

CONSULTATIONS WITH PROVINCIAL PLANNING COMMISSION FOR FACILITATION OF EFFECTIVE POLICY MAKING AND ENSURING MAINSTREAMING OF DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT INTO THE DEVELOPMENT PLANS OF THE PROVINCES



Group Photo after Event, Gandaki Province. © 2022 IOM Nepal

INTRODUCTION

Improved capacity and understanding in national efforts to mainstream Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) into provincial policies and programs is pivotal to realize sustainable and climate resilient communities. With delegation of authority to Provincial Assemblies that owns the endorsement of Government's policies, programs, provincial laws, and budget, it will be key to establish a synergistic effort of Knowledge Building Institutional Change, Transborder Dialogue Facilitation, Collaboration, Planning, Sustainable Settlements and Conservation approaches.

The Provincial Planning Commissions (PPC) are the apex body at the provinces that are established with a mandate to formulate and develop plans and programs for their respective provinces. These plans and programs closely tie with the actions and vision of the provincial government in ensuring and developing the provinces in terms of resources, human development, and economy.

With an overall aim to mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) at different levels, IOM – UN Migration

through its project titled “Promoting Action for Disaster Risk Governance and working to Achieve Preparedness for Risk Reduction through Technical Assistance in Nepal (PARIWARTAN)” with funding support of “United States Agency for International Development/Bureau for Humanitarian Affairs (USAID/BHA)” conducted primary level consultation meetings with Provincial Planning Commissions (PPCs) in the year 2020. This first round of introductory meeting/consultation was conducted in 2020 under the leadership of provincial planning commission and representation of Provincial Government to share and discuss on the process and mainstreaming DRRM into the planning process and policy documents. Suggestions and recommendation were collectively shared. This effort was continued in the second round of the consultations and technical workshops to update and mostly follow up on the recommendation received from the first round and provide technical assistance to Provincial Planning Commissions (PPCs) to mainstream DRRM in the formulation of the periodic plan and programs.

OBJECTIVES

The specific objectives of the program are:



To explore approaches including collaboration, planning, sustainable settlements, and provide consultative recommendations and evidences to integrate DRRM into provincial plans/policies

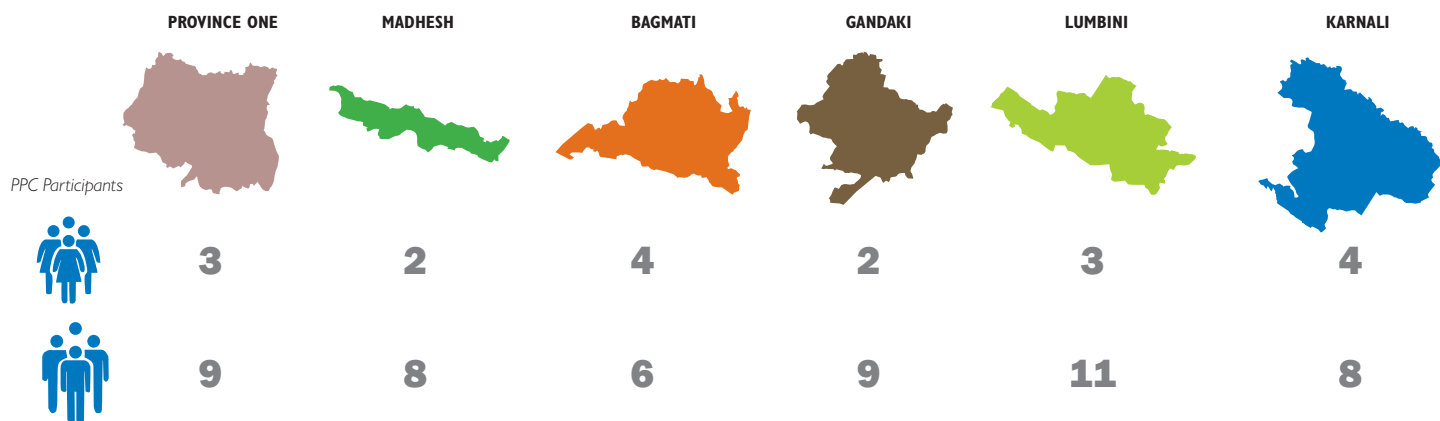


To jointly agree on sectors of technical assistance and capacity building facilitation from IOM

ROUND I

This first round of consultation was conducted virtually amidst the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 to share and discuss on the process and mainstreaming DRRM into the planning process and policy in provinces except for Sudurpashchim as the PPC was yet not formed.

Gender-disaggregated Data of Participants



RECOMMENDATIONS

Province I

- Collaborate for assessment of research papers produced on DRRM for localization of the recommendations to be incorporated into development plans and programs.
- Fund individual and institutional DRRM research institutions utilizing the provincial DRRM fund.
- Assess local and indigenous knowledge and skills and analyze the gaps to reinforce these existing capacities and implement in developmental activities for effective disaster risk reduction and management.
- Establish provincial training centers which would specialize in providing first responders trainings and other aspects related to DRRM capacity building.
- Formulate a standard “institution and working module” for better management through aspects of human resources, financial knowledge and technical capacity.
- Foster bilateral dialogue with the Government of India given DRRM issue has trans-border aspects as all river tributaries are shared with India focusing on monsoon preparedness.
- Formulate inter-provincial agency for discourse among all three tiers of governance, civil societies and communities on DRRM.

Madhesh Province

- Develop education curriculum and training to increase DRRM experts in-house and for Provincial authorities.
- Build capacity of local government to mainstream DRRM in local plan and policies.
- Foster bilateral dialogue with the Government of India given DRRM issue has trans-border aspects as all river tributaries are shared with India focusing on monsoon preparedness.
- Increase financial and technical capacity to build dams to reduce monsoon risks.
- Implement proper building codes for resilient infrastructures.
- Implement sustainable urban and rural planning to reduce haphazard settlement and industrialization.
- Prioritize conservation of Chure range.

Bagmati Province

- Fund individual and institutional DRRM research utilizing the provincial fund.
- Formulate inter-provincial agency for discourse among all three tiers of governance, civil societies and communities on DRRM.
- Collaborate with IOM for mapping out the dynamics of disaster and sectoral linkage for effective planning of development activities.
- Implement proper building codes for resilient infrastructures.

Gandaki Province

- Formulate working groups for monitoring policies and programs for cohesive DRRM intervention across province.
- Collaborate with development partners for technical, human and financial resource for investing in DRRM activities.
- Prepare risk reduction model by identifying the different degrees of risks associated with development activities.
- Adhere to environment risk assessment, impact assessment and future risk reduction while developing project and other development intervention.

Lumbini Province

- Forge partnership with DRRM experts with international experience and expertise for technical support to PPC members.
- Reconstruct multipurpose community centers located in disaster prone areas.
- Manage excess sand and mud and their disposal during development of high scale infrastructural intervention.
- Plan for more action to manage the increasing landslide such as early warning system.
- Identify rehabilitation as a priority and work to address the issues of displacement.
- Prioritize conservation of Mahabharat range.

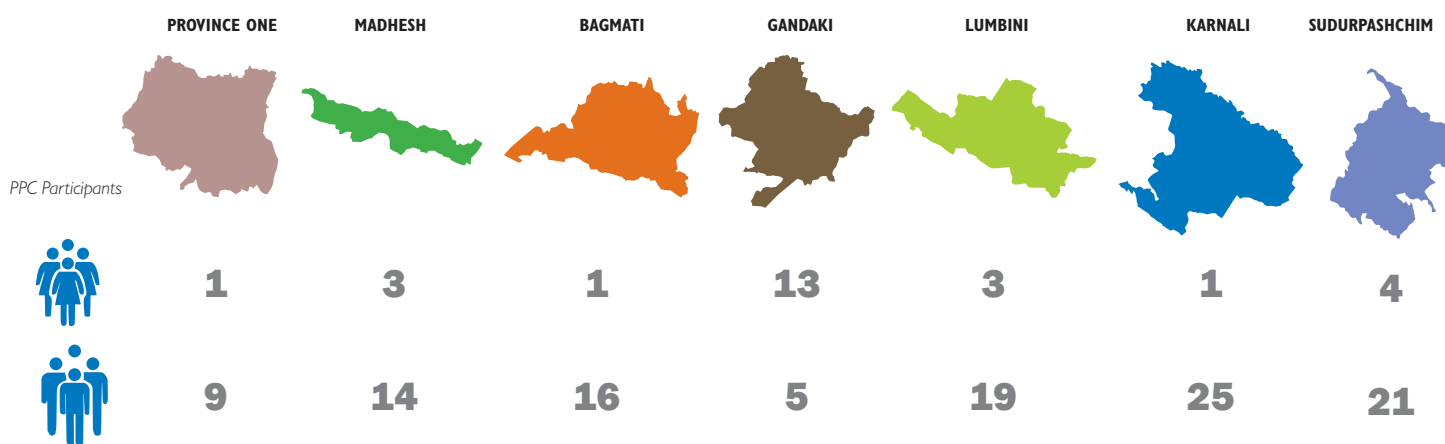
Karnali Province

- Appoint disaster envoys for inter-provincial knowledge sharing on DRRM.
- Incorporation of risk informed planning, earthquake resilient infrastructures and hazard risk zone mapping and visionary planning for development of safer settlement for community in the approach paper/periodic planning.
- Intensive consultation on geo-technical, environmental, and engineering aspects for implementation of infrastructure activities for the sustainability.
- Provision of insurance of communities against disaster events can be replicated as the best practice.

ROUND II

The second round of the consultations and technical workshops were held in 2021-22 to update and follow up on the recommendation received from the first round and provide technical assistance to Provincial Planning Commissions (PPCs).

Gender-disaggregated Data of Participants



Province I

UPDATES

- In terms of Provincial DRRM documents drafting, the Emergency Preparedness and Response Plans (EPRP) and DRRM policy and strategic work plan has been finalized and endorsed.
- The chief minister emergency response center has been established at 14 local levels.
- MoAL has supported a fire extinguisher, Machine, Ambulance, and Police Van to every 14 local levels.
- The province government has planned to initiate a multipurpose research and training center.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Funding and technical human resource capacity gap is witnessed, Hence, the meeting recommended for various private and government sector support and partnership.
- Capacity building of the human resources at the local level to update and upgrade aligning with developments in DRRM mainstreaming.
- Institutionalization/reinforcement of the indigenous knowledge for effective disaster management.
- Support from NDRRMA is required to prepare the essential DRRM documents such as “institutional and working module”, “hazard mapping and “DRM profile”.
- Cross border social dialogues is important to foster the dialogues with Government of India, given that DRRM issue has trans-border challenges/issues around river basin and its tributaries.

Madhesh Province

UPDATES

- DRRM related simulation exercises/activities to the security forces was conducted.
- Budget allocation for DRRM mainstreaming is done i.e. (12%) direct allocation to areas of disaster management and 18% indirect.
- Provincial DRM policy has been prepared.
- The building codes in terms of the infrastructural development is provisioned in the law.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Prioritization of preparedness is equally essential corresponding with response activities.
- The tracking/surveillance of the DRRM and its mainstreaming needs to be strengthened.
- Support from the federal government is required for the bilateral dialogues with India in relation to the transboundary DRRM challenges.
- The unused government land and infrastructure should be maintained and re-used for multi-purpose DRRM activities such as warehousing, safe evacuation spaces.
- Recommended to develop provincial risk and hazard mapping. Skilled human resources for developing the said is a gap.
- Disaster sensitive budgeting should be introduced in the province.
- The government action on emergency response should be swift.
- Multi-year plan should incorporate all disaster sensitivities with prioritization on the recurring incidences such as landslides.

Bagmati Province

UPDATES

- Disaster mapping has been completed for all municipalities.
- Capacity development exercise of Provincial police.
- Coordination of all tiers of government is strengthened and formal and informal meetings with local level and National planning commission is frequently discussed.
- 28 local level periodic plans have been developed.
- Multiple requests have been forwarded to the federal government to promulgate land use and land use plans.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- DRR needs to be integrated to all activities of development from sustainable perspective.
- Disaster and risks should be identified in collaboration with local community.
- Provincial Disaster Management Authority is important for Disaster Management and related activities.
- The periodic plan for all the local levels needs to be developed.
- Research and scientific studies needs to be promoted and adherence to the scientific studies needs to be ensured.
- Collaborating with universities for the research works would be beneficial and ensure the experts research.
- Important to prioritize non-statutory industrial zones, especial economic zones, industrial villages.
- There should be a coordinated environment between the ministries and commissions to ensure the implementation of provincial plan.
- Each ministry should appoint a disaster focal person and mainstream disaster in their annual policies and programs.
- Review first periodic plan and ensure scope of disaster management in the second period plan.
- Conduct studies on the increase in disaster risk due to the projects/ activities undertaken by government.
- Adopt inclusive DRR Policy and work on whole of a society approach.
- Engage Private sector and promote proven indigenous knowledge and practice.
- Promote early warning system to save lives and property.



Consultation in Progress, Bagmati Province. © 2022 IOM Nepal



Consultation in Progress, Bagmati Province. © 2022 IOM Nepal

Gandaki Province

UPDATES

- Periodic plans, and strategic plans have been developed.
- Monsoon preparedness and response plan has been developed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Provincial risk profile formulation is needed.
- DRRM trainings are important in the province to share the information on Disaster management as well as to increase the knowledge of the local stakeholders.

Lumbini Province

UPDATES

- Periodic plans, strategic plans, and monsoon preparedness and response plan have been developed.
- For the partnership with national and international DRRM experts, the province has been coordinating with the feral government.
- Allocation of budget at the province level to respond to the events of disaster.
- Emergency funds is allocated at the province.
- Emergency Operation center has been established.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Support from development partners on DRRM is essential.
- Detailed assessment should be carried for any large scale development projects.
- Capacity building trainings on DRRM is required.
- Disaster risk mapping for the province needs to be developed.



Consultation in Progress, Lumbini Province. © 2022 IOM Nepal



Group Photo, Sudurpashchim Province. © 2022 IOM Nepal

Karnali Province

UPDATES

- To enhance the multi-tiers government discourse on Disaster Management, inter-ministerial discussions are held.
- For the provision of the safer settlement, the federal government has developed the building codes.
- The province has provisioned the insurance of the communities, against the disaster events. For example: Provision of fire insurance.
- Emergency Operation Centre is established in the province.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- DRRM should be introduced as a curriculum in the education system and create students as envoys for further preparedness.
- Disaster risk and hazard mapping of the province should be developed to identify the risk and vulnerabilities of the province.
- Technical expertise at the province needs to be capacitated to prepared various Disaster Management document (eg; Disaster Risk profile).
- The implementation of the building codes in the development work needs to be firmly followed and monitored, especially on the aspects of road construction.
- Provincial inter-departmental and inter-ministerial coordination is important for intensive consultation on geo-technical, environmental and engineering aspects for infrastructural development activities.
- The provision of the insurance against the events of disaster should be continued as well in terms of the other natural hazards.
- Functioning of EOC needs to be strengthened.
- There is a need of clear roles and clarities of the provincial government department for Disaster Management activities as Disaster Management is cross-cutting in all provincial level activities.
- PPC recommended that disaster audit could be introduced, to keep the track of trends, types, effects, way forwards of the disaster/hazard.

Sudurpaschim Province

UPDATES

- PPC has drafted 5 years periodic plan and committed to include the suggestion from federal government in the plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Accurate data and mobilization of security forces of the provinces through PDMC for response is recommended.
- Provincial coordination and collaboration in terms of wildlife reserves of the province needs to be enhanced for effective DRM and risk reduction in the province.
- Water induced disaster is a cross-border challenge and needs federal level support in strengthening cross-border dialogues.

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