



The Islamic Republic of Iran

Sharing of experiences and best practices in
South and South-West Asia
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Addressing:

Training Workshop-cum-Expert Meeting on
Addressing Disaster Risks Specific to South and
South-West Asia

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Asia and the Pacific...

- Asia and the Pacific is the world's most disaster-prone region, and have borne the brunt of numerous catastrophic disasters. Last year alone, **59.3 million persons** were affected by disasters, and the region incurred US\$ 45.1 billion worth of economic damage

General

- The Islamic Republic of Iran is situated in south-west Asia
- covers an area of 1,648,000 km² with over 80 million population
- Located on the world dry belt, 60 percent of Iran is covered with mountains and the remaining part is desert and arid lands. Due to its location, Iran is a disaster prone country.
- The Islamic Republic of Iran has learnt from its own experiences of dealing with a range of devastating disasters; Major natural disaster include frequent serious earthquakes, floods, droughts, landslides, desertification, deforestation, sand and dust storms and the like.

SO

In the last two decades, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran took a number of steps and has done some important measures in line with Disaster Risk Reduction and Crisis Management in **National** and **International** level

In National level That caused enhancing national disaster management capacity. This has resulted in strong mitigation, disaster preparedness and emergency response capabilities.

- 1- Forming “**National Disaster Management Organization(NDMO)**”,
- 2-Forming “ **Supreme council**”,
- 3- Forming “**Specialized Working groups**”,
- 4- Forming “**Disaster Management Coordination Council** ”
- 5- Integration the **Natural Disaster Management and Disaster Risk Reduction** affairs in the development plans

In 2008, the **National Disaster Management Organization(NDMO)**,

was formed in order to utilize the national, regional and local capacities to confront the natural and unexpected disasters as well as creating an integrated management system for policy making, planning, coordinating research and executive activities in a cohesive manner, concentrated information dissemination and supervision over different phases of disaster management as well as rehabilitation and reconstruction of disaster stricken areas.

The NDMO is affiliated to the Ministry of Interior and the

The functions of the organization are as follows:

- **Development of policies and plans of action related to the four phases of disaster management**, and planning for provision or making possible use of the potential & capacities pertaining to the governmental, non-Governmental organizations and the Armed forces during the preparedness and response operations, in order to be presented to the Cabinet of Ministers for approval.
- **Facilitate coordination and create cohesion among the various organizations in the country** regarding the four phases of disaster management.
- **Arrange for review and develop policies and comprehensive plans on culture, research, training, dissemination of information**, as well as rehearsal and testing activities in the four phases of disaster management in order to be proposed to the Supreme council.
- **Strengthen regional and international cooperation, exchange of views** and make use of experiences and the know how of countries and international organizations in relation with the four phases of disaster management, as well as representation of the country in the international communities with coordination and collaboration of related organizations

- **Documentation of disasters**, the measures taken and the analysis made in this regard.
- **Planning and coordinating the organization and training of the entire people-centered organizations** including non-governmental institutions, Basij forces and volunteers in the four phases of the disaster management.
- **Follow up the ratifications and decisions of the Supreme council**
- **Coordination and supervision over development and expansion of effective prevention systems**, retrofitting and seismic improvement of constructions, infrastructures, buildings and crucial and important lifelines as well as reconstruction and improvement of the old textures, development of reinsurance and compensatory methods including different insurances, financial support and encouraging mechanisms in cooperation with the related organizations.
- **Supporting the development and expansion of active scientific and consultative institutes** and benefiting from their collaboration for the purpose of standardization and safety control of products, services, building and infrastructural facilities, as well as supervision of approved standards that should be taken into account.
- **Develop the system of national work division for enhancing the culture of safety for each member of the community** with cooperation of the Ministries, organizations, institutions and the organs related to disaster management in order to be presented to the Cabinet of Ministers for approval.
- **Develop directives on determining the level of disasters** as being of national, regional or local significance, including emergency situations and the methods by which the crises resulting from unexpected disasters are announced.

- Provide directives to related organizations on procedures of the emergency and contingency plans that can be executed in the event of or likely occurrence of a disaster.
- Coordinate deployment of the entire potentials and capacities of both governmental or non – governmental organizations and the Armed forces which are required by the disaster management during the disaster response phase.
- Develop draft on rules and regulations concerning the pre-emptive measures to address abusers, rioters and plunderers during the disaster with cooperation of the Judiciary and the Armed forces General staff to be submitted to the cabinet of ministers for approval, the consequent follow up and monitoring the implementation.
- Develop operating procedures and guidelines with cooperation of related organizations on receiving and distribution of national, international and foreign aids to be submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers for approval and the subsequent follow up.
- Develop a comprehensive information management system assisted by information networks of the scientific and research centers and the responsible executive organizations as well as establishing the Disaster Information Management Center in the organization in order to provide timely warning before occurrence of the likely disaster together with sound dissemination of information to the authorities and the public at the time of disaster.
- Overseeing at the highest level and evaluating the activities of the related organizations on the four phases of disaster management (particularly preparedness and response) in order to be reported to the Supreme council.

Supreme council

In order to coordinate the activities of the organizations and institutes affiliated to the three State governing branches, the Armed Forces and the other institutes and agencies, as well as for enacting of regulations and standards governing the four phases of disaster management, **the Supreme council of the National Disaster Management** (hereinafter referred to as the Supreme council) is formed.

The **Supreme council is chaired by the President** and its membership will include relevant Ministers, Mayor of Tehran, Commander of Armed Forces, one of the deputies of the Speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, First deputy of the Judiciary, Heads of **Planning and Budget Organization**, the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting Corporation, Head of Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran, care taker of the Imam Khomeini Relief Committee, Head of State Meteorological Organization, Head of Housing Foundation of the Islamic Revolution, as well as the Head of the Organization.

Specialized Working groups

14 Specialized Working groups under the overall supervision of the Ministry of Interior and headed by their ministries are responsible for managing, coordinating, administrating all activities related to Natural Hazards in their Organizations. The Specialized Working groups are as follows:

- 1- Communications
- 2- Health and medical care
- 3- Droughts, Vegetation diseases and cold
- 4- Transportation, lifelines and weather disasters
- 5- NGO's
- 6- Recovery , Hazardous material, Insurance, Firefighting
- 7- Security
- 8- Flood, power, sanitations and sea level rise
- 9- Fuel and oil supply
- 10- Earthquake and landslide
- 11- Reconstruction
- 12- Environment hazards
- 13- Media and public Awareness
- 14- Rescue and relief and public Training

These working groups are at three levels: national and provincial.

Disaster Management Coordination Council

Disaster Management Coordination Council in the provinces is formed under the chairmanship of Governor Generals and Governors in the provinces and cities respectively. Its membership includes the entire related organizations.

**Integration the Natural Disaster
Management and Disaster Risk
Reduction affairs in the
development plans, in Planning and
Budget Organization (PBO)**

Plan and Budget Organization (PBO)

The Plan and Budget Organization of Iran (PBO) is one of the largest governmental establishments in Iran. PBO is a state body whose head is appointed by the president. This organization has a variety of goals and duties, including the evaluation of the country's resources, the preparation of its medium and long term development plans and policies, the preparation of annual budgets, and the monitoring and evaluation of work done under the implemented plans.

The Five Year Economic, Social and Cultural Development Plan of the country is prepared by the close cooperation of executive body of the government.

Objectives & Duties

Enjoying a comprehensive and modern organization, PBO shoulders a variety of responsibilities in the framework of rules and regulations:

1. Planning

- 1.1. To conduct economic social research and study to assess the national resources in order to prepare the required plans and budgets; and
- 1.2. To prepare medium and long term plans to achieve sustainable development in the country.

2. Budgeting

- 2.1. To provide the Economic Council with proposed policies concerning total budget of the country; and
- 2.2. To prepare an annual budget of the country with cooperation of the concern bodies.

3. Monitoring & Evaluation

- 3.1. To monitor constantly the implementation of the plans as well as their annual progress; and
- 3.2. To monitor and evaluate the efficiency and performance of the executive bodies of the country; and
- 3.3. To monitor and evaluate the development plans throughout the country.

4. Technical Affairs

In the Fifth **Development Plan of the country** 2011-2015, special attention was paid to integration of Natural Disaster Management and Disaster Risk Reduction, DRR, in all sectors of the five year development plan, and all executive bodies and organizations are obliged to follow all the detailed instructions in their own terms of references/duties. At this point by final approval of the annual budget of all the governmental bodies by PBO.

Technical Affairs

To establish a technical and executive system for nation-wide development projects through codification of implementation and technical criteria, publications.

some of them are as below;

No.55 General Technical Specification for Building Construction;

No. 89 General Technical Specification for Hospital Electrical Installations;

No. 108 Technical Criteria Specification of Irrigation & Drainage;

No. 110-1 General Technical Specification and Implementation Procedures for Electrical Installation of Buildings “Low & Medium Voltage”;

No. 120 Concrete Code of Iran (CCI);

No.124 General Technical Specification for underground Water Reservoirs;

No.128 General Technical Specification for Building Mechanical Installations;

No.136 Construction Materials, Master Plan of the country;

No.138 Maintenance Engineering for Buildings Mechanical Installations;

No.139 Bridge Loading Code;

No.161 Roads Geometric Design Codes;

No.167 Regulations Design Criteria for Implementation of Building Detailed Typical Specifications;

No.195 General Technical Specification for City Road Lighting Installation Design;

No.178 Criteria for Office Building Design;

No.184 Hot Climate Concrete;
No. 203 Design Criteria for Urban Landscaping;
No. 228 Structural Welding Code;
No. 232 Schools Design Criteria;
No. 234 Iran Highway Asphalt Paving Code;
No. 235-2 General Technical Specification for Silos Electrical Installations;
No. 240 Rules & Regulations for Architectural Competitions;
No. 245 Design Criteria for Movie Theaters **important**
No. 246 Architectural & Urban Design Criteria for Handicapped;
No. 264 Connections Codes for Steel Structures;
No. 267 Roads Safety Code of the Country;
No. 270 Design Criteria for Public Libraries;
No. 279 General Technical Specification of Earth works for Railways;
No. 280 General Technical Specification for Roads Maintenance

In International level

- Receiving the authorization of establishment and operation of
Asia and Pacific center for development of Disaster
Information Management “APDIM”

About APDIM mission and Vision and its contribution

Regarding the session, I would like to have a very short statement to portrait the APDIM functions particularly in bridging information gaps in the field of disaster risk reduction which is in turn contributing to economic losses decrease, poverty eradication as well as helping to realize SDGs through South-South Cooperation and networking of networks and creating centers of excellence and community of practices under the umbrella and standard framework of United Nations (e.g. UNGGI and other standards) in a harmonized and synergized manner. In fact, Iran's capacity and experience as well as financial and administrative supports from any member states is of high importance in order to build partnerships in mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into national strategies and policies for poverty eradication.

Why a regional center for Disaster Information Management?

There is need for enhancement of information capacity in the region to achieve the following goals and objectives:

- Disaster risk assessment and mapping including better understanding of hazards and vulnerabilities
- Hazard monitoring and early warning gaps , with a view on increasing complex hazards situations
- Disaster response and recovery information, with a view on lasting impact of disasters
- Bridging information and communication technology gaps
- Filling institutional gaps at regional level

UNESCAP Resolution 67/4

ESCAP 67th Session in May 2011 adopted Resolution 67/4 on the establishment of Asia and Pacific Centre for Development of Disaster Information Management

Strategic directions:

- Contribution to development of disaster information management capacities at national and regional levels
- Holistic approach in dealing with disaster information management with due attention to hazards, vulnerabilities and exposure the context of development
- Building on existing regional capacities, experiences and initiatives in a complementary way
- Focus on more disaster prone sub-regions e.g. South and West and North and Central Asia

APDIM services

The following services are expected to be provided by APDIM in the area of disaster information management:

- Contribution to development of methodologies and tools for integrated disaster risk recording (hazards, vulnerabilities, exposure)
- Training and research
- Communication and publication
- Development of and support to regional and sub-regional disaster information networks
- Supporting local and national capacity development initiatives and programs
- Providing emergency information management services
- Harmonizing information from different sources, particularly for transboundary disasters, and the role of APDIM in filling in these gaps.

I am pleased to inform you that the Centre will have a particular focus on disaster information for transboundary hazards.

APDIM will also benefit from institutional capacities of the APDIM partnership group, and draw upon the expertise, facilities and resources for capacity building offered by centers of excellence in Iran.

These include the Building and Housing Research Centre (BHRC), the National Cartographic Centre (NCC), the International Institute of Seismology and Earthquake Engineering the Department of Environment (IIEES), as well as Tehran University.



**International Conference on Combating
Sand and Dust Storms**

**Challenges and Practical Solutions
Tehran, the Islamic Republic of Iran
(3-5 July 2017)**

- Met in Tehran to exchange views, share experiences and best practices on combating Sand and Dust Storms and to contribute to global and regional efforts to put forward a concerted and collective response to this serious challenge.
- Agree to cooperate on combating Sand and Dust Storms at sub-regional regional, and international levels
- Share information, lessons learnt and best practices, exchange views and expertise, develop mitigation and adaptation policies and measures, exchange technical and monitored data and forecasting information to reduce the risk of Sand and Dust Storms.
- Recognize the role of the Asian and Pacific Center for the Development of Disaster Information Management (APDIM), regional seas programs to develop human and institutional capacity through strengthened regional cooperation in disaster information management

Iran's capabilities

The Islamic Republic of Iran has learnt from its own experiences of dealing with a range of devastating disasters; including earthquakes, sand and dust storms, droughts, and floods. We would like to share these learning with other countries in Asia-Pacific for them to benefit from. One example I will highlight is that of the earthquake in December 2003, which struck the ancient city of Bam in Iran. Nearly 80% of this historical city was destroyed, with over 31,000 precious lives lost. Following rescue and relief operations, the reconstruction of Bam was concertedly undertaken following the 'build back better' modality. This precious experience and achievement gained by the I.R. Iran was proudly shared with other countries in the region. Apart from that, Iran has informed ESCAP of its readiness to share its experiences with other countries in the region in the framework of training programs on the recovery and restoration of historic-cultural monuments and retrofitting of buildings, enabling these structures to stand strong in the face of natural disasters including earthquakes.

While sharing such innovative tools and techniques will be of benefit to the wider region, Iran will also appreciate gaining from different national experiences and approaches of dealing with disasters in Asia-Pacific so that all nations in the region could enjoy better life through collaboration.

For instance, in the case of the devastating **Gorkha** Earthquake which struck Nepal in early 2015, cultural monuments, amongst other structures, sustained intense damage. APDIM has committed to support the development of Nepal's detailed risk profile study and provide technical assistance in retrofitting of cultural monuments and heritage, resorting to the experience drawn from Bam earthquake.

Regional contributions are supposed to commit in near future

Sharing some experiences with Nepal
Sharing some experiences with Bhutan

Our specialist in BHRC had have some site visits and meeting in Nepal and Bhutan.

They have done some arrangements and have had some agreements in order to start some projects in related to strengthening capacities for Disaster Risk Management and preparing against crisis in future.

We hope this efforts and measures result in successful practices and spread out to other projects and other countries in the region.

And we hope to hold the formal initiation ceremony for APDIM in near future.

And we hope to overcome the challenges in the region with perseverance and persistence and with increasing the cooperation and partnership.

Thank you very much
for your attention and
patience