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후원



OVERVIEW OF URBAN/LOCAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND GOVERNANCE EFFORTS IN COUNTRIES IN EAST AFRICA

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EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY AND POLICY FRAMEWORK ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION



INTRODUCTION

- EAC natural hazards such as floods, droughts, landslides, earthquakes, lightning, as well as human-induced disasters of conflicts, urban fires, and environmental degradation among others
- Partner States have got some disaster management mechanisms and institutions at various levels of capacities but mostly focusing on disaster response other than Disaster Risk Reduction

EAC LOCAL AND COUNTRY LEVEL POLICY FRAMEWORKS ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

- 2012 EAC drafted a **Disaster Risk Management Strategy (2012-2016)**
- **Vision:** *To be a region of resilient communities in which Natural and Human Induced hazards do not negatively impact on Socio-Economic Development*
- **Mission:** *To facilitate sustainable integration of Disaster Risk Reduction and Management practices into development plans and strategies of EAC Partner States.*
- East African Community Disaster Risk Reduction Act, 2016
- Climate Change Vulnerability Impact Assessment Study.

CURRENT POLICY FRAMEWORKS IN EAC STATES

- **KENYA** - The 2018 National Disaster Risk Management Policy and the Disaster Risk Management Bill, 2021
- **RWANDA** – 2009 National Disaster Management Policy, (revised in 2012)
- **TANZANIA** – 2004 National Disaster Management Policy
- **UGANDA** – 2010 National Policy for Disaster preparedness
- **DR CONGO** – NDP 2019-2023 highlights DRM as a core pillar

NB - Above policies underscore role of Local Governments and provide for institutional frameworks to the village community levels.

THE ROLE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND KEY STRATEGIC MILESTONES

ROLE

1. Establish early warning systems at Local Government level.
2. Be at the forefront of managing disaster preparedness and prevention in their respective districts including stakeholder mobilization
3. Develop Contingency Plans to prepare, mitigate and prevent natural disasters – map out common disasters in their areas, and take action including resettling some of the people from the worst affected areas, as well as soliciting for funds from development partners to fund their risk reduction.
4. Champion data collection, compilation and make submissions to National levels
5. Monitor implementation of DRR interventions

MILESTONES

- Establishment of institutional co-ordination structures e.g. in Uganda 75% of the districts have functional Disaster Management Committees.
- Development of Contingency Plans
- Taken proactive measures in response – resettlements and mobilizing communities for relief and aid

NB – Disaster Risk Management remains a highly centralized function despite the goodwill in the policies we see and is strongly driven by budget provisions by the national Governments

CURRENT EXPERIENCES AND FUTURE PROSPECTS FOR STRONGER CONTRIBUTIONS BY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

KEY CONCERNS

1. Partner States are at different levels in Disaster Risk Reduction Legislation, complicating the harmonization process at EAC level.
2. Lack of resources to support the development of regional and national emergency response plans and strengthen early warning systems
3. Weak and ill equipped institutions and infrastructure for delivery of the DRR mandate
4. Lack of harmonized mechanisms and coordination in addressing transboundary disasters.
5. Climate variability, which is impacting key sectors including water, agriculture, health, wildlife and tourism, Energy and infrastructure.
6. No direct funding to the Local and County Governments

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Need to advocate for national and local legislation to support enforcement the existing Policy Guidelines
2. Support and strengthen the LGs at EAC Regional level to advocate for a regional policy and legal regime that reinforces national and local level guidelines.
3. Mobilize and Advocate for Localization of the Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies through strong Devolution policies and laws, and build strong institutions of Local Government for effective delivery
4. Invest in strengthening the Planning units and in professional skilling for monitoring and data management and well as retooling at Local Government levels
5. Mobilize for funding for the DRR mandate at local, national and regional levels, complimented by development co-operation assistance

Thank You

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