

BACKGROUND ON BRUNEI DARUSSALAM'S DISASTER MANAGEMENT

GENERAL INFORMATION ON NDMC'S STRATEGY

- Under the auspices of the Disaster Management Order, 2006, the National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC) was established in August 2006. The NDMC has led initiatives to ensure all aspects of disaster management; mitigation and prevention; preparedness; and response and recovery are considered through policies, strategies and practices implemented guided by international, regional and national drivers. This is to ensure safety and well-being of the population.
- The NDMC's strategy is to enhance capacity in both response and preparedness with the main objective in building disaster resilience community.
- Incident Command System (ICS) is systematic tool used for the command, control, and coordination of emergency response in the United States. This ICS was adapted in Brunei Darussalam to enhance the country's disaster response mechanism, with the cooperation of the United States Forestry Department.
- Besides enhancing responders' capacity in managing disasters, the NDMC has also embarked on public awareness programme to increase community resilience to disaster through the Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM).
- This paradigm shift from reactive to proactive is part of NDMC's strategy to build the nation's capacity in disaster resilience.

Regional and International Disaster Management.

- At regional level, NDMC is the focal point ASEAN's sectoral body ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ADCM). With ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) entered into force in December 2009, AADMER Work Programme was formulated to enhance the disaster management capacities of member states.
- Under the auspices of AADMER, ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre) is closer to materialization and currently the agreement to establish the AHA centre is expected to be signed at the forthcoming ASEAN Ministerial Meeting in July 2011. Brunei Darussalam fully supports the establishment of the centre and

with the centre, it would enhance NDMC's early warning mechanism of disasters within the region.

- Meanwhile, at international cooperation in disaster management, NDMC is actively cooperating with the United Nations bodies such as United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) and United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA). The NDMC is also engaged with other regional centres such as the Asian Disaster Reduction Centre; the Asia Disaster Preparedness Centre; the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center; and Pacific Disaster Centre.
- With the UNISDR, the NDMC has been promoting disaster risk reduction particularly the priority areas of the Hyogo Framework for Action. The NDMC fully supports the HFA and made it as one of its priorities to ensure the five priority areas outlined in HFA are met.
- Currently, NDMC is drafting the Strategic National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction (SNAP) which outlines programmes, projects and activities to reduce disaster risks and also capacity building for responders and the general community.
- The NDMC continues to expand its networking with other centre to support its activities in developing training and programmes in enhancing the disaster management – from response, early warning, preparedness, mitigation to recovery.

Strategic National Action Plan (SNAP) process in Brunei Darussalam

- Brunei Darussalam's gained momentum in disaster risk reduction (DRR) activities since its participation in the 3rd Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) held in Kuala Lumpur on 30 November – 6 December 2008. In 2009, the Government of Brunei Darussalam stated its commitment to DRR at the 2nd Session of the Global Platform for DRR. This was reiterated again in the 3rd Session of the Global Platform for DRR held in May 2011.
- A National Quick HFA Assessment consisting of interviews and consultations with key officials from relevant agencies was conducted jointly by NDMC and UNISDR with the assistance of a consultant on 14 -18 February 2010. This assessment was to gauge Brunei Darussalam status in DRR as outlined under HFA.
- As part of the SNAP formulation process, the first multi-stakeholder workshop on Hyogo Framework for Action and Disaster Risk Reduction Activities and Projects in Brunei Darussalam was organized on 24-27 May 2010 at the

Empire Hotel and the Country Club. This provided the avenue for the various stakeholders to address a common vision – a safe and resilient Brunei.

- During the workshop, the stakeholders reached a common understanding about the current status of DRR in the country which was also used as the basis for Brunei Darussalam’s HFA reporting. A second multi-stakeholder workshop was held on 6-8 July 2010 also at the Empire Hotel and The Country Club as continuation of the SNAP formulation process. The AADMER Forum was also held back to back with the workshop.
- NDMC has been working closely with experts from UNISDR in drafting the SNAP. A SNAP writeshop with the SNAP Drafting Committee and the UNISDR consultant was held on 3 and 5 March 2010 to finalize the draft.
- SNAP is expected to be launched early 2012.
- Brunei Darussalam has also participated in several meetings organized by UNISDR on DRR.
 - o 3rd Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) held in Kuala Lumpur on 30 November – 6 December 2008;
 - o 2nd Session of the Global Platform for DRR held in Geneva on 15 – 19 June 2009;
 - o 1st IAP Meeting held in Bangkok, Thailand on 24 – 26 March 2010;
 - o 2nd IAP Meeting held in Incheon, Republic of Korea on 11-13 August 2010 where Brunei reported on its HFA status;
 - o 4th AMCDRR held in Incheon, Republic of Korea on 26-28 October 2010; and
 - o 3rd Global Session of the Global Platform for DRR held in Geneva on 8 – 13 May 2011.