

SUDRIDH Project: Learning from Program Execution and Future Planning

November 9, 2023



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Introduction to SUDRIDH Project

Strengthen Disaster Governance System and DRRM Capacity Development - SUDRIDH

March 15, 2023, to December 31, 2023

- Various policies and legal frameworks exist, yet coordination and implementation gaps persist in disaster risk reduction and management.
- A previous grant of USAID Tayar Nepal ‘Chhemata Avibridhhi,’ led to the formation of thematic groups and the establishment of platforms for knowledge sharing and discussion
- During this phase, USAID Tayar Nepal is assisting DPNet in strengthening the Disaster Governance System and enhancing DRRM Capacity Development. The focus lies on capacity building, institutional development, and establishing comprehensive DRRM mechanisms at the federal, provincial, and municipal levels.

Introduction to SUDRIDH Project

Strengthen Disaster Governance System and DRRM Capacity Development - SUDRIDH
March 15, 2023, to December 31, 2023

- Building advocacy and implementation of plans, policy, and promotion of learning and sharing clusters on DRRM at National and Sub-National Levels
 - Policy Dialogues for Policy Advocacy and Implementation Status at the National Level
 - Policy Dialogue and Learning/Sharing for Implementing and Strengthening DRR Policies and Strategies at the Provincial Level
 - Participatory review, reflection, and planning workshop.
 - Field-level mentoring/technical back-stopping.
- National Level Conference on DRRM
- Knowledge Sharing and Data Exchange
 - Knowledge Sharing and Data Exchange through the Online Resources Center (ORC) and Virtual DRR Platform (VDRRP)

Policy Dialogues for Policy Advocacy and Implementation Status at National Level

- i) Mobilization of multi-stakeholders for disaster response in a coordinated manner,
- ii) Providing Psycho-social counseling services to the disaster-affected persons,
- iii) Capacity building, collaboration, and partnership for strengthening disaster risk governance at the federal, provincial, and local levels,
- iv) Promoting comprehensive risk-informed private investments in DRR for resilience,
- v) Promoting disaster risk transfer/disaster risk financing,
- vi) Effectiveness of early warning system, and
- vii) Market system resilience.

Project Activity	Learnings	Progress Made	Future Plan
<p>Activity 1.1 Policy Dialogues for Policy Advocacy and Implementation Status at National Level</p> <p>Event 1: Policy Dialogue on Psychosocial Counselling Services to the Disaster-affected People</p> <p>A policy dialogue was conducted on psychosocial counseling services to Disaster-affected people on May 8, 2023, at Hotel Himalaya, Lalitpur.</p> <p>Total participants: 28 (9 women, 19 men)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasizing the provision of psychological assistance to survivors of disasters. • Striving to extend the integration of psychological support from our organization to the individual level. • Guaranteeing the involvement of marginalized individuals in the decision-making process. • Incorporating policies and programs aimed at enhancing institutional capacity for psychological and mental support into mainstream initiatives. • Launch efforts to cultivate a proficient workforce through training, dialogues, and discussions to cater to the needs of marginalized individuals. 	<p>Continued inclusion of the concerns and essence of Psychosocial counseling in Disaster on our reports and activities.</p>	<p>Since the current structures are unable to effectively address the issues that emerge during and post-disasters, DPNet observes a need of forming a loose network to emphasize its importance and address the issues in coordination with Civil Society Organizations working with the disaster and psychosocial sectors.</p>

Project Activity	Learnings	Progress Made	Future Plan
<p>Event 2: Policy Dialogue on Effectiveness of Early Warning System in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management</p> <p>A policy dialogue was conducted on the effectiveness of the Early Warning System in DRRM on May 15, 2023, at Hotel Himalaya, Lalitpur. Total participants: 32 (11 women, 21 men)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Improving the effectiveness of Early Warning System in covering all potentially vulnerable areas. ➤ Prompt sharing DHM’s forecasts with all relevant communities. ➤ Prioritizing the provision of accurate forecasts to marginalized individuals facing risks. ➤ Utilizing weather forecast data to shape policies and measures related to Early Warning Systems. ➤ Strengthening the skills and capabilities of individuals involved in EWS. ➤ Implementing decision support systems and MHEWS systems proactively. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sensitized Province Level Government for Landslide Early warning system during Activity 1.2 (Bagmati, Lumbini and Karnali) • Our member organizations such as NSET, Institute of Himalaya Risk Reduction have been working on Landslide Early Warning System. 	<p>Facilitate the Provincial Government for Early Warning System.</p>

Project Activity	Learnings	Progress Made	Future Plan
<p>Event 3: Policy Dialogue on Private Investment in Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience</p> <p>A Policy dialogue was organized on Private Investment in Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience on June 12, 2023, at Hotel Himalayan, Lalitpur. Total participants: 28 (06 women, 22 men)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Encouraging private sector involvement in comprehensive DRR initiatives. ➤ Prioritizing the inclusion of vulnerable individuals within the private sector in decision-making related to DRR. ➤ Integrating proactive engagement of the private sector in developing DRR-related policies. ➤ Dedication to facilitating inclusive dialogues for policy and program development in the realm of DRR. 	<p>Inclusion of Private Sector in various programs organized by DPNet.</p> <p>A distinct section was specifically dedicated during the NCDRR event to address the private sector concerns related to disaster risk reduction.</p>	<p>Conduction of ‘Minimum Economic Recovery Standard’ in collaboration with the private sector.</p> <p>We intend to collaborate with FNCCI and other federations to develop a joint disaster risk reduction program for a unified approach.</p>

Project Activity	Learnings	Progress Made	Future Plan
<p>Event 4: Policy Dialogue on Market System Resilience</p> <p>A policy dialogue was conducted on Market System Resilience on July 17, 2023, at Square Hotel, Lalitpur.</p> <p>Total participants: 24 (5 women, 19 men)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Collaborative disaster planning for market impact. ➤ Assessing disaster risks for market stability. ➤ Raising private sector awareness of high-risk areas and market dynamics. ➤ Promoting government policies for market resilience. ➤ Partnering with public and private entities for market strengthening. ➤ Educating and monitoring market conditions. ➤ Continuous improvement through experiential learning. 	<p>The issues regarding fluctuations on the market functionality immediately after any disaster occurrence have been covered in our reports.</p>	<p>With an internalization of the immediate need of collaborative approach to work further on this issue, DPNet aims to bring together the concerned organizations working on it as a coordinating body.</p>

Project Activity	Learnings	Progress Made	Future Plan
<p>Event 5: Policy Dialogue on Disaster Risk Transfer and Financing</p> <p>A policy dialogue was conducted on Disaster Risk Transfer and Financing on August 4, 2023, at Hotel Square, Lalitpur.</p> <p>Total participants: 20 (4 women, 16 men)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The utilization of funds dedicated to disaster management. ▪ Promoting awareness and education regarding insurance. ▪ Expanding the reach of insurance services to rural regions. ▪ Fostering government commitment to insurance policies. ▪ Investigating alternative approaches to risk transfer. ▪ Enhancing the oversight and regulation of the insurance industry. ▪ Streamlining insurance programs for simplicity. ▪ Implementing comprehensive policies for managing disasters throughout their cycles. 	<p>Raised Disaster Risk issues in Provincial programs. “So far around 160 people have taken payment for insurance. Out of the 64 applications received in the last fiscal year 2079/80, 52 have been paid and others are in the process of payment.)”</p> <p>During provincial program an issue was raised and insurance program done by Karnali Government was shared.</p>	<p>Conduction of interaction programs between the government, National Insurance Authorities, Insurance Providers and Private Sector organizations to identify the gaps and to expand the DRR insurance .</p>

Project Activity	Learnings	Progress Made	Future Plan
<p>Event 6: Policy Dialogue on Multi-Level Disaster Risk Governance</p> <p>A Policy dialogue was organized on Multi-Level Disaster Risk Governance on August 7, 2023, at Hotel Square, Lalitpur.</p> <p>Total participants: 31 (9 women, 22 men)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing clear definitions of roles and responsibilities for the three tiers of government in DRRM. Assigning governmental roles and responsibilities according to the scale and impact of disasters. Prioritizing the inclusion of vulnerable populations residing in high-risk areas within the decision-making process of DRRM. Ensuring the utilization of existing infrastructure and trained personnel for integrated emergency services during disasters. Delegating specific responsibilities to the relevant District Coordination Committee to oversee DRRM coordination. Periodically assess and adjust the DRR National Policy and National Strategic Plan of Action to meet evolving needs. 	<p>Integration of the issue and the essence of Multi-level governance for DRR in the reports prepared till date.</p>	<p>Conduction of Policy researches, gaps identification and contradiction between the laws of three tiers of government and implementation of the policies after the gap research.</p> <p>Coordinating with the Association of District Coordination Committees of Nepal for enhanced practice.</p>

Project Activity	Learnings	Progress Made	Future Plan
<p>Event 7: Policy Dialogue To Engage Non-Governmental Stakeholders for Coordinated Disaster Management</p> <p>A Policy Dialogue to Engage Non-Governmental Stakeholders for Coordinated Disaster Management was organized on September 7, 2023, at Hotel Himalaya, Lalitpur.</p> <p>Total participants: 28 (10 women, 18 men)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Annually release the Nepal Disaster Report, incorporating inputs from NGSs. ➤ Review and amend the guidelines regarding NGSs involvement. ➤ Clearly define the duties and obligations of the three levels of government. ➤ Create a DRR policy monitoring system to prevent jurisdictional inconsistencies. ➤ Enhance the NPDRR program and extend its reach to provincial and local levels. ➤ Promote the widespread utilization of the Central DM Fund for DRR, Response, and Recovery efforts. ➤ Foster a collaborative atmosphere for NGSs to collaborate effectively. 	<p>Engaged and Included the Non-government sector during the discussion on the key issue and gathered key recommendations and suggestions for a way forward.</p>	<p>Incorporating the whole Non-government sector in further discussions and working together in a coordinated approach in a common pathway for effective DRM.</p>

Policy Dialogue and Learning/Sharing for Implementing and Strengthening DRR Policies and Strategies at Provincial Level

- During this phase, DPNet conducted discussions, and consultations on the formation of province level DRR network and orientation on Sphere Standards, and role of province level network among multi-stakeholders the Provinces Bagmati, Lumbini and Karnali.
- Sensitized DRRM governance and mechanism as well increased the scope of disaster preparedness and response at the province and local levels.
- Formed DPNet Provincial Committees were formed in all the three Provinces: Bagmati, Lumbini and Karnali and a comprehensive report was prepared to understand the contextual issues regarding in DRRM in those provinces.

Project Activity	Detail	Learnings	Future Plan
<p>Activity 1.2 Policy Dialogue and Learning/Sharing for Implementing and Strengthening DRR Policies and Strategies at Provincial Level</p>	<p>Event 1: Provincial DRR Policy Implementation and Learning Program: Lumbini</p> <p>Provincial DRR Policy Implementation and Learning Program: Lumbini was organized on August 11, 2023, at Hotel Pauwa, Bhaluwang. Total participants: 48 (6 women, 42 men)</p>	<p>The following learnings emerged as crucial components in disaster management in the province: the importance of inclusive strategies, resilient infrastructure, collaborative approaches, empowering local governments, continuous policy reviews and achievement assessment, effective resource stockpiling, enhanced collaboration and coordination efforts, wildlife management, strategic prioritization, technology dissemination and training, and engagement of the private sector in disaster responsibilities.</p>	<p>Field-level mentoring to address the issues and concerns raised during the provincial level workshop.</p>

Project Activity	Detail	Learnings	Future Plans
<p>Activity 1.2 Policy Dialogue and Learning/Sharing for Implementing and Strengthening DRR Policies and Strategies at Provincial Level</p>	<p>Event 2: Provincial DRR Policy Implementation and Learning Program: Karnali Provincial DRR Policy Implementation and Learning Program: Karnali was organized on August 13, 2023, at Siddhartha Sunny Resort, Birendranagar, Surkhet. Total participants: 29 (2 women, 27 men)</p>	<p>The following learnings emerged as crucial components in disaster management in the province: the importance of Strengthening Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Policies, Coordinated Efforts Among Government Tiers, Capacity Building and Training, Integration of Indigenous Practices and Technology, Enhanced Early Warning Systems (EWS), Community Resilience and Awareness, Infrastructure and Development Considerations, Effective Resource Allocation and Utilization, Collaboration Among Development Partners and Policy Implementation Oversight.</p>	<p>Field-level mentoring to address the issues and concerns raised during the provincial level workshop.</p>

Project Activity	Detail	Learnings	Future Plans
<p>Activity 1.2 Policy Dialogue and Learning/Sharing for Implementing and Strengthening DRR Policies and Strategies at Provincial Level</p>	<p>Event 3: Provincial DRR Policy Implementation and Learning Program: Bagmati Provincial DRR Policy Implementation and Learning Program: Bagmati was organized on September 5, 2023, at Hotel Smarak, Nawalpur, Hetauda. Total participants: 57; (32 Participant+25 Supporting Staff) 32 Participants: 9 Women, 23 Men, and 25 supporting Staff (25 Men)</p>	<p>The following learnings emerged as crucial components in disaster management in the province: one door policy, enhanced early warning system, inclusive disaster management, revision and improvisation of policies, resilient construction practices, conversion of risk into opportunity, role division for coordination among stakeholders, developmental model modification, community resilience, and indigenous knowledge integration and training and awareness.</p>	<p>Field-level mentoring to address the issues and concerns raised during the provincial level workshop.</p>

National Conference on DRRM

- During this phase of the project, DPNet conducted a National Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction with a primary focus on enabling the sharing of good practices and lessons learned with the objective of providing input to future plans and policies on DRR, the timing being perfect as 2023 marks the mid-term of SFDRR.
- The event ensured the representation of members belonging to different excluded groups and women with their active participation throughout the event.
- A marketplace was established for organizations to showcase their efforts and initiations to address the existing gaps in disaster.

Project Activity	Detail	Learnings	Future plan
Activity 2.1 National Conference on DRRM	<p>A Second National Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction was conducted on 29-30 June 2023 at Hyatt Place, Tahachal.</p> <p>Total Participants: 319 (222 men, 97 women)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Learning from the underestimation of participant numbers, comprehensive analysis and estimation techniques should be employed to ensure logistical challenges are minimized. •Actively involving academicians, international experts and researchers in the field of DRR is crucial for enhancing knowledge exchange and incorporating diverse perspectives and it can enrich the conference content and provide global perspectives on DRR. •Emphasizing the importance of localized site data, baseline assessments, and inline reports can enhance the quality of information presented during the conference. •Collecting presentations and papers in advance enables effective incorporation of expert input and aligning them with session themes, improving the quality of discussions and presentations. •Maintaining a strong emphasis on discussing and presenting evidence-based scientific findings and research-driven innovations in DRR ensures the credibility and impact of the conference. 	<p>DPNet aims for the Continuation of NCDRR with coordinated efforts and support of agencies working on disaster in the coming years to enhance the learning and sharing for impactful DRM efforts.</p>

Knowledge Sharing and Data Exchange through Online Resources Center (ORC) and Virtual DRR Platform (VDRR)

- DPNet's Online Resource Centre (ORC) centralizes a repository for documents on DRRM bringing together the documents in a single platform to share them with everyone concerned.
- With an aim to establish a practice of strengthening knowledge and awareness regarding DRRM, it consists of 1413 documents uploaded in different categories including publications from different organizations, Legal documents, Journals, and research papers.
- The VDRR platform is an open discussion platform on the DPNet website where discussion topics and issues are posted and the viewers can post their opinions, suggestions and recommendations regarding DRM.

Project Activity	Detail	Future Plan
<p>Activity 3.1 Knowledge Sharing and Data Exchange through Online Resources Center (ORC) and Virtual DRR Platform (VDRRP)</p>	<p>Total uploaded documents: 1413 including separate GESI section</p> <p>The Virtual DRR Platform is functional and it is operated as per need.</p> <p>A topic for discussion gets posted on the platform where anyone can put their concerns and queries for discussion.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the process of collecting and adding relevant documents. • Requested Tayar and its partner organizations for documents, • Focus on covering emerging concerns and topics in the ORC platform, • Follow-up of organizations to gather as many new publications as possible, • Organizing a program related to ORC and Virtual DRR platform.

Further Pathway

- While one-day dialogue programs are a positive start, extending discussions in a continued manner would aid in developing effective solutions to comprehensively address the arising issues.
- Establishment of a loose network to follow up on each issue and topic by like-minded individuals and organizations. DpNet is prepared to take the leading role in this initiative.
- Conducting research to identify gaps in the implementation of laws and policies is necessary to understand the root causes and develop solutions for these gaps.
- Facilitating exchanges among intercontinental, regional, and global networks is vital for a more robust and interconnected approach to addressing disaster risk reduction.

Future Plan	Suggestions
<p>Policy Advocacy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Enhanced efforts and engagement on policy advocacy regarding DRM via workshops, campaigns, and initiations as per the need.- Organizing Policy Dialogues. <p>Knowledge Sharing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Active establishment and collection of best practices and learnings from the international arena and translation of documents such as the relevant SPHERE standards.- Conduction of workshops and relevant events.- Utilizing the ORC platform as a means to share DRM-related publications.	

Future Plan	Suggestions
<p>Effective coordination and networking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Coordinating and collaborating with member organizations and other organizations working on DRR and associated issues for enhanced efforts.<li>- Advocating against the contextual issues on DRRM at the national and international levels in the form of dialogues and workshops. <p>Research and capacity building:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Conducting research, and publishing papers on DRM.<li>- Organizing capacity-building training and sessions to capacitate people on preparedness, response, and rescue along with simulation exercises.	

THANK YOU!