

FRONTIERS OF WATER-RELATED DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND THE WAY FORWARD

KEY MESSAGES FROM ADBI-ICHARM POLICY BRIEF



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KEY MESSAGES FROM POLICY BRIEF

- Effective disaster risk management (DRM) requires scaling efforts to leverage water hazard data as much as possible.
- Due to the spread of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, disaster risk reduction has become even more challenging.
- Human capacity development (public education and literacy, empowerment of local governments and community leaders, and media briefings) by adequately addressing the local knowledge and wisdom is a necessity for future policy frameworks.
- Effective disaster preparation, warning, response, and recovery are best made when local governments and organizations work well together and coordinate with organizations on the national level.
- Effective governance is one of the most essential elements of an overall DRM strategy.
- For future dialogues, additional focus should be on identifying best practices related to using state-of-the-art technology to enable efficient governance for DRM.

INTRODUCTION

- From 2004 to 2018, Asia experienced an increase in water-related disasters and increased economic losses compared to previous years.
- Human factors also exacerbate the effects of water-related hazards that have been intensified by climate change.
- This complexity requires the cooperation between governments, regional and international institutions, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and individuals.
- **Spread of the COVID-19 pandemic has made disaster risk reduction more challenging.**

Principles to Address Water-related Disaster Risk Reduction under the COVID-19 Pandemic

Principle 1: Enhance leaders' awareness on disaster risk reduction in the pandemic

Principle 2: Integrate actions on risk management of disasters and pandemics

Principle 3: Provide clean water, sanitation, and hygiene sustainably during and after disasters

Principle 4: Protect disaster risk management stakeholders from threat of COVID-19

Principle 5: Protect scarce medical resources from disaster impact

Principle 6: Protect disaster evacuees from threat of COVID-19

Principle 7: Protect COVID-19 patients from threat of disasters

Principle 8: Develop specialized evacuation guidance for cities and areas under COVID-19 lock-down

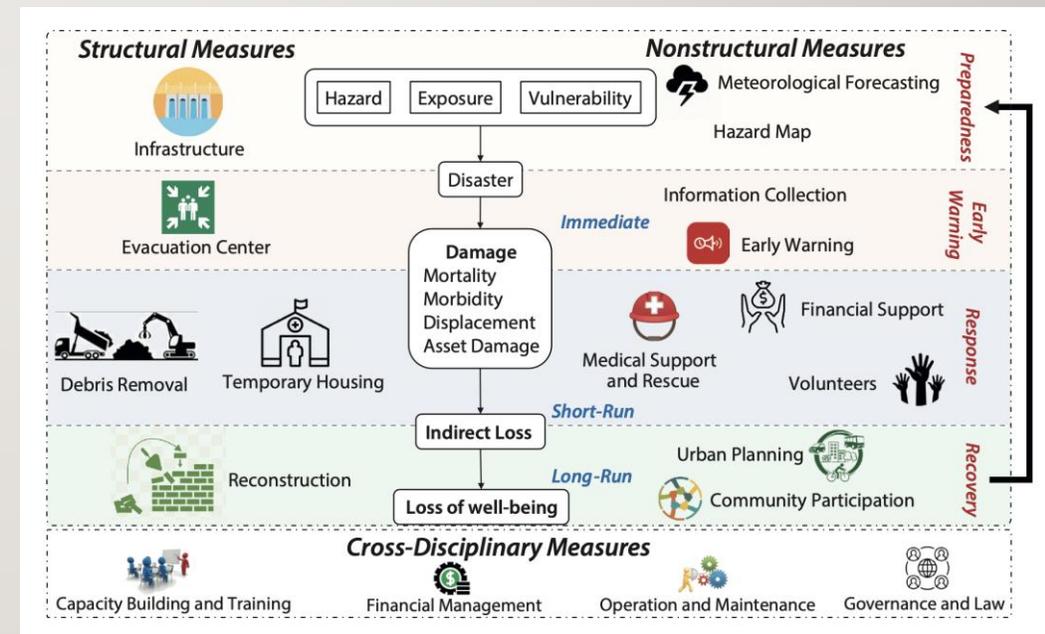
Principle 9: Finance DRR actions under COVID-19 effectively to avoid economic catastrophe

Principle 10: Strengthen global solidarity and international cooperation to cope with these cooccurring challenges towards building our world back better

Source: Extracted from High-level Experts and Leaders Panel on Water and Disasters (HELP). <https://www.wateranddisaster.org/principles-to-address-water-related-disaster-risk-reduction-drr-under-the-covid-19-pandemic/>.

DATA AND DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT

- Water hazard data is the fundamental building block that supports all phases of disaster risk management (DRM).
- This data is used to support both structural and nonstructural measures in participating countries.
- Effective DRM data management approach should be able to handle large volumes of a variety of data in a short period of time.

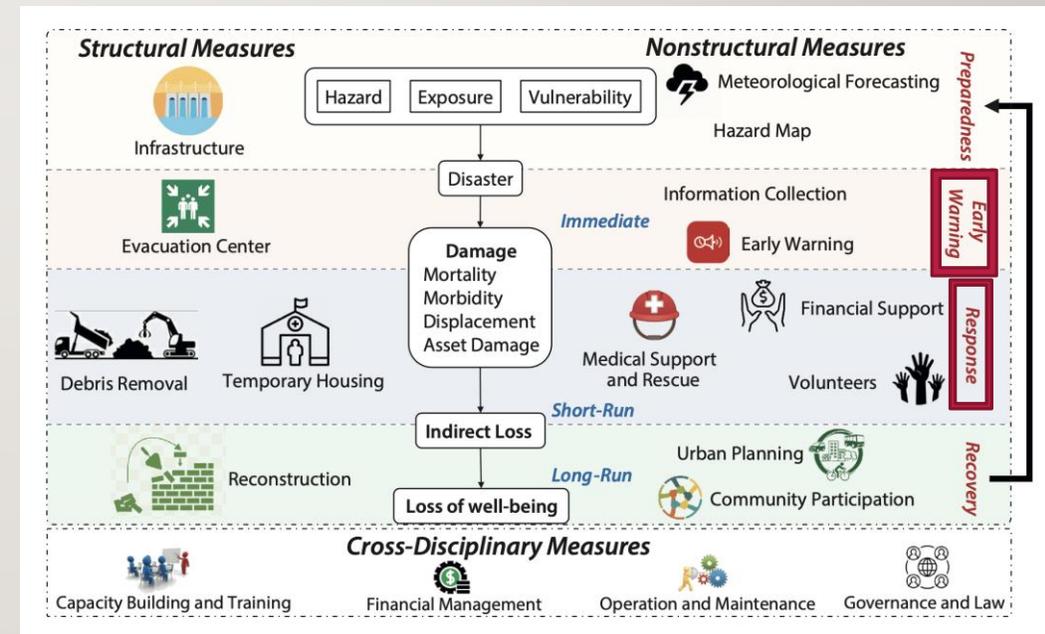


Source: Authors

Effective DRM requires scaling efforts to leverage water hazard data as much as possible.

IMPORTANCE OF HUMAN CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

- Human capacity development is particularly relevant in the early warning and response phases.
- In these phases, challenges in coordinating between government organizations and departments as well as initiating prompt responses from those living in disaster-affected areas remain.

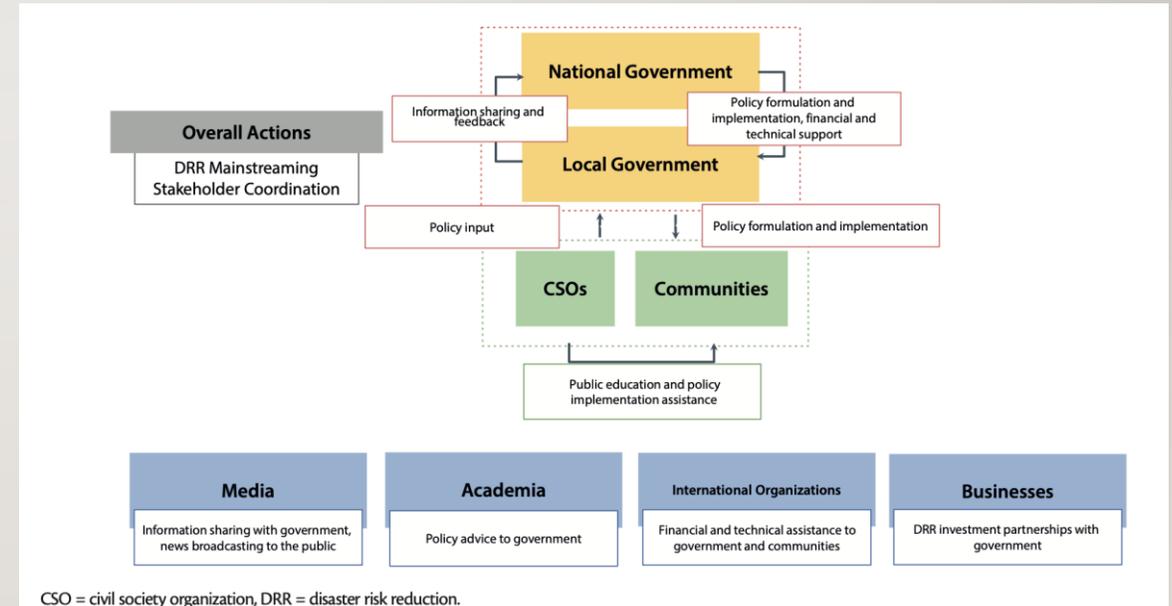


Source: Authors

Human capacity development (public education and literacy, empowerment of local governments and community leaders, and media briefings) by adequately addressing the local knowledge and wisdom is a necessity for future policy frameworks.

GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

- Disaster risk reduction (DRR) requires partnerships between various stakeholders in society that are inclusive, accessible, and pay attention to the most vulnerable groups.
- During a disaster, all stakeholders will have to collect, analyze, and share information on a real-time basis.
- **Effective disaster preparation, warning, response, and recovery are best made when local governments and organizations work well together and coordinate with organizations on the national level.**



Source: Authors

Effective governance is one of the most essential elements of an overall DRM strategy.

FINANCING

- Financing is limited, especially in low and middle-income countries.
- There is a need to find new resources, such as private sector financing, and to maximize returns on any investment.
- Existing financial resources should be used in a way to maximize socioeconomic returns.
- An example is to **design disaster risk mitigation infrastructure projects that serve multiple functional requirements simultaneously, which requires functional coordination between several agencies of the government.**

THANK YOU
