

Disaster Risk Reduction Policy and Strategic action plan formulation process

Thematic consultation workshop-Productive Sector

Meeting notes of the first meeting

Date: May 22, 2017 (Jestha 8, 2074)

Venue: Indreni Food Land, Baneshwor, Kathmandu

Background/Introduction

The government of Nepal, under the leadership of Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) and in coordination with other line ministries has started to formulate ‘*National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy and Strategic Action Plan*’ with technical and financial support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and other partners. These documents will provide a new roadmap on DRR by taking into account the lessons learned from the implementation of NSDRM, Gorkha earthquake and other existing/emerging initiatives around Climate Change and Sustainable Development Goals and Sendia Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction.

A Working Committee (WC) led by Joint Secretary of MoHA along the representatives from key government offices, ministries and non-governmental partners with coordinating partner DPNet-Nepal has been formed. In addition, six Thematic Working Groups (TWGs) was established to assess current context of DRR/M and identify the future priorities in line with the principles of SFDRR. **Productive Sector Thematic Working Group** is one of the six thematic working groups formed. It is lead by Ministry of Agricultural Development and co-lead by Ministry of Industry. Each TWG hold a series of consultation meetings with stakeholders. The first consultation meeting of this thematic group was organized on May 22, 2017 in Kathmandu.

Participants:

Participants include seniors officials from key government ministries and departments such as Ministry of Agricultural Development, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Livestock Development, Department of Mines and Geology and others and also experts from FAO, WFP, UNDP, Practical Action, Oxfam and DPNet. In total 30 participants attended the meeting.

Highlights of presentations

Presentation 1: *Developing National DRR Policy and Action Plan* by *Prabin Man Singh*

- Briefly informed on objective, methodology, institutions engage and supporting Disaster Risk Reduction policy and strategic action plan formulation process.

- Explained on four priority areas of Sendia Framework on DRR alongwith its scope, purpose/ expected outcomes, goals and targets.
- Share a draft outline of DRR policy and template of an action plan and provide few guiding questions to trigger the discussion.

Presentation 2: *Understanding Disaster Risk Reduction in Productive Sector* by Mani Ratna Aryal, under Secretary, Ministry of Agricultural Development

- Briefly presented the current situation of DRR in Nepal and 2015 earthquake's impacts on agriculture sector. About 1 million small farming households were affected; 100 hectares of arable lands was damaged; significant amount of crops and livestock were unattended as peoples migrated and agriculture service delivery were affected due to death and inquiry of technicians and damaged of service stations and equipments.
- Provided a list of recurrent disasters and cumulative human loss and casualties and impacts on food securities and education.
- Unpacked productive sector and its contribution to Nepalese's economy. This sector is extremely vulnerable to disaster risk. Productive sector bore the second largest damage and loss equivalent NPR. 178,211 million in 2015 earthquake as in PDNA.
- Provided synopsis of government's legal provisions on DRR on productive sector and listed major bottlenecks such as inadequate data, risk transfer system, early warning system and one door policy for effective disaster risk reduction in Nepal.

Summary of discussions:

List of indicative issues identified:

- **Impacts of disasters in productive sector** - loss of crops and livestock, loss of productive land, abandoning agricultural land, crops and livestock, loss of income and livelihoods, damage to natural resource and migration
- **Institutions and Actors** - Ministry of Agricultural Development, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Livestock Development, Ministry of Supplies, NARC, Department of Agriculture, FNCCI, Food Security cluster, Community based Disaster Risk Management Committee and many others
- **Legal framework** - Agriculture Development Strategy, Contingency plan on Agriculture, Post Disaster Recovery Framework (PDRF), Natural Calamity Relief Act and others .
- **Risk Assessment** – Disaster Preparedness for Business Promotion by CNI

- **Risk transfer and mitigation mechanism** – Crop and Livestock insurance, vaccination, early warning systems, development of flood and drought tolerant varieties, water resources conservation, social safety nets, land use planning and others

Way Forward:

- Organise small write-shops on following themes – risk assessment, financial protection and risk transfer, investment on DRR, response and recovery initiatives.
- Separate sub-groups meetings on industry and tourism sectors stakeholders.

The End.