and they should ensure its sustainability effectively.

Mr. Tirtha Raj Joshi, Deputy Chief of Party of USAID Tayar Nepal, highlighted the work done by DPNet Nepal. He further said that even though the project has come to an end the process of learning from each other for different thematic groups should go further. The different thematic groups of NPDRR need to become sustainable in order to achieve NPDRR's goal.

Mr. Pradip Koirala, Joint Secretary MoHA shed light on the role of NPDRR in Nepal's disaster risk reduction and management. He added that the groups are autonomous and they need to make consistent efforts to ensure their sustainability. He highlighted that Monitor for Disaster Strategic Actions (MDSA) is a web based, centralized system for logging and monitoring projects being operated around the nation that delivers against the National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategic Action Plan 2018-2030. It also links with the BIPAD system for crosslinking information with disasters. The information given on the BIPAD portal is verified data from the government and it can be used for research and other purposes. He claimed that the private sector needs to work on risk transfer by insuring their business, as the government can only provide relief. Only training is not enough; they should be involved in the different forums.

Major Discussions:

- The NGO thematic NPDRR group can aid in putting forth the issues of vulnerable groups, and persons with disabilities.

- The INGO thematic group can add to the risk assessment in the Palikas.
- The Private Sector thematic group should coordinate for technical support for DRR&M.
- Academia and Research Based Organization thematic group should emphasized on investment on sound research to identify the gaps and address it.
- Media and IT group, need to focus on sensitization to understand disaster and highlight the necessity for a Media handbook on how to write about DRR for the different sectors.
- The members of the society should contribute monetarily towards DRR&M by setting aside a small percentage of their income.
- Interaction between the government and the civil society should be held regularly.
- Accessibility is important for persons with disabilities and thematic groups should follow the principle of no one left behind and ensure that their action plan also addresses the needs of persons with disabilities. Documents should also be made accessible for all.
- Mr. Dinanath Bhandari from DPNet, Mr. Amrit Sharma from Academia and Research Based Organization thematic group, and Mr. Dinesh Gurung from INGO thematic group have volunteered to develop the Five Year Plan of NPDRR. Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair of DPNet Nepal thanked all participants for their active participation and closed the program.

Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair of DPNet Nepal thanked all participants for their active participation and closed the program.

Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) -2022 Preparatory Meeting

April 12, 2022



DPNet in collaboration with NDRRMA organized a GPDRR 2022 preparatory meeting virtually on 12th April, 2022. The program was chaired by Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair of DPNet. Altogether, 50 participants joined the preparatory meeting.

Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair of DPNet shared about the GPDRR-2022. The seventh Global Platform is going to be organized in Bali, Indonesia from 23rd May to

28th May, 2022. The Global Platform will be organized by the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and co-chaired and hosted by the Government of Indonesia in an event held in Bali, Indonesia.

GPDRR is the main global forum to assess and discuss progress on the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. The Global Platform comes at a critical time: seven years after the Sendai Framework was adopted, and just over two years after the COVID-19 pandemic broke out, which has exposed how underlying vulnerabilities and inequities have catastrophic consequences for the most exposed across the world. The pandemic has underlined the critical need of prevention and risk reduction

in achieving a sustainable future for all. The 5 World Conference and 6 Global Platform has already been organized in past years. The major theme of GPDRR- 2022 is Disaster Risk Governance, COVID-19 Recovery and DRR Financing. Similarly, cross cutting themes are Sendai Framework stocktaking, leave no one behind and SDGs and climate action. The theme for this event is “From Risk to Resilience: Towards Sustainable Development for All in a COVID-19 Transformed World”. The theme will focus on how the COVID-19 pandemic has challenged the traditional understanding of risk and disaster risk governance. It will explore how the global crisis can be turned into an opportunity for the necessary radical transformation needed to achieve the goal and targets of the Sendai Framework, as well as of the 2030 Agenda.

GPDRR main events comprises of various sessions regarding Disaster Risk Reduction to tackle the Climate Emergency, Understanding and Governance of Systemic Risk, DRR Leadership and resilient, Global and regional perspectives on implementing the Sendai Framework and Early Warning and Early Action, Nature Based solutions, multi-hazard - multi-sectoral approaches, disaster risk financing, COVID-19 and about resilient, Joint Actions to reduce DRR, empowering, strengthening and embedding risk in investment decisions and sharing of official statements. This GPDRR-2022 will provide “The Sasakawa Award” which will honor practices and efforts made by institutions, individuals and groups that have best contributed to building resilience through a multi-hazard approach. The Global Platform 2022's outcome will provide a unique and timely opportunity to highlight the need of international solidarity and cooperation, as well as propose solutions to address

underlying risk factors both locally and globally.

The prospective events for team Nepal will have a Ministerial Round Table on Scaling-up Disaster Risk Reduction to Tackle the Climate Emergency and Thinking Resilience: Changing the Approach to Disaster Risk Reduction. There will be high level dialogues, official statements and other major events. It was shared about the proposed content of position paper options. This year GPDRR will be organized in a bubble system following the health protocol.

Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA

First of all, NPDRR’s motive is to get ideas to present on an international platform. National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR) consists of nine thematic groups. All nine thematic groups should have a meeting and discuss the way forward to present on a global platform and make a taskforce. All the stakeholders should be involved in making the task force whereas DPNet should take member secretary’s responsibilities and NDRRMA should take lead in it. Experts also should be involved in making the taskforce and study about international voices, commitments and so on. This taskforce should be formalized and move forward.

Open Discussions

- The representatives of GPDRR- 2022 should be involved in consultation meetings and workshops which should be organized.
- Lesson learnt, experiences sharing and reflection meetings for post GPDRR should be organized.
- The preparation update should be shared, collected, documented and revised. The

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- programs related to sharing should be physically organized.
 - The activities should be on a time scale and on a proper time frame.
 - The issues and topics in the ministerial round table should be highlighted.
 - NDRRMA or the Home Ministry should take the lead in the task force.
 - The reason to present the position paper in Global Platform should be very clear.
 - Everyone who represents Nepal in GPDRR -2022 should have a clear theme and be clear in what to present.
 - The status of preparation of the government in the position paper should be clear.
 - GPDRR-2022 should be disaster inclusive as its one of the themes is to leave no one behind.
 - Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair of DPNet gave final thanks vote to every participant and closed the program.

7th Memorial Day of 2015 Nepal Earthquake

25th April

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) organized a program in the 7th Memorial Day of 2015 Nepal Earthquake on April 25, 2022 at Hotel Himalaya in coordination with DPNet. Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Executive Chief of NDRRMA, Chaired the program and the Chief Guest of the program were Dr. Ganga Lal Tuladhar, former Education Minister and DRR&M expert, Mr. Sushil Gywali, CEO of National Reconstruction Authority, Mr. Yadav Prasad Koirala, Secretary, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, and Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala, Chief of Disaster and Conflict Management Division MoHA. The program was facilitated by Dr. Dijan Bhattarai, Under Secretary of NDRRMA. The program was focused on setting up of various preparedness activities to reduce the disaster risk. 71 participants from MoHA, NDRRMA, various government organizations, donor organizations, representatives from NGO, INGO, partner organizations and media joined the program.

Major Highlights:

Ms. Anita Niraula, Joint Secretary of NDRRMA welcomed all the participants and highlighted the objectives of the program. She enlightened the working of NDRRMA on reconstruction, resilience, stakeholder's awareness and to assist the vulnerable community. She said that monsoon disaster and fire disasters are also on priority list of NDRRMA. She further said that NDRRMA has always focused on a whole of society approach during the disaster. She further highlighted the ways forward such as recognizing volunteers and mobilizing them during disasters, sharing experiences/good practices and studying the organization's past records and articles, forming a strong search



and rescue team, and becoming knowledgeable about government institutions, structures and housing protocols.

Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala, Joint Secretary, Chief of Disaster and Conflict Management Division MoHA said many lives and properties have always been impacted by earthquakes. He remembered that different international agencies and foreign countries had provided a large number of rescue and medical teams during the Gorkha Earthquake. He added, Nepal should also take innovations about basket fund to use during disaster emergencies and there should be strong search and rescue team. He further added that the open space should not be destroyed. He highlighted that after the Gorkha earthquake, the law has improved significantly, and disaster has become one of the most important topics in history. He said MoHA has been working for a long time during disaster, and not just in the area of sunset laws.

Mr. Hemang Kerliya, From World Bank explained about the condition of rebounding back from a series of disasters. He said that Nepal should learn good practices and lesson from Gorkha earthquake and always tries remain resilient. He further added the resilient development framework would be very good idea. He said since Nepal has excellent cooperation with development partners, they are always ready to help Nepal with

reconstruction, recovery and financial stability.

Mr. Sushil Gywali, Chief Executive Officer of National Reconstruction Authority highlighted about importance of disaster preparedness and recovery. He said that identifying the gaps of disaster risk reduction and management is very important. The newer innovations of distributing funds such as directly sending money to their bank accounts also can be practiced. He further highlighted about emphasizing on land use management, school and housing management, and disaster preparedness. in all three levels: national, provincial, and local. He further added that the fast work track concept, as well as proper labor and staff management should be encouraged.

Dr. Ganga Lal Tuladhar, Former Education Minister and DRR&M expert said all of the authorities were first perplexed at the moment during the Gorkha Earthquake. He said we should view disaster as an opportunity rather than a curse. Disaster lessons should be taught in schools and universities as well. Engineers, structural engineers, geologists, and environmentalists should have a solid grasp on how disasters work. Nepal has a large number of researchers; thus we should take advantage of these. He added positive concepts like "Jhatpat Jhola," "awareness campaigns," and "resilient initiatives" should be promoted. Lightning strikes and fires are also serious disasters that require our attention. He added,

In the future, we should commemorate Baishak 12 as Preparedness Day, Early Warning Day, or any other positive day.

Mr. Yadav Prasad Koirala, Secretary of Ministry of Education, Science and Technology said there were some earthquakes that were predicted. He said early warning system has been established, but humans normally overlook such things, so a disaster has far-reaching consequences. In Nepal, there were numerous post-earthquake reconstruction projects. He added positive features such as the formation of a strong disaster committee, access to local resources, the construction of earthquake-resistant buildings and the management of residences, and the establishment of hospitals should all be strongly promoted.

Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Executive Chief of NDRRMA said that disasters records are documented in both hard copy and digital versions. He said that the relationship between strong development partners is also shown in those documents. The role of the different tiers of government in the NDRRMA is deeply linked. Localization, the Housing Recovery and Reconstruction Platform (HRRP), earthquake reconstruction, and other issues have always been priorities for NDRRMA. Participants from the NPDRR Platform were included in the program and now we should focus on collaborative preparedness action. Sharing and National Dialogue activities are very important. He gave a final vote of thanks to every participant and closed the program.

Second National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (NPDRR) Meeting

25th April



The second national NPDRR meeting was organized by NPDRR and the program was coordinated by DPNet in Hotel Himalaya on 25th April, 2022. The program was chaired by Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Executive Chief of NDRRMA. The Special Guests of the program

were Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala, Joint Secretary of MoHA/Chief of disaster and conflict management division and Ms. Anita Niraula, Joint Secretary of NDRRMA. The participants of the meeting were representatives from MoHA, NDRRMA, DPNet and the thematic group.

Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair of DPNet presented about The Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GPDRR) which is going to be organized in Bali, Indonesia on 23- 28th May. GPDRR-2022 stands for global platform for disaster risk reduction and has several themes such as disaster risk governance, COVID-19 recovery and DRR financing. He further highlighted that this global platform will address disaster risk reduction & management and climate change and it will focus on early warning action sharing and official statement sharing.

Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Chief Executive of NDRRMA said that Nepal has to take the ownership to form the official statement and GPDRR preparatory task group should be formed. This task group will then draft an official statement for the upcoming GPDRR-2022 conference, as appointed:

1. Coordinator, Ms. Anita Niraula
2. Member, Dr. Raju Thapa
3. Member, Dr. Samir Kumar Adhikari
4. Member, Mr. Dinesh Gurung,
5. Member, Mr. Surya Narayan Shrestha

He then along with Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala, Joint Secretary of MoHA/Chief of disaster and conflict management division, Ms. Anita Niraula, Joint Secretary of NDRRMA and the team decided that this task group will present the ‘draft outline official statement’/zero draft by 28th April. NPDRR thematic groups were then requested to send the contents to be accommodated in the official statement and

the GPDRR preparatory task group will assess the received contents and prepare a draft official statement. The GPDRR preparatory task group will again assess the feedback and prepare the final draft of the official statement to be shared at the official statement sharing meeting to be held on 30th April.

The meeting then decided to propose following contents in the official statement;

- Strengthening and managing diversities in DRR and climate risk, understanding and governance of risk, early warning and action and sharing official statements.
- Disaster risk financing, nature based solutions, learning from COVID -19, data challenges, strengthening governance, inclusive and resilient recovery in urban context.
- Action on climate and disaster risk, empowering the most at risk through social protection, embedding risk in investment decisions, enhancing understanding and management of disaster risk in humanitarian contexts and accelerating financing for risk prevention
- The meeting also decided to aligned official statement to GPDRR scheduled as:
- Progress made since the last global platform: progress made in implementing sendai framework, national and local DRR strategies and sendai framework implementation.
- Risk informed public and private investment: risk informed investments, build back better, leaving no-one behind (investing in local action and empowering those most at risk), DRR investment, health issues in DRRM policies and promoting locally led DRR.
- Climate change action and DRR for all: national DRR strategies and climate national adaptation plan, role of

infrastructure in reducing disaster risk, integrating risk management ecosystem and water related risk, multi-hazard early warning system and achieving climate and disaster resilience.

The feedbacks in the official statement will be incorporated and finalized whereas the final touch will be given by Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Executive Chief of NDRRMA. The official

statement will be finalized on the deadline of 1st May, 2022. The official statement then will be elaborated to form the position paper. The committee then decided Mr. Gehendra Gurung to prepare the draft of the position paper and AINTGDMCC to support financially and technically. Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Executive Chief thanked everyone and scheduled the further meeting on 30th April and closed the program.

Official Statement Finalization Meeting

30th April



The Nepal's GPDRR Official Statement Finalization meeting was organized in Hotel Marriott on 30th April, 2022. The program was coordinated by DPNet as a secretariat of NPDRR, financially supported by Mercy Corps and technically supported by AINTGDMCC. The program was chaired by Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Executive Chief of NDRRMA and the Special Guest of the program was Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala, Chief of Disaster and Conflict Management Division MoHA. The moderation of meeting was done by Dr. Raju Thapa, Acting Chair of DPNet and Member of GPDRR Preparatory Task Group. The participants were from MoHA, NDRRMA, DPNet, AINTGDMCC and nine thematic group representatives. The major

theme of the program was about finalizing the official statement for GPDRR-2022.

The zero draft prepared by GPDRR preparatory task group in support with Mr. Gehendra Gurung was presented by Dr. Raju Thapa on the program and the conclusion of the draft official statement was done in a bunch conversation model. The grammatical errors were incorporated and different agendas were added such as adopting building back principles, strengthening these principles for effective risk management, inclusive participation of vulnerable group adopting gender equality and social inclusion approach, mobilizing basket fund, about disaster financing and knowledge. Participants also raised some some of the important aspects such as build back better, directive principle of the constitution on DRRM, community level DRRM structure, technology transfer, preparedness activities to build resilient school (retrofitting) that saved many lives, improvement of early warning systems and technology helps to reduce loss of lives and property, governance priority (global assessment report), strengthening networking, collaboration, cross-learning and technology

transfer and so on to be added in the official statement.

Meeting also discussed about the Nepal's GPDRR Position Paper and decided to assigned the task to prepare its zero to Mr. Gehendra Gurung. Meeting further requested AINTGDMCC to support position paper preparatory work both financially and technically.

In the concluding session Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala, Joint Secretary of MoHA mentioned that official statement should be very clear, transparent and easy to understand. He further mentioned that the official statement should be understandable by everyone not only by

DRRM stakeholders. Mr. Anil Pokhrel, Executive Chief of NDRRMA highlighted some significant issues to be incorporated in the official statement related to post-earthquake reconstruction work and some success story that can be lesson learnt to other parts of the world. He shared that he will incorporate the feedback from the floor and prepare final draft to be uploaded in the GPDRR official webpage. Lastly, he gave vote of thanks to Mercy Corps for supporting financially, AINTGDMCC to support technically, DPNet to coordinate the entire process and all contributors to refine the official statement and formally closed the program

GPDRR Position Paper Discussion Program

11 May



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 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 no 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 Khatriwala

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 Bhandai, 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

16th May



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 prepare 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. Genenaru 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. Nukanta Punney from CAKE 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

27th May



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

23rd-28 May



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 (VisRisk) – 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

8th June



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 celebrat IDDRR-2021, world humanitarian and 7th Memorial Day of 2015 earthquake. Similarly, it organized 5 workshops, 3 trainings, 3

orientation 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, and develop system of now casting 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. Gangalal 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 difficulty 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 NCRS considering its internal disp-

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

capacity of NCRS, 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

12th June



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. Kam 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 though 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

19th June



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 Foudayal, 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, and 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 are 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

mugging area, might visibility, and 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 hydr-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

20th June



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

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- 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.