Regional Capacity Development Workshop:  
Mainstreaming DRR in Sustainable Development Planning  
Afghanistan  
Country Presentation

13-16 September 2016  
New Delhi, India  
Mohd Q. Haidari
Afghanistan
Key Disaster Impacts: Overview

• Earthquakes, flooding, drought, landslides, and avalanches & man-made disasters are most common disasters in the country

• It is estimated that at least 6,000 families (over 42,000 individuals) across 21 provinces have been affected by avalanches, flooding, landslides and heavy snowfall since February 2014

• 200 to 350 Afghans have been buried (killed) many families have been displaced along with loss of agriculture land and regular income in rain induced landslides in 2014 in Aab-e Barik District of Badakhshan

• Out of 34 provinces, 32 provinces are prone to one more disaster.
Current Status Mainstreaming
DRR in Sustainable Development Planning

• Afghanistan is in the process of elaborating SDGs into National Strategic Planning.
• The idea of enabling environment is created among policy and decision makers as a result of their participation in regional and international processes.
• Afghanistan being a member of HFA and SFDRR Process, has strongly felt to make development resilient to disaster. Some processes have already been initiated.
• A MoU had been signed among ANDMA, MRRD, FOCUS and ADPC to start the process of mainstreaming back in 2014.
• The MoU helps government to facilitate the mainstreaming in development planning process with stakeholders.
• 2-3 National Level workshops and conferences were organized in country on mainstreaming to enhance the engagement of stakeholders in mainstreaming process.
Efforts to Mainstream DRR in Sustainable Development Planning

• Afghanistan has created the environment for disaster resilient development by promulgating disaster management act in 2012, creating the institutions for disaster management on a National to sub-national levels.

• GIRoA has started the process of Mainstreaming DRR in development planning in 2012 by organizing National Level conference on Mainstreaming and created a Political will among key decision making stakeholders on it.

• A MoU was signed among ANDMA, MRRD, FOCUS and ADPC Bangkok for starting the process of Mainstreaming.
Efforts to Mainstream DRR in Sustainable Development Planning

- Current development planning process was reviewed by the technical support of ADPC, Bangkok with local facilitation of Focus Humanitarian Assistance.

- A status report was prepared to understand the process of planning and find the entry point for mainstreaming in different key development sectors.

- A Mainstreaming guidebook was prepared on mainstreaming process and awareness in Afghanistan.

- A decision maker’s conference was organized in Dubai to share the steps of mainstreaming in Afghanistan. It was jointly facilitated by FOCUS and ADPC to see the way forward for implementation of mainstreaming process in Afghanistan.
Challenges in Mainstreaming DRR in Development Planning

Challenges:

- Afghanistan has the weak institutional and governance mechanism for disaster management.
- National legislative and sector policies does not support or contain the element of risk reduction process as policy statement to be implemented.
- There are other priorities in the country such as; security, unemployment, food insecurity. Hence the focus is not much on the issue of disaster management.
- There is no proper assessment and documentation process for calculating the disaster losses to project in the national process and budget loss.
- There is no formal risk assessment process in the country to map out the proneness of the disasters.
- Most of the development projects are donor driven and it does carry the element of risk reduction.
Challenges in Mainstreaming DRR in Development Planning

• There is no capacity available in the country for disaster risk reduction
• Disaster risk reduction is still a list priority than the emergency response due the increased frequency of disasters.
• There is no separate institutional mechanism for risk reduction in the current institutional framework.
• National budget does not provide the space for disaster risk reduction.
• There is not much awareness among policy makers about the risk reduction framework.
• There is not much support from the Regional processes in the area of risk reduction in the country.
• Luck of Institutions providing education and learning in the area of disaster management in the country.
• Legislation for land use planning in the country for risk management.
Support Required for Mainstreaming DRR in Sustainable Development

• What we plan to do in the future is:
  • To raise awareness amongst policy and decision makers about the importance of risk reduction and resilient development in the country.
  • To develop the national legislative and sectoral policies to support the disaster resilient development.
  • To develop the capacity of National Government officials in area of mainstreaming for sustainable development planning.
  • To develop the institutional mechanisms for mainstreaming in each line ministries to promote and incorporate the mainstreaming process in key sectoral ministries.
  • Provide the technical and financial resources for implementation of mainstreaming process at national and sub national levels.
Support Required for Mainstreaming DRR in Sustainable Development

• Support in preparing the technical guidelines for mainstreaming in each key ministries
• Advocate for Afghanistan in all national and international forum for extended support in area of disaster risk reduction and support the resilient development
• Support in development in National Disaster Management plan in aligned with Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) with strong element to promote resilient development
• Organize the exposure visit for Afghan key government officials to the model countries for practical learning and understand the successful model of mainstreaming
• Technical support for organizing the conferences on mainstreaming at national and sub national level for keep this momentum going and regular advancement of knowledge and skills in risk resilient development
• Establish institutional mechanism and knowledge for risk assessment
Thanks
Tashakor