

**Module:** Public Health Disaster Planning for Districts

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**Author(s):** Mr. Mike Renny Wafula (OPM, Uganda) (Lead Author), Dr. Christopher Orach-Garimoi (MakSPH), Dr. Roy William Mayega (MakSPH), Dr. Simon Mamuya (Muhimbili Univ. SPH), Dr. Joseph Chuwa (MoH, Tanzania), Dr. Tabu Simiyu (Moi Univ. SPH), Dr. G. Kabagambe (LIPHEA)

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# **Policy Framework for Disaster Management**

Compiled By The Eastern Africa Disaster  
Management Core Team

Narrated by Dr. Roy William Mayega

# PART I

## Framework Disaster Risk Reduction

- Risk Reduction emphasises management of disaster risk
- It is the systematic development and application of :
  - policies, strategies and practices
- To
  - minimize vulnerabilities and disaster risks throughout a society,
  - avoid (prevention) or to limit (mitigation and preparedness) adverse impact of hazards,
- within the broad context of  
**SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT**



 bkgunner, flickr

# Policy Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

- Risk Reduction is a mechanism to reduce vulnerability
- It is a multi-sectoral and inter-institutional process
- Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction involves integrating into specific sectors
- Requires synergies between sustainable development and Risk Reduction

# Examples of Disaster Risk Reduction

- Vulnerability and Risk assessment (analysis)
- Institutional capacities and operational abilities.
- Assessment of:
  - the vulnerability of critical facilities,
  - social and economic infrastructure,
  - the use of effective early warning systems, and
  - the application of many different types of scientific, technical, and other skilled abilities
- In many countries, Disaster Risk Reduction has not been prioritised in disaster management
- However, there is a current shift in this direction

# Key Instruments For Disaster Risk Reduction

- National Development Policy
- Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers
- Programmes for implementation of MDGs
- UN-Country Instruments
  - Country Cooperation Frameworks (CCF)
  - United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks

# National Development Policy and Plans

- Disaster risk reduction (DRR) is an all-encompassing entity that involves all sectors at national level
- National plans should therefore be the driving force of DRR
- They
  - Provide an overall development framework for implementing a national vision
  - Identify national development concerns
  - Define development goals and opportunities
  - Bring together all sectoral plans under a single framework (Integration) including risk reduction

# Poverty Reduction Strategies

- Poverty Reduction programmes are articulated in a number documents in a number countries
  - National development policy and plans
  - In some countries there annual economic and social plans
  - The National Budget
  - Public Sector Investment Programmes
  - Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers

# Regional Frameworks

- The AU Framework for Disaster Response: e.g. AU Standby Force, Early Warning, Conflict Resolution, New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD)
- Inter-governmental Agency for Development (IGAD) Early Warning Framework
- The East African Community Early Warning Mechanism
- The Great Lakes Framework for Disaster Response
- The Regional Disaster Management Centre of Excellence

# International Framework

- The Hyogo Framework for Action (2005-2015) which aims to build resilience of nations and communities to disasters
- SPHERE standards as instruments for ensuring quality of response
- International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
- The UN under the UNDP has a number of instruments that provide for integrating Disaster Risk Reduction into development programmes



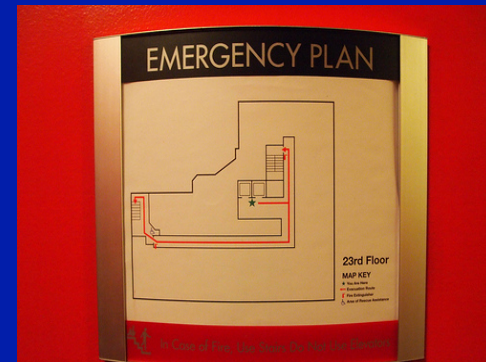
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# Strategic Goals of the Hyogo Framework

1. Effective integration of disaster reduction into national policies, plans and programming at all levels
2. Strengthening of institutions and capacities at all levels
3. Systematic incorporation of risk reduction into the design and implementation of emergency response and recovery plans



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# PART II

## FRAMEWORK FOR DISASTER RESPONSE COORDINATION

- Most Countries in the Region have National policies or Mechanisms for Disaster Management
- How is coordination of disasters implemented in your country?



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# Elements of Post Disaster Phase

- Response
  - Decisions and actions taken during and after disaster
  - These include immediate relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction



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# The Framework Contents....

- Objectives/Goals
- Framework for Coordination
- Logistics and supply
- Communication and information management
- Survivor response mechanisms
- Security and human rights
- Emphasis on most vulnerable groups
- Emergency operations management
- Rehabilitation and reconstruction

# Institutional Framework for Disaster Response

- National Level
- Regional/  
Provincial level
- District
- Sub-district



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# National Level:

- All countries have a central coordinating office
- Some key sector ministries have a coordinating structures
- The coordinating body is the an inter-ministerial committee or task force

# Structure for Emergency Response

## Level

## Structure

National

Office of the Prime Minister  
Sector Ministries/Office of the  
President/ Office of the Vice-  
President/Line Ministry

Zones/Provinces/Regions

District

District/ Disaster Committee

Sub-district

Sub-county/Ward Disaster  
Committee

# Ministry/Sectors in Response

- Sectoral policies on Disaster Response may be sourced from:
  - Health
  - Agriculture/Animal sector
  - Education
  - Roads
  - Water
  - Housing
  - Home/Inter
  - Defense



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- Sub-national by-laws in relation to decentralisation

# Roles/Responsibilities

## National Level

- Policy formulation
- Planning
- Coordination
- Resource mobilisation
- Technical support
- Hazards mapping
- Reporting
- Research



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# Regions/Zones/Provinces/Districts



 Bob McCaffrey, flickr

- Disaster Management Committees
- Regional and provincial levels
- Informal sector specific teams

# Roles of the District

- Assessment
- Planning
- Implementation
- Resource mobilisation
- Information gathering



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# Roles: Sub-district levels

- Village and Community structures
  - First Responders
  - Local Response
  - Awareness
  - Community surveillance

# Other Actors

- UN Agencies
  - UN-OCHA
  - WHO
  - FAO
  - WFP
  - UNICEF
  - UNHCR
- International Agencies and NGOs
- Faith-based organisations
- Community Based Organisations



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# Coordination



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- Coordination is an important cross-cutting element of disaster management
- Need to create a central source of guidance
- Unit of command
  - Establish clear leadership
  - Create coordinating bodies

# Coordination

- Why?
  - Avoiding duplication
  - Avoiding wastage of resources
- Rationale
  - Many actors (UN agencies, NGOs, hosts etc.) involved in service provision
    - Potential for confusion, competition, duplication



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*"Too many cooks in the kitchen"*

# Coordination Cont...

- Goal is to achieve greatest impact through management and integration of activities
- Ensure priorities are shared
- Rationalise services by establishing common standards among all actors (UN agencies NGOs, hosts)
- Ensure communication occurs amongst stakeholders



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# Coordination

- All actors should work in harmony with the established policy framework
- **Disasters are Political**
- Policy emphasizes the Role of Government
- The Role of the Executive



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# Challenges

- Do you know any challenges likely to affect coordination of disaster management?

# Challenges of Coordination

- Multiplicity of Actors
- Divergent Views and policies
- Divergent interests
- Linkages
- Resources

# End!

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