



BOTSWANA

National Programme on Disaster Management

Disaster Context

Botswana is classified as a middle-income country with a population of about 1.7 million people. The majority of the population lives in the eastern part of the country where infrastructure and social amenities are readily available.

The country has experienced both natural and human-induced disasters in the past. The natural disasters comprise mainly droughts, floods, *veld* fires, animal diseases, earthquakes and tremors, pest infestations, epidemics, and HIV/AIDS.

The institutional capacities to handle disasters as a development issue are currently being addressed through the formulation of the National Disaster Response Plan 9. The plan will establish an effective system for the use of various resources to preserve the health, safety, and welfare of all likely to be affected by disasters. Legislation on national disaster management is scheduled to be formulated during the course of 2003.

Project Title

National Disaster Management Programme

Sectors

- Public awareness, training, and sensitisation
- Legislation development
- Disaster preparedness, response, and mitigation
- Institutional strengthening of the National Disaster Management Office
- Establishment of the Emergency Operations Centre and Warehouse

Funding

The Government of Botswana has pledged approximately \$764,000 during the implementation of the National Disaster Response Plan 9.

Partners

- National Disaster Management Office
- Rural Development Council
- Ministries of Agriculture, Health, Local Government, and Finance and Development Planning
- Departments of Water Affairs, Wildlife and National Parks, and Meteorological Services
- Districts councils
- Botswana Defence Force
- Donor countries

Programme Activities

- Approval of the National Disaster Response Plan
- Preparation of the National Disaster Management Legislation
- Creation of the Emergency Operations Centre and Warehouse
- Institutional strengthening of the National Disaster Management Office
- Sensitisation of government officials to the new disaster risk management paradigms