

**Part A of the Report on  
Progress towards implementing the Hyogo framework for Action**

Reporting Organization	Ministry of Home Affairs, Nepal
Scope of organization's mandate (e.g. national authority for disaster NGO network)	Ministry of Home Affairs in Nepal is mandated as the apex body or official focal point in the sector of Disaster risk management.
Country, region, or other area being reported on	Nepal lies in South Asia. Being a member of SAARC (South Asian Regional Co-operation) Country it is the member of the recently formed SDMC (SAARC Disaster Management Center) where it is to be reported to enhance the regional co-operation. Likewise it is to be reported on the ADRC and ADPC too as an active member of these organizations.
Reporting on own organization or on behalf of others-please state	Being a responsible authority of a sovereign country it deserves the privilege of reporting on own.
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## **Report on Progress towards Implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action**

### **1. Introduction:**

Nepal is facing the myriads of the natural disaster. It is a disaster prone country ranked in the 11th position in the record of seismic prone country of the world. Likewise Nepal is facing the major challenges of the water induced disaster and listed at the 30th position. In addition it also suffers greatly due to disaster like epidemics, landslides, fires, hailstorm, windstorm and cold waves. To ensure the lives and property of the public as well as the other national infrastructures the government has given serious attention to reduce the effects of the disaster. Since a couple of years the government has tried to ensure the minimal impact of disaster on environment. The foremost objective is to adopt a participatory approach in timely and appropriately managing the calamities to minimize its risk at preparedness, response and recovery stages. Honouring and implementing commitments made by the country in international forums Nepal has envisaged the establishment of Disaster safe country. The Ministry of Home Affairs is mandated to play the role of apex body to enhance peoples' capacity to reduce the effects of disaster.

### **2. Background:**

World conference on disaster reduction held in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan in 2005. had made a global consensus on disaster reduction and declared as Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015. Among participation of 168 countries of world Nepal also had taken active participation and made commitments to implement it. The goal of the Hyogo framework is to substantially reduce disaster losses by 2015- in lives, and in the social, economic and environmental assets of communities and countries. Nepal has felt this framework as the most useful and the issues of the priorities.

In order to achieve the goals and act upon the priorities identified in this framework the following tasks have been identified to ensure implementation and follow-up by states primarily responsible; an enabling international environment is vital, incl. strengthened regional capacities furthermore. Main responsibilities of the state are as follows:

- Designate national coordination mechanisms for the implementation and follow up, communicate to the ISDR secretariat.
- National baseline assessments of the status of DRR
- Publish and update a summary of national program for DRR including international cooperation.
- Develop procedure for reviewing national progress including systems for cost benefit analysis and monitoring on risk.

- Consider acceding to, approving or ratifying relevant international legal instruments and to make sure they are implemented.
- Promote the integration of DRR with climate variability and climate change into DRR strategies and adaptation to climate change. Ensure management of risk to geological hazards.

**Implementation of HFA so far:**

**a. Making disaster risk reduction a national priority with a strong national basis for implementation :**

- National Disaster Relief Act, 1982 formulated a 25 member central disaster relief committee under the chairmanship of the Minister of Home Affairs. It also empowers areas for the government to constitute regional, district and local level natural disaster relief committees.
- The government of Nepal co-operates with National and International partners to manage risk. The Ministry of Home Affairs is a national focal point for co-ordination and management in the issue of disaster reduction and management.
- The building code is being gradually introduced in the country.
- The government of Nepal has introduced periodic disaster management plans
- Nepal has prepared the National Action Plan on Disaster Management in Nepal in 1996. There are sectoral policies and plans to address disaster relating to the floods and landslides.
- Government of Nepal allocated Rs. 2.5 billion every year in the annual budget for disaster risk reduction will be doubled from next fiscal year. Besides this, there is a provision of Prime Minister Relief Fund and Central Disaster Assistance Fund for Disaster Management. At present two processes are ongoing for the improvement of Disaster Risk Management at National Planning Level. The first process is the development of national policy on Disaster Management and the revision of the Natural Calamity Act, 1982. The second ongoing process of the development of a National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management in Nepal.
- After the approval of the foresaid proves there will be established a strong institutional basis with fully fledged legal framework.

**b. Identifying, assessing and monitoring risk and enhancing early warning:**

- Government of Nepal established an optimum seismic monitoring system within the department of mines and geology.

- There is a department of Hydrology and Metrology for collecting and disseminating hydrological and metrological information for water resources, agriculture, energy and other development activities.
- Ministry of Home Affairs is a responsible organization for collecting data, dissemination and distribution of information relating to disaster.
- Department of hydrology and metrology issue hydrological and metrological forecasts for the public, mountaineering expeditions, civil aviation, and for the mitigation of natural disaster.

c. **Building a culture of resilience to disaster through knowledge, innovation and education:**

- Awareness raising programs are carrying through governmental and non-governmental organizations for instance: Engineering and Environmental geological mapping(Kathmandu & Pokhara), collect, compile, produce and dissemination of disaster related information.
- Priority is given to measures related to geographical, hydrological and metrological hazards assessment.
- Programmes for enhancement of emergency response (PEER) for enhancing the capabilities and institutionalization of the medical first response (MFR), collapsed structure search and rescue (CSSR) and hospital preparedness for emergencies(HOPE)
- Schools earthquake safety programmes (SESP) is being implemented in 20 schools within Kathmandu valley.
- Earthquake safety day observed every year on Magh 2 (January 15/16) of the Nepalese calendar, memorizing the great earthquake of 1934. Likewise, earthquake safety radio programmes, orientation lectures etc. Programmes are implementing to raise public awareness.
- Government of Nepal has been providing training to civil servants, fire fighter, masons, contractors, technicians, engineers, schools teachers and policy makers.
- The master's level course on disaster management introduced by the institute of engineering (IOE).

d. **Reduce the underline risk factors:**

As the disaster risk reduction lies on multisectoral activities, each sector needs proper programme. Even though there are no separate action plans for each category of disaster, Action plan of 1996 is an integrated disaster action plan.

- Current periodic plan (tenth) is a poverty reduction strategy paper of Nepal. which has aimed the sector of disaster management with clear objectives, strategies and programmes.
  - Government of Nepal has prepared an emergency preparedness and disaster response plan for the health sector.
  - Strengthening disaster preparedness for effective response:
  - Disaster preparedness involves pre-disaster activities that are undertaken within the context of disaster risk management and are based on sound risk analysis. The success of response when disaster does occur depends upon the degree of preparedness.
  - Basically there are two types of institutions involved in disaster management in Nepal. i.e. (i) Formulating policy and co-ordination (ii) implementation of these activities. These institutions work independently within the mandates given to them. However, inter departmental co-ordination also takes places as and when realized. The activities of different agencies are coordinated at the national level by the central disaster relief committee as an apex body in the Ministry of Home Affairs.
  - Ministry of Home Affairs is the key agency for immediate response during disaster. MOHA is the National focal point for mitigating all natural disasters and it does so through its 75 district administration offices. Formulation of national policies and their implementation, preparedness and mitigation of disaster immediate rescue and relief work, data connection and dissemination etc. are the vital function of MOHA.
- e. Strengthening disaster preparedness for effective response:
- Government of Nepal is giving emphasize to disaster preparedness and mitigation activities.
  - Continuation is giving to develop sector specific strategies to address disaster related issues in agriculture and food security, livelihoods, health services, physical infrastructure, water supply and sanitation, information and communication, logistics, gender and social inclusion, human resource development and other cross cutting sectors.
  - Many NGOs and INGOs are active in the field of disaster management and their activities are carried out with wide coverage in disaster prone areas.
  - Nepal has been realizing that preparedness is extremely necessary and has gradually taken hold in decision making circles and there are now several institutions involved in policy-making and co-ordination and implementation.

#### **4. Conclusion**

As we mentioned above, Nepal is one of the active participant among 168 countries gathered in Kobe, Japan in 2005. The Hyogo Framework for Action lays out a detailed ten-year plan to substantially reduce loss of and to make risk reduction an essential component of development policies and programmes. Nepal is committed to implement the Hyogo Framework for action. It is under progress and seems working smoothly.