

Types of Disaster

Natural

- Earthquake
- Flood and landslides
- Windstorms, Hailstorms, thunderbolts
- Droughts
- Epidemics

Human-induced

- Fire
- Landslides
- Industrial accidents
- Road accidents

Major Impacts of Disaster in Nepal

- Environmental: productivity, stability, sustainability, climatic, loss of natural resources, bio-diversity
- Humanitarian: Quality of human life, food security, livelihood
- Demographic: Forced migration, human rights, social disorder
- Political: Instability, conflict
- Economic: Productivity, Revenue, investment, employment, imbalance
- Infrastructural: Damage of developmental infrastructures causing diversion of limited resources

Intensity/Impact of Disaster in Nepal

Year	Affected persons			Affected families	Houses destroyed	Estimated loss (in million US\$)
	Dead	Missing	Injured			
2005	204	30	31	2088	1102	3.8
2004	192	11	220	16997	4818	4.6
2003	310	58	160	11730	6819	13.4
2002	461	21	287	40486	19836	7.1
2001	418	45	134	16054	6260	7.3
Total	1585	165	832	87355	38835	36.2

Disaster Response in Nepal: Approaches and Frameworks

⋮ Strategic Response: National Policy Framework

Tenth Plan (2003-2008)

- Plan has identified natural and human-induced disaster management as the core need of sustainable and broad-based economic growth
- Plan has adopted policy on disaster risk reduction in Nepal
- Has included preparedness activities for disaster management: national and community levels
- Plan provides local bodies, NGOs, community organizations and the private sectors opportunity for preparedness actions including rescue and relief
- Integrated the objectives of
 - making development and construction works sustainable, reliable and effective
 - mitigating disasters to secure life of common people through appropriate strategies and programmes

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- The plan envisages

- specific programmes for disaster affected people

- In relation to international assistance, the plan states

- effective activities of reducing the damages of disaster by expanding relations with the international organizations related to natural and human made disaster management and by exchanging the information with them

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• Strategies adopted by Tenth Plan

- Adoption of suitable technology to minimize environmental impacts and losses
- Making rescue and relief reliable and effective
- Carrying out effective public awareness activities
- Strengthening earthquake measurement stations
- Preparing hazard maps of vulnerable areas
- Designating MOHA as National Focal Point for disaster management

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Operating Strategies for Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Management

- Carryout rescue and relief works in disaster affected areas
- Protect and reduce the loss of life and property and mitigate the sufferings of people
- Implement effective land use zoning, prepare hazard maps of the disaster prone areas.
- Raise disaster awareness in the people and provide training at the community level for effective disaster management
- Coordinate different stakeholders involved in disaster management and proper mobilization of non-governmental organizations in rescue and relief works
- Mobilize internal and external resources for rehabilitation and reconstruction
- Formation of teams and their mobilization in disaster areas to assist in relief works
- Assess the damages, collect and analyze data, and disseminate information

Strategic Response....Contd...

National Water Resource Strategy, 2002

- 5 years, 15 years and 25 years strategic targets set
- National Water Plan, 2005
 - enhance institutional capabilities for managing water-induced disasters
 - effective measures for better management of water-induced disasters and mitigation of their adverse effects
 - making water-induced disaster management system fully functional, effective and responsive to people's needs

Strategic Response....contd...

- Water Induced Disaster Management Policy, 2006
 - Mitigating the loss of lives and property arising from water-induced disasters like flood and landslides
 - Preservation of rivers, river basins, and water related environment for the sustainable use of natural resources and facilities like water supply, irrigation, water navigation, road transport, etc.
 - Reclamation of riverbanks and flood affected areas for the rehabilitation of landless people and conduct of socio-economic activities
 - Institutional development for the control of water induced disasters and management of flood affected areas
 - Defining the role of local and central government institutions, NGOs, community-based organizations and private institutions

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• **Hyogo Framework of Action and Nepal's Response**

- **Preparing for National Strategic Plan to realize the priority actions at national level as envisaged by the framework**

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Plan and Programme Responses

- **District Preparedness Plan and Action Plan**
 - Formulation of district preparedness plan and put into implementation in 5 highly vulnerable districts: Chitawan, Makawanpur, Sindhuli, Syangja and Tanahun out of 22 districts
 - District disaster management action plans in 5 pilot districts
 - Total Disaster Risk Management Pilot Exercise in Chitawan
- **Community Level Flood Management Programme**
 - Ways and means for strengthening the self help capacity of community for improved flood management
 - Goal of contributing the process of sustainable development and improving the quality of life by reducing flood vulnerability

Plan and Programme...contd.

- Community Level Preparedness for Glacier Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF)
 - Tsho Rolpa GLOF Risk Reduction Project launched
 - GLOF warning system introduced
 - Community level preparedness enhanced
- Community Level Preparedness for Earthquake
 - NSET, a local non-government agency is launching Community based Disaster Risk Management Programme
 - Providing technical assistance to communities of Kathmandu Metropolitan Wards

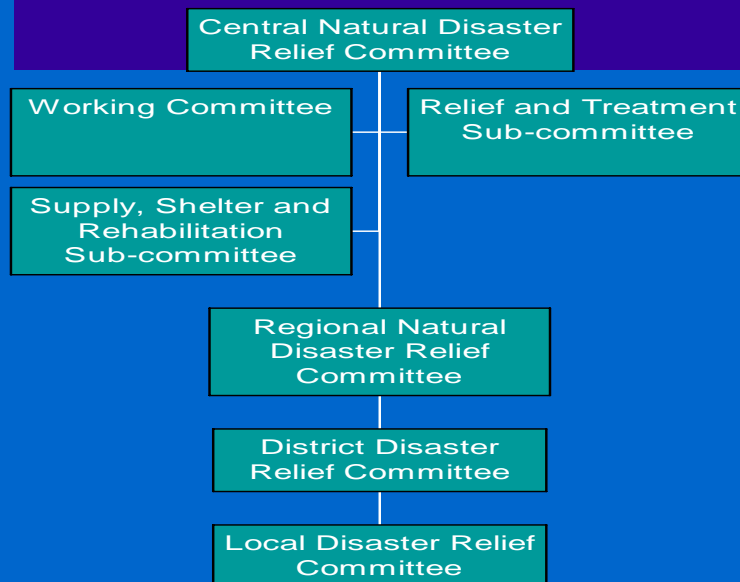
Legal Response

- Natural Calamity Relief Act, 1982 - the sole legal instrument to define disaster and reduce disaster risk
- Covers disaster mitigation measures to earthquake, fire, storm, flood, landslide, heavy rain, drought, famine, epidemic, and other similar natural disaster.
- The Act also includes industrial accident or accidents caused by the explosions or any other kinds of disaster
- Set up for different institutions for disaster response
 - Central Disaster Relief Committee
 - Regional Disaster Relief Committee
 - District and Local level Relief Committees
- Funding arrangements for mobilization and relief operations
- To facilitate rescue and relief operations at international levels, Nepal has ratified the conventions
 - Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations
 - Privileges and Immunities to Specialized Agencies

Institutional Response

- ❑ Ministry of Home Affairs as National Focal Agency on Disaster Management
- ❑ Central Natural Disaster Relief Committee under the Chairpersonship of Home Minister and comprising of related ministries and security agencies along with voluntary organization like Red Cross.
- ❑ To support the functioning of Central Committee, there are Working Committee, Relief and Treatment Sub-committee and Supply, Shelter and Rehabilitation Sub-committee
- ❑ Regional Natural Disaster Relief committee under the Chairpersonship of Regional Administrator and comprising of related government agencies and security agencies along with voluntary organization like Red Cross.
- ❑ District Natural Disaster Relief Committee
- ❑ Local Natural Disaster Relief Committee

Organization Structure for Disaster Management



• • • Different Actors in Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Management

- Government: Civil authority and security agencies
- Media
- Professional Government and Non-government Organizations
- Local bodies
- Community based organizations
- International development community
- Voluntary organizations
- Citizens

• • • Collaborative Response to Disaster

- The Act and the policy have set ground for collaboration at national and local levels
- Various NGOs and International Agencies are working in disaster risk reduction and disaster management
- NGOs have formed network for effective and efficient operations in preparedness - Dip-Net

National/International Agencies

- Asian Disaster Reduction Center
- Asian Disaster Preparedness Center
- UNDP
- JICA
- CARE Nepal
- ICIMOD
- Save the Children Nepal
- GTZ
- UMN
- USAID
- Action Aid
- Luthran World Service
- European Commission
- Nepal Red Cross Society
- CARITAS Nepal
- NSET
- Nepal Geological Society
- Nepal Engineering Institute
- Nepal Center for Disaster Management
- Landslide Risk Assessment Project
- Fire Prevention Association
- Nepal Disaster Reduction Center
- Society for Resource Conservation, Disaster management and Community Development

• Behaviour-change Response

- Use of mass media for preparedness
- Training
- Education
- Behaviour change programmes: advocacy and sensitization
- Community mobilization

Reflections from the Past Experience

- Need of public awareness and sensitization on disaster preparedness
- Extension of partnership programmes at community, national and regional levels
- Need of a competent, professional and participatory National agency on disaster management
- Improvement needed in emergency response planning and building capacity
- Institutionalization of national system for disaster information management
- Identification of most vulnerable zones and strategies to act upon
- Preparing national strategic plan
- Mainstreaming disaster issues into national policies, plans and programmes

- Building emergency warehouses and mobilization centers across the country for emergency responses - rescue and relief
- Improvement in transportation and communication system
- Effective enforcement of building code and other relative legal/technical instruments
- Human resource development as a core need

Gaps, Challenges and Problems

- Strategic challenges
 - Lack of comprehensive policy on disaster risk reduction and management
 - Lack of strategic plan for prevention and preparedness
- Socio-cultural challenges
 - Culture of submission to divinity
 - Use of natural resources
 - Settlement behaviour
 - Lack of environment-friendly behaviour
- Economic Challenges
 - Poverty
 - Lack of livelihood options rather to manipulate natural resources
 - Capacity of national treasury to fund adequately

- Governance challenges
 - Capacity of institutions
 - Local government
- Legal challenges
 - Adequacy
 - Systematic
 - Non-obligatory
 - Participatory-national and international
 - Functional capacity of committees
 - Resource base and mobilization
- Behavioural challenges

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- **Legal Reforms**

- Amendment in the Natural Calamity Relief Act to enable preparedness and mobilization
- Ratification on the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations
- Accession to Framework Convention on Civil Defence Assistance

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- **Institutional Capacity building**

- **National Focal Institution for Disaster Management - autonomous and professionally competent, participatory**
- Strengthening central, regional, district and community level disaster relief committees and make them capable of undertaking responsibility of carrying out preparedness activities
- Strengthening NGOs and Community-based organizations

- **Information management and technical capability**

- Hazard mapping
- Regular monitoring and evaluation
- Early warning system
- Information sharing and networking
- Research and survey

- Reconstruction of developmental infrastructure
- Effective rehabilitation for the displaced and affected population

Regional Perspective

- Regional roadmap and strategy
- Collective understanding and clarity
- Collaboration and partnerships: GO/NGO - Bilateral and Multilateral
- Information and experience sharing
- Institutional Capacity development
- Early warning system
- Humanitarian support

Any queries, comments and
suggestions...PLEASE

