The increasing impact of disasters in Pakistan presents an enormous challenge to attaining the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Thus, disaster risk reduction should be addressed in a wider development context.

**Disaster Risk Reduction in Pakistan**

Over the last decade, a series of disasters triggered by multiple environmental hazards have led to significant human, economic, and social losses. Since 2005, the calamities have claimed over 80,000 lives and affected about 50 million people. In addition, the financial and economic losses of these events are estimated to have exceeded 25 billion US dollars so far. Across Pakistan, communities struggle with the environmental threats. Many areas of the country are prone to disasters as the construction of existing and new risk has failed to be addressed. Worse, the changing climate is expected to affect the society in a more uncertain way.

UNDP has helped governments and communities in preparing for the increasingly damaging and uncertain threats. The Disaster Risk Reduction in Pakistan Project has run the five-year programme to enhance the Government’s capacity to reduce disaster risk at the national, provincial and district levels, and to develop a pragmatic approach in consultation with donors and international financial institutions. UNDP’s DRR intervention is implemented under the Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy, which is aligned with national DRR policy and the National Disaster Management Plan.

**QUICK FACTS**

- **Duration:** 2013-2017
- **Implementing partners:** National and Provincial Disaster Management Authorities
- **Funding partner:** UNDP, The Royal Norwegian Embassy
- **Location:** Nationwide, with specific focus on the Provinces of Balochistan, Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
- **Annual budget (2016):** US$ 919,000
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UNDP partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in more than 170 countries and territories, we offer global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.

Disaster Risk Reduction in Pakistan

(NDMP) of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).

Objectives

- Supporting National and Provincial Disaster Management Authorities (PDMAs) in formulating and implementing disaster risk management programmes.
- Enhancing resilience of at-risk communities through Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM)

Expected results

- Authorities at the national, provincial and district levels will prevent, assess, manage and reduce risk and its social construction more effectively.
- Populations at risk will benefit from the CBDRM initiative and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) integrated to prevent new construction of disaster risk.
- Vulnerable populations will be assisted to achieve their development goals, including the SDGs.

Main achievements

- UNDP assisted NDMA to establish an implementation unit to monitor and coordinate the NDMP and to mobilize resources from international development partners.
- A community-based disaster risk management process was fully implemented in 30 at-risk communities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan and Sindh provinces. Vulnerable communities learned to identify hazards and risk, and analyse their own vulnerabilities.
- UNDP assisted the communities to map disaster risks and establish their own DRR and DRM plans.
- The CBDRM project offered the communities training courses on First Aid and Search and Rescue and equipped them to develop into an emergency response force at the frontlines of disasters.
- Community Organizations established / strengthened, being instrumental in becoming active leaders in protecting their communities based on their differential needs on DRR.
- The communities developed ownership and self-confidence to protect themselves from disasters.
- More than 6 million flood alerts were sent out in Punjab and Sindh provinces during the 2014 monsoon season.
- Partnering with the NDMA, UNDP assisted the National Institute for Disaster Management in training of government officials in charge of DRM.
- Drought Risk Assessment in the Province of Balochistan.

- National study on Seismic Design in Pakistan: The Building Code, Bylaws and Recommendations for Earthquake Risk Reduction.
- Publication of CBDRM learning report.

Way forwards

- To continue institutional and research support to the Disaster Management Authorities;
- Upscaling of CBDRM based on the lessons learnt from the previous CBDRM activities;
- Mainstreaming DRR into development plans of different government levels;
- To establish a learning platform to achieve the social production of risk information and knowledge in the context of Pakistan;
- To support the development of a M&E system of Disaster Management authorities;
- To identify differential vulnerabilities of different groups; and
- To encourage mutual learning and synergy-effects among different stakeholders and sector.
- In new alignment with Pakistan Vision 2025, NDMP, One UN programme II and UNDP’s vision of post-2015 development agendas, COP21 Paris, as well as the Sendai Framework for DRR, UNDP continues striving to expand the scope and value of DRR in Pakistan.

Where we work

The current initiatives of DRR in Pakistan project are implemented in the Provinces of Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh. Supports to capacity building initiatives of disaster management institutions are extended to across Pakistan according to the priority of NDMA and NIDM.

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