

International Frameworks/ Agreements/ Recommendations: Setting the Global Agenda

Source	Position Statements on Local Knowledge and Local/ Inclusive Governance
Action Plan 2018-2020 of the Asia Regional Plan for Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (AMCDRR, 2018a)	<p>2.10.2 Local action: ‘... In collaboration with national governments, the capacity of local authorities, local systems and communities to understand, prevent and reduce disaster risk, and prepare for and recover from disasters needs to be strengthened. It is necessary to empower local authorities and local communities, including through resources, incentives and decision-making responsibilities, as appropriate for supporting local leadership.’</p> <p>2.10.3 Gender and inclusiveness in disaster risk reduction: ‘...inequalities in the development and resilience pathway should be reduced through taking action to promote equitable economic growth, reinforced by a commitment to social inclusion...’</p>
Ulaanbaatar Declaration (AMCDRR, 2018b)	<p>11. ‘Ensure a human rights-based, people-centred and whole-of-society approach in development, implementation and monitoring of national and local disaster risk reduction strategies inclusive of women and girls, children and youth, persons with disabilities, older persons, displaced and migrant populations, and those in vulnerable situations such as the poor and marginalized’</p> <p>14. ‘Promote and scale-up community-level actions that strengthen local capacities and foster local leadership to reduce disaster risk and enhance resilience.’</p> <p>15. ‘Establish new and strengthen existing...local platforms on disaster risk reduction, with the active engagement of local...stakeholders’</p>
Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction: Co-Chairs Summary (Global Platform for DRR 2019)	<p>12. ‘Commitments towards an inclusive approach to disaster risk reduction, recognizing the indispensable role of disproportionately affected at-risk groups, including women, displaced people, persons with disabilities, elderly, and children in disaster risk reduction have not yet sufficiently translated into action’</p> <p>24. ‘Local disaster risk reduction strategies and plans are necessary to ensure the implementation of national strategies....Development and implementation of local strategies and plans should be locally-led, guided by community knowledge, and built upon local solutions...’</p>
Words into Action: Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience Strategies (UNDRR, 2019a)	<p>2.1 Relevance of the local scale: ‘Disaster risk is context specific. It is experienced in particular places and times...it is centrally important that local actors...take part in DRR processes...It is at the local level where governments and communities can best engage with each other and work together.’</p> <p>4.1.2 Engaged communities: ‘When local citizens and communities have a voice, they can get involved in decisions that will later affect them. Community involvement is not only about tapping local risk knowledge and communities’ resourcefulness. It is also about understanding how communities make choices according to their opportunities and constraints...At the same time, it is important to acknowledge that there are limits to community-driven processes...Hence, the institutionalisation of community-driven processes at the local level needs the support of local governments. It is also worth noting that communities are not homogenous. Within each community there are usually unequal distributions of exposure and vulnerability, and therefore risk, with internal power structures, divisions and tensions...’</p> <p>4.1.4 Participatory mechanisms in place: ‘Local actors need to engage meaningfully to make a difference. Participatory mechanisms should be in place to help local governments and other local actors work together. Some countries have legal frameworks that mandate participation in DRR...’</p> <p>4.2 ‘No city starts from scratch; indeed, there is always a wealth of knowledge sources (including indigenous) that cities need to tap... experience shows how knowledge co-production is central to DRR...especially when various types of knowledge are recognised and included from the beginning of the process’.</p>

Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction 2019 (UNDRR, 2019b)	<p>10.3 <i>'The legislative, policy and institutional structures and processes that include the views and experiences of women and girls, people with disabilities, older persons, and for example, people from different ethnic or religious backgrounds, and which include protection measures for children, result in measures at national and local levels that allow a more equal and more effective reduction of risk'</i></p> <p>11.2 <i>'Local strategies or plans then allow for a much more nuanced territorial approach (local, subnational and national) that fosters accountability through direct engagement with a range of stakeholders who need to be involved to avoid creating new risk, to reduce risk behaviours or to have a voice as the main groups suffering the impacts of disaster events'</i></p>
The Hindu Kush Himalaya Assessment: Mountains, Climate Change, Sustainability and People (2019). Chp. 11: DRR and Building Resilience In the Hindu Kush Himalaya (Vaidya et al., 2019)	<p>p. 391: <i>'All stakeholders including governments, individuals, households, and communities need to take urgent action for enhancing resilience...'</i></p> <p>p. 403: <i>'Combining indigenous and local knowledge with external expertise is vital for resilience'</i></p>
Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction Concept Note (APMCDRR, 2020)	<p>Cross-cutting themes (Local and Inclusive):</p> <p><i>'Disaster risk is context specific. For a society to be truly resilient, everyone must be included. Disasters disproportionately affect different groups in society and impacts are most intensely felt at the local level...opportunity to harness the leadership, energy and innovation of women and girls, people with disabilities, indigenous and local communities, and young people as essential players in achieving resilient societies.'</i></p>

National Policy (India)

Source	Position Statements on Local Knowledge and Local/ Inclusive Governance, including VDMCs
National Disaster Management Plan (2019) (NDMA, 2019a)	<p>One of five main pillars in the NDMP: <i>'Social inclusion as a ubiquitous and cross-cutting principle'</i></p> <p>Prime Minister's Ten-Point Agenda for DRR (2016): <i>'8: It is necessary to expand the scope of community-based efforts and support communities to identify local risk reduction measures and implement them... Localization of disaster risk reduction will also ensure that good use is made of the traditional best practices and indigenous knowledge'</i></p> <p>Broad Objectives of NDMP: <i>'9: Empower both local authorities and communities as partners to reduce and manage disaster risks'. '15. Ensuring DRR is socially inclusive, gender sensitive and empowering.'</i></p> <p>4.7 Making Disaster Risk Management Inclusive: <i>'A potential path in promoting social inclusion is to encourage community participation as inclusion depends crucially on an active involvement of diverse sections of society'</i></p>
National Disaster Management Guidelines: Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (Draft) (NDMA, 2019b)	<p>1.2 <i>'CBDRR by its very nature demands a decentralized bottoms-up approach with intensive, micro interventions at the local panchayat, ward or village level. This is to develop confidence, awareness, knowledge, partnership and ownership for planning and rolling out local disaster management plans...Equity and inclusion of marginalized segments of the society and bringing the vulnerable groups to the center stage of planning and implementation of the CBDRR, has to be prioritized to make the efforts participatory and inclusive'</i></p> <p>2.3 <i>'Village Disaster Management Committee (VDMC) is playing central role...influencing assessment, planning, capacity building and implementation processes'</i></p> <p>2.4 Road map for implementation of CBDRR: <i>'-2.4.1 Area identification...to gather primary information about disaster affected community and verify readiness...to participate in the CBDRR process</i> <i>-2.4.2 Inception meeting...to disseminate information about CBDRR process and sets formal relationships</i> <i>-2.4.3 Community mobilisation...communicating with communities wherein the facilitator encourages interactions about possible ways of preparing, responding and mitigating the impact of disasters...shall be done by organising community meetings at regular intervals...provide opportunity for the community to discuss its own experiences of past disasters...mitigation efforts, adaptability, preparedness...The idea of the VDMC shall also be introduced in these meetings.</i> <i>-2.4.4 (a) Formation & nurturing of VDMC 'Gram Panchayat/ Local Administration responsibility to constitute...to lead...to coordinate...VDMC shall represent men and women from cross section of the village...shall vary from 9-11 members...selected by the villagers in the open village meeting...Individuals with disaster management experience should be included in the VDMC...should act as an extended arm of PRI structure.'</i> <i>(b) Roles and responsibilities of VDMC</i> 1. Risk Assessment; 2. Capacity Building; 3. Ensure households prepare survival kits; 4. Ensure community preparedness before each hazard season; 5. Manage early warning; 6. Conduct community drills; 7. Motivate community participation; 8. Monitor quality of construction work; 9. Collect and manage village contingency fund; 10. Keep records of meetings; 11. Ensure participation in government meetings and training programmes; 12. Organise awareness programmes in village festivals. <i>-2.4.5 Risk assessment- 'Community members to collect and analyse disaster risk information, in order to plan...a VDMC shall be in the role for facilitating risk assessment process with help of participatory tools' Includes: hazard/ vulnerability/ capacity map; seasonal calendar; focus group discussion; community risk statements.'</i></p>

Sub-National Policy (Examples: Himachal Pradesh & Kullu District)

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Himachal Pradesh State Disaster Management Plan (HPSDMA, 2017)	<p>1.3 State policy on disaster management <i>‘disaster management plans that would be developed through a combination of top-down coordination and bottom-up approach.’</i></p> <p>3.2 State policy on risk prevention and mitigation <i>‘Indigenous knowledge on disaster and coping mechanisms adopted by various States and sections of society will be given due weightage.’</i></p> <p>5.9 Community based disaster preparedness <i>‘Community participation ensures local ownership, addresses local needs, and promotes volunteerism and mutual help to prevent and minimize damage...needs of the elderly, women, children and differently abled persons require special attention...Community plans will be dovetailed into the Panchayat, Block and District plans.’</i></p> <p>9.1 Partnership with stakeholders <i>‘Disaster management is not the responsibility of the Government alone – it is everybody’s business. It requires active collaboration, support and participation of all stakeholders across all spectrums...each of these stakeholders has important roles to play in different aspects of disaster risk management’</i> (e.g. Annexure III)</p> <p>Annexure III Matrix of Responsibilities which <u>Panchayats</u> contribute to (here we take the example case of flood risk mitigation):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Observation, monitoring and forecasting 2. Zoning and mapping flood prone areas 3. Dissemination of warning, data and information 4. Disaster management planning 5. Response 6. Non-structural measures (norms and codes) 7. Structural measures for flood control 8. Social housing, flood shelters, drainage, channel cleaning, hazard resistant construction 9. Training programmes, awareness generation, mock drills 10. Inclusive approach 11. Capacity development via community based disaster management <p>These span: Understanding disaster risk, inter-agency co-ordination, DRR structural measures, DRR non-structural measures, and capacity development.</p>
Kullu District Disaster Management Plan (DDMA, 2017)	<p>1.4 Stakeholder responsibilities:</p> <p>PRI (Panchayats):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Preparing Village Disaster Management Plan & forming task forces</i> • <i>Strengthening community resilience & response by providing awareness & implementation of DM policy & guidelines</i> • <i>Preparing the community & local authorities as first responders as per Village Disaster Management Plan through training & mock exercises</i> <p>3.3.3.4 Village Disaster Management Committee (VDMC): <i>‘VDMC takes into consideration disaster at the grass root level which would act locally & supposed to report & take assistance from Block DM Committee. Consequently Block DM Committee would acknowledge to District DM Committee. Each village shall have a</i></p>

	<p><i>Village Disaster Management Committee consisting of officials & non-official members. The Committee will be constituted to be overseen by the Gram Sabha. The Committee will broadly be responsible for awareness generation; warning dissemination; community preparedness plan; adopting safe housing practices; organizing & cooperating relief in post disaster situations. The members are Pradhan as the Chairperson, Panchayat Secretary, Principal (Education), Health Worker, Anganwadi Worker, President Union / Association, Community Representative & Fair Price Shop Holder as the members of the committee'</i></p> <p>4.4.1 Community based disaster mitigation: <i>'Community participation ensures local ownership, addresses local needs, & promotes volunteerism & mutual help to prevent and minimize damage...needs of the elderly, women, children and differently abled persons require special attention... Community plans will be dovetailed into the Panchayat, Block and District plans.'</i></p> <p>5.13.2 Documentation of Lessons learnt & Best Practices: <i>'The indigenous technical knowledge would be documented & promoted... Similarly, the lessons of past disasters will also be compiled & documented'</i></p> <p>11.1.1 Arrangements at a local level: <i>'Within the arrangements, it is at the local level that manages disasters within their own communities. State and district levels are to provide additional resources, support, assistance and expertise as required. Local government is the key management agency for disaster events at local level. Local government achieves coordinated disaster management approach through Local Disaster Management committees. The members of the Local Committee must hold meetings at least once in every six months...'</i></p>
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