

Recommendations from the Montenegro National Policy Dialogue

Based on the detailed assessments of the DRR policies and practices as well as the NMHS capacities, gaps and needs in the beneficiaries to support DRR, policy recommendations were developed. Initial results were presented to national stakeholders for review and discussions during National Policy Dialogues organised by WMO together with the UNDP in Kolasin, on 24-25 November 2010. During this meeting, high-level participants endorsed the assessment, as well as the set of recommendations emanating from it and presented hereunder.

HFA priority 1: Ensure that disaster risk reduction (DRR) is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation

Recommendation 1: To establish and adopt byelaws that support legislation pertaining to DRR in order to give greater legal authority to the process of building effective DRR systems and structures in Montenegro.

Recommendation 2: To promote and support dialogue and exchange of information and cooperation among all relevant agencies and institutions at all levels aiming at fostering a unified approach to DRR.

Recommendation 3: Creation of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction which should establish responsibilities at the national through to the local levels, to facilitate coordination across sectors, relevant to DRR.

Recommendation 4: Clarification of roles and responsibilities by positioning the Sector for Emergency Management in accordance with best international practices, in such a manner that it will have direct responsibility to the Government.

Recommendation 5: Create a DRR action plan to enhance National Strategy for Emergencies with enumerated responsibilities and financial plan.

Recommendation 6: Ensure financing mechanisms for Disaster Risk Reduction are in place, utilizing both regular budget resources and financial resources from donor community.

HFA priority 2: Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning

Recommendation 7: To establish a national system for collection, analysis and dissemination of all relevant disaster data (to inform Early Warning System, but also related to post-disasters data collection).

Recommendation 8: To enhance institutional capacity by further developing capacity for Risk Assessment in the Sector for Emergency Management, Hydro-meteorology Institute and Seismology Institute.

Recommendation 9: To enhance technical and human resources of the technical agencies, such as hydro-meteorological institute to support the early warning system.

Recommendation 10: Increase capacity for Risk Assessments at Municipal Level (Sectors for Spatial Planning, local communities) with emphasis on Vulnerability Assessments.

Recommendation 11: Establish mechanisms to preserve existing and future capacity for Disaster Risk Reduction within relevant institutions.

Recommendation 12: Work on regional harmonization of Risk Assessment related methodologies.

Recommendation 13: Mainstream adaptation to climate change into all DRR strategic elements at all levels.

Recommendation 14: To develop national capacities for climate services to support medium and long-term sectoral planning in the context of reducing overall risks, and with consideration for increasing climate associated risks.”

HFA priority 3: Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels

Recommendation 15: To integrate DRR into curriculum at all levels of education.

Recommendation 16: Develop capacity for DRR in media in order to raise level of public awareness on DRR.

Recommendation 17: Create and implement a DRR Strategy for awareness raising, in order to raise level of overall understanding of the importance of Disaster Risk Reduction among population at large.

Recommendation 18: Create national translation of UNISDR Terminology for Disaster Risk Reduction.

HFA priority 4: Reduce the underlying risk factors

Recommendation 19: Promote reduction of disaster risks by systematically integrating DRR outcomes and activities into policies, plans and programmes for sustainable development and poverty reduction as well as the National Development Plan.

Recommendation 20: In the context of reducing vulnerability, integrate DRR in implementation and ongoing development of Government Plans for Informal Settlements.

Recommendation 21: Develop national capacities for climate services to support medium and long-term sectoral planning in the context of reducing overall risks, and with consideration for increasing climate associated risks.

HFA priority 5: Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels

Recommendation 22: Strengthen the sustainability of disaster preparedness systems and structures through:

- Developing capacities for the implementation of policies, strategies and mechanisms for disaster preparedness and response to ensure sound linkages between international, national and local levels;
- Ensuring protocols and mechanisms of information management for effective response are permanently in place and regularly updated to anticipate future disasters.

Recommendation 23: Ensure standard operating procedures in response and response preparedness are well defined, regularly tested and continuously improved.

Recommendation 24: Define and improve role of media during disasters.

Recommendation 25: Introduce post-disaster recovery into disaster preparedness planning.