



Pakistan

Partnering for Policy Building

Developing Strategies for Integrated Action

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Disasters & Impact

Students across Muzaffarabad, the capital of Azad Kashmir, still gather under the sky or in makeshift tents for their day's first lesson. While childhood imagination can transform any space into a classroom, the loss of more than 3,600 schools in the aftermath of the 7.6 magnitude earthquake in 2005 presents a reality that needs to change. The Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Authority has worked to rebuild 1,800 of these demolished institutes. But what if these school buildings were built to shelter children from these tremors?

Muzaffarabad is only 105 kilometers away from Islamabad. Despite the proximity, the widespread devastation revealed the need to decentralize, strategize, and engage actors at all levels. The earthquake motivated the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and the Government of Pakistan to return to the drawing board and design updated and relevant plans.

The government implemented the National Disaster Management Ordinance in 2006 and the National Disaster Management Act

in 2010 to enhance capacity at the grassroots level. These mandates established the NDMA as the national authority to implement, coordinate, and monitor a spectrum of disaster management activities to standardize preparedness, prevention, mitigation, response, recovery, rehabilitation, and reconstruction mechanisms throughout Pakistan. NDMA would also synchronize the efforts of relevant government departments, the armed forces, international and national humanitarian

networks, and the United Nations (UN) for complementary response efforts. These stakeholders are now engaged from the formulation of plans and guidelines to the implementation of actions.

The remotest classrooms and communities need national authorities like NDMA. The institute goes beyond activation to harness the capabilities of disaster risk management (DRM) actors. This dynamic starts when policy-related strategies and tools are adopted and implemented in a transforming disaster landscape.



2005 Kashmir Earthquake

 **7.6** magnitude

 **978** aftershocks

 **500,000** families affected

 **38,000** injured

 **80,000** lives lost

 **4** million homeless

 **78,000** buildings destroyed or damaged

8.8



9.3



6.7



Pakistan has an overall risk index of 6.3. The country's most common disaster events of earthquakes (9.3), floods (8.8), and tsunamis (6.7).



The APProach

The Asian Preparedness Partnership (APP), established by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), is a unique multi-stakeholder regional partnership that includes countries from South and Southeast Asia to better prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters. Supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (the foundation) and the United States Agency for International Development Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID BHA), the partnership strives to improve stakeholder

coordination and dialogue between governments, local humanitarian organization networks, and the private sector for enhancing capacities through partnerships, knowledge resources, training, and networking opportunities.

APP's goal is to promote safer and well-prepared communities through locally-led disaster risk management (DRM) actions, so that disaster impacts on at-risk communities of Asia will be reduced.

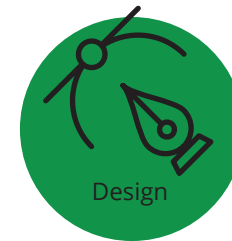
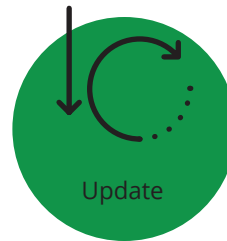
APP on localization: "A process whereby local, sub-national and national humanitarian actors, namely governments, civil society and non-government organizations, the private sector, media, academia, etc., take a lead role, in a collaborative manner to plan and implement priority actions in disaster preparedness, humanitarian response, and recovery through mobilizing internal resources and external humanitarian funding."



APP endorses policy enablers as frameworks to enhance



by bringing stakeholders together to



more comprehensive national and local plans for



Go with the Global - Modeling National and Local Disaster Resilience

Initiating global frameworks is a numbers game. International recognition of and compliance with such plans drive policy change from an international consensus to the national level. The Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) was endorsed during the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2005. It served as the blueprint for disaster risk reduction (DRR) efforts between 2005 and 2015. The framework sought to reduce disaster loss, casualties, and social, economic, and environmental assets.

HFA was established with global cooperation. However, governments would have to lead the framework's incorporation into their national policies. This strong institutional basis became the groundwork for effective preparedness, response, and recovery mechanisms. With this consideration, NDMA utilized the HFA as a model for the National Disaster Risk Management Framework (NDRMF) in 2007. The strategy

sought to achieve sustainable social, economic, and environmental development in Pakistan by reducing risk and vulnerabilities. It also guided and detailed stakeholder roles to prevent duplication of response activities.

The government established policies to delegate local DRM mechanisms. The National Disaster Response Plan (NDRP-2019) sought to build disaster management capacities at the national and district-level. The government collaborated with the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) on the plan to align with Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) - a successor of the HFA. NDRP-2019 outlines emergency responses for various government sectors during particular disaster scenarios. The plan also consolidates and coordinates the response efforts between the UN, international and national non-governmental organizations (INGOs/NGOs), local humanitarian networks, the private sector, and the media.



NIDM



7,000

persons trained between 2010 - 2018

Philosophy: Building capacity to share a safe culture, start at the grassroots level.





14 million were left without home due to the 1.6 million houses that were damaged or destroyed.

Flood watch
July - August 2010



5.4 million acres of crops were devastated.

Public services and infrastructure damaged or destroyed included 10,000 schools, 500 clinics and hospitals, and 5,000 miles of railways and roads.

Estimated economic losses from the flood were
USD 43 billion



Covering 770,000 Square Kilometers Needs a Localized Context

The one-plan-fits-every disaster does not apply to Pakistan. It is one of the largest in Asia with five distinct geographic regions. The diverse topography causes varying weather patterns and extreme conditions such as flooding and drought. NDMA adopted a bottom-up approach for comprehensive and location-specific strategies. This was accomplished by obtaining feedback from district and provincial disaster management authorities in 2012. Contingency planning started at the district level according to prevalent risk. Grassroots authorities now have an enhanced sense of ownership in national disaster planning. Their cooperation has also regulated response and relief efforts with national authorities. These specific local plans are consolidated into provincial strategies that are shared with relevant ministries. NDMA incorporates local and

multi-stakeholder plans for a coherent national strategy that delineates the roles of federal ministries, the armed forces, the UN, and local and international NGOs

Bridging Pedagogy and Practice

Policies institutionalize progress when DRM actors are mobilized on the ground. With this consideration, NIDM plans and promotes training, research, and development of core competencies in disaster management. The institute also documents and develops a national-level information base related to disaster management policies, prevention mechanisms, and mitigation measures. NIDM engages stakeholders to develop country-specific training manuals in key subject areas that incorporate existing content by field experts with the local context. These efforts seek to decentralize and standardize disaster management, preparedness, and response across

Pakistan. With a population of over 220 million, the country requires a pool of qualified instructors to teach and build DRM responders. NIDM courses are centered on developing trainers with a sense of mentorship. Graduates have the competence to orchestrate sessions in their local communities with the NIDM guidelines.

NIDM training focuses on key components of DRR through a combination of knowledge and simulation exercises. They encompass topics such as

- disaster management cycle,
- community-based disaster risk management (CBDRM),
- mitigation and preparedness,
- response and recovery,
- gender mainstreaming,
- localized risk mapping and analysis, and
- humanitarian supply chain.

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Pakistan Resilience Partnership (PRP)

**National Disaster
Management Authority
(NDMA)**

**National Humanitarian
Network (NHN)**

**Federation of Pakistan
Chambers of Commerce
and Industry (FPPCI)**

**Higher Education
Commission (HEC)**

**Press Information
Department (PID)**

Engage, Expand & Empower a Multistakeholder System

The 2010 flood was initially a provisional disaster in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), Pakistan. A strong monsoon season led to the worst flood in over 80 years. Torrential rains caused the Indus river to overflow, leaving 14 million people without homes. One-fifth of the country was left underwater, damaging key infrastructure across 78 districts. NDMA's synthesized response efforts with the National Humanitarian Network (NHN) demonstrated the potential of the partnership. It led the government to prioritize a multi-levelled humanitarian response strategy that addressed the evolving disaster scenario.

Climate change has put Pakistan's need for disaster resilience at the front and center. The nation ranked eighth among the countries most affected by extreme weather events between 2000 and 2019. Addressing intensifying calamities requires greater cooperation between DRM actors and the government. The PRP has integrated the potential of the local humanitarian networks, private sector, media, and academic institutions into DRR programming and localized preparedness efforts. These stakeholders are now a part of national coordination structures and response mechanisms that recognizes their distinct contribution toward disaster resilience. The national partnership has strengthened the interface, collaboration, and coordination within

the humanitarian community by building local networks, organizations, and institutions.

PRP's integration of stakeholders' efforts is evident in its extensive training programs. These events have enhanced knowledge, awareness, and the scope to interact and learn from each other's experiences. They also amplify the possibility for cross-sector cooperation between partners and stakeholders for knowledge and awareness. For example, stakeholders use APP tools that gauge the institutional capacity of partner organizations to inform decisions that strengthen preparedness for disasters. The PRP's engagement continuously supports the NIDM's capacity-building efforts.

The national partnership has engaged various stakeholders for policy enablers. PRP believes that policies are decisive to institutionalize transformed approaches and scale mechanisms to improve disaster preparedness and response. The partnership recognizes that disaster-related policies must be flexible, adaptable, and specific to impacts across various sectors and levels. PRP initiated policy enablers at the national level to update the NDRP-2019. An amended disaster plan catalyzed the scope to develop local-level response plans, guidelines, and standard operations procedures (SOPs).



The partnership has provided financial and technical support for the development, review, and/or update of the following plans since 2019:

- National Disaster Response Plan
- Standard Operation Procedure for Emergency Response
- Guidelines for Corporate Social Responsibility to Complement the Annual Development Planning
- Response Guidelines for Handling Train Incidents
- Guideline for Resource Mobilization for Disaster Risk Reduction in Pakistan
- State Disaster Response Plan for Azad Jammu and Kashmir
- Provincial Disaster Response Plans for the Balochistan, Sindh, and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Provinces
- District Disaster Response Plans for Swat and Jhelum Valley
- Facilitation for Preparation of Monsoon Contingency Plans for Swat and Mirpur Districts

PRP includes

the government

the private sector

local NGOs

media

academia representative

The national partnership's network comprises of



142

disaster management authorities



176

NGOs



221

trade bodies



239

universities

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PRP Milestones

2017



40 participants attended in **project inception workshop**

163 agencies engaged in **baseline assessment report** and action plan for partnership

259 attendees engaged in **capacity building webinars (2020-22)**



Expansion of partnership to include PSEA network and universities

2020

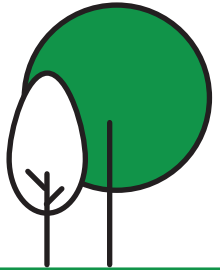
2021

Business continuity plan and Core Humanitarian Standards introduced to private sector members

28 attendees in **ToT** on CBDRM

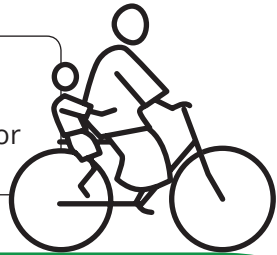
2022

2018



PRP was formally established under APP regional platform

192 DRM actors participated in ToT on disaster preparedness for effective response



48 attendees took part in private sector preparedness workshop

198 engaged in advocacy and learning seminars on disaster management (2020-22)

89 participants partook in workshops for disaster reporting and business continuity

2019

Local best practices in preparedness and response documented



85 attendees in ToT on humanitarian standards for effective response

178 volunteers trained



Sources

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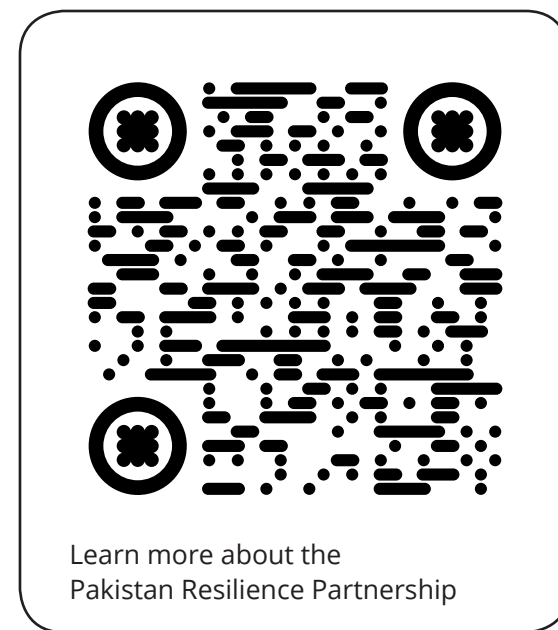
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