Why Nepal's Disaster Risk Reduction Model is Working in 2025

Read online with charts and updates: https://risalatconsultants.com/nepals-disaster-risk-reduction-model/

Nepal's Disaster Risk Reduction Model: What Makes It Effective in 2025

Disaster Risk Reduction in Nepal: Shift from Response to Preparedness

Local Governance in Disaster Risk Reduction: Nepal's Decentralized Approach

- Federal level: Maintains responsibility for policy architecture, resource distribution mechanisms, and coordination of large-scale emergency responses
- Provincial level: Administers regional preparedness protocols and response coordination systems
- Local level: Executes ground-level prevention strategies and immediate response interventions

Data-Driven Disaster Risk Reduction: Nepal's Risk Mapping Approach

Institutional architecture and coordination frameworks

Federal governance structure across three tiers

- Federal level: The Prime Minister chairs the National DRR Council, while the Home Minister leads the Executive Committee. Federal authorities provide strategic direction, formulate national policies, and manage resource distribution.
- Provincial level: Each of Nepal's seven provinces operates a Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council under Chief Minister leadership and an Executive Committee directed by the Minister of Internal Affairs and Law.
- Local level: The 753 municipalities and rural municipalities received authorization through the Local Government Operation Act (2017) to formulate local DRR strategies, develop earthquake-resistant infrastructure, establish Emergency Operation Centers, and enforce construction safety standards.

NDRRMA authority and local government responsibilities

- Directing national risk assessment initiatives and establishing operational standards
- Facilitating coordination across all governmental tiers
- Managing international DRR cooperation alignment with national priorities
- Operating the national disaster information database system

Coordination challenges and adaptive solutions for disaster risk reduction

- Ambiguous role delineation between governmental tiers
- NDRRMA's constrained authority despite institutional mandate, including Ministry of Home Affairs dependency for cabinet decisions and financial decision-making limitations
- Local governments experiencing technical knowledge gaps, resource constraints, and incomplete operational authority

Community-centered resilience tools and practices

Local Adaptation Plans of Action (LAPAs)

- Climate change sensitization
- Climate vulnerability and adaptation assessment
- Prioritization of adaptation options
- LAPA formulation
- Integration into planning processes
- Implementation
- Progress assessment

Child-centered and gender-responsive DRR

Use of participatory mapping and local data

Disaster Risk Reduction Capacity Building in Nepal

Training of 19,900+ officials across 753 municipalities

E-learning platforms and simulation exercises

Need for a national DRR research and training institute

The role of donors and international partners

UNDP, EU, ADB and their technical and financial support

Cluster contingency planning and anti

cipatory action

Lessons from COVID-19 and Jajarkot earthquake response

Related Risalat programmes

- Flood Risk Management, Climate Resilience & Urban Flood Adaptation Training, Tokyo (1 Feb 2027)
- Contract & Project Risk Management & Compliance Training, Vienna (25 Jan 2027)
- E&S Risk Management for Flood Reconstruction Training in Istanbul, Istanbul (1 Feb 2027)
- Operational Risk Management Techniques Training in Singapore (1 Feb 2027)

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